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

M ARSHALL 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 prevent traffic accidents by predicting their potential of occurring based on real-time data.

Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation, Abdel-Aty will use electronic sensors buried underground, called loop detectors, to analyze a 39-mile section of the highway between Disney and Lake Mary. If his research proves that accidents can truly be anticipated and predicted, the project could anticipate accidents on I-4 up to 10 to 15 minutes before they occur.

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

But this research is not just limited to I-4. Abdel-Aty said this 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 been used by the Florida Highway

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

M ARSHALL SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

Mathematics professor Peter Hilton helped by the groundwork for modern warfare.

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-willed to carry out duties that involved an exhaustive guess-and-check process to decipher Nazi Enigma and Fish codes during World War II.

Former general commands attention of UCF students

B EN 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 Iraqi war, though he's doing most of his work in front of the camera these days.

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
Student, Faculty, Staff and Alumni Special

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uminum of the nation's top universities
Technology has made the process easier
to arrange three Boston-area colleges, where
students can use their Web sites to find poten-
tial companions.

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

So Monsarrat, the 34-year-old
founder of a computer-game approach
approached the Graduate Student
Council to propose an online matchmak-
ing service. When the coin fell in his
favor, he took on the project himself

Some 30 hours of computer program-
ming later, the end product had set up
his Web site — just in time for Valentine's Day. He spent $1,500 to print 800
postcards and 10,000 flyers to distribute
a door-to-door and mail publicity cam-
paign. The service is free to students and alumni.

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

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

Although he had intended to help
users find romantic partners, the
request for dates led him to keep the site open
for an extra week of match-making after Feb.
14, and the response was so strong that
he decided to restart the service in June and continue it year-round.

One aspect of the matchmaking process is an algorithm that processes
data from each user — age, religion,
smoking preferences, among other
information. The algorithm compares
the information with that from other
participants. With the explosive growth in 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 campus weightiness in a popular
college debate-identification card system last week were prevented from
taking their findings after a Georgia Judge issued a temporary
restraining order. The students — Billy Hoffman, of the
Georgia Institute of Technology, and
Vegil Griffin, of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, — received the
order on Saturday as they were prepar-
ing to talk about the system at an
International Freshman Seminar in
Atlanta. A hearing on whether they
should be permanently prevented
from discussing the system is expected
for today in Georgia Superior Court.

Blockhead has sold the electronic

Please see Hackers on 7

Project could have uses around the nation

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 CISTS 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.

Abdi-Ably analyzes and interprets
the data received by the lab.

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

The data he analyzes takes into
account factors such as vehicle speeds,
throttle positions and the amount of
time a vehicle spends on the road.

Abdi-Ably 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, Abdi-Ably said he's discov-
ered there are severe fluctuations in
traffic 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, Abdi-Ably will use the
complied 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 warning signals on the highway to
inform information and warnings to drivers.

But that step's down the road.

Abdi-Ably said he feels positive that
the project will be a success.

"We're going in the right direction," Abdi-Ably said. "The concept is proven.

The idea has merit. The system could
be modified to work on other highways
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 underChapter highways through-
out the United States, city roadways may
eventually implement this new technology
in their future.

The possible applications for Abdi-
Ably's research interestlief. When Whu, a
research engineer at UCF who joined
Abdi-Ably on the project last October,

Abdi-Ably was named the "Engineer of
the Year" by the Association of Western
States at the annual meeting of the Associ-
ation of Western States.

"My work is very important in the
future," Abdi-Ably said. "It's the cutting
ege of technology.

This will really enhance traffic safety.

"It's a challenging project because there has not been any previous
work done in this area of traffic safety," Whu said.

This year, Abdi-Ably and Whu plan to
have a theoretical working model de-
developed, which will be a steppingstone
to developing a final model that will analyze
real-time data coming from the detectors
underneath I-4.

"We said that next year they will focus on
the application of the data gathered from
the detectors. Once the model is com-
pleted, Whu and Abdi-Ably hope that other
departments of transportation throughout
the nation will use their model and data.

"One day we want them that our model
works, can save lives and reduce [the number of] traffic accidents, I hope it will
eventually influence the federal govern-
ment," Whu said.

Project could have uses around the nation

Reorganize, reporting, earn honors for The Future

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

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

• First place, spot news reporting, to Kristofer Weeks, a junior,
The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees session that awarded a
$10,000 raise to President John Hitt without prior

• First place, editorial cartooning, to Christopher Arnold.

Second place, general news reporting, to Adam Bechele for coverage of testing Hitt's opposition to a formal, policy banning dis-

• Third place, feature writing, to Zillif and Andrew Miller for a story that
showed the growing interest in forensics education sparked 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-
place regional winners now will advance to the national contest in September.

In another competition, this one national-
wide, the Student Society for News Design at the University of Missouri recognized
Christopher Arnold and Adam Silver as

And The Future earned seven awards at the national convention of Newspaper 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

The Future was also named one of the finalists in the annual Student Newspaper

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Friends, fraternity members recall ‘a guardian angel’

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

Nicol Jenkins Staff Writer

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

The viewing service followed a candlelight vigil held the previous evening, at which friends, fellow students, family and the Greek community gathered to remember Peterson, a brother of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

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

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

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

Longtime friends Derek Chostas and Ryan Dielhara 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 deeply missed by hundreds of friends and his family,” said Chostas, 22.

Dielhara, 22, remembered Peterson’s enthusiasm. “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,” Dielhara said. “John touched so many people and loved everyone. I’ll never stop thinking about him.”

Peterson is survived by his parents, Carol and Terry; his sister, Jessica; his brother, John Nohlgren; his fiancé, Erin Wiegers, and his best friend’s girlfriend, Stacie Cross.

Peterson always said his viewing service would be “600 friends.”

Longtime friends and family members recalled the love and care Peterson had for his friends, family and the Greek community.

The N.O.R.E. Student Housing Community and the Department of Housing and Residence Life will hold a memorial service on the University of Central Florida campus.

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 eventually show through.”

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

Clark felt that the war itself was conducted correctly; he believes United Nations support and intervention is now needed for a sustained presence in Iraq.

The United Nations would help to legitimize the United States’ efforts and would have the reserves to help recon­struct Iraq, he said.

There are many Americans who doubt the effectiveness 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 organization.”

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

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

Clark cautioned Americans about the need to improve veteran 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 to their jobs, and it’s not just the men and women in uniform today,” he said. “I think veterans need the kind of attention 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."

Guzman refused to allow the infection to hold him back. "I was determined to prevent my loss of vision, but the medications I was prescribed were toxic. I almost killed me," Guzman recalled. "So at that point the greater focus became my life instead of my vision."

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, getting your clothes on, that stuff I took for granted and was difficult to re-learn," he said.

"It has been pretty stable since 1997," Guzman continued. "I have been able to see with glasses. Since then I have always been interested in ways to improve my remaining vision."

In early April, Guzman did just that. On April 5, through the collaboration of the UCF Office of Disabilities, the Jupiter-Sequesta 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 Laforge, 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 goggless are 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."

The goggle portion of the sys-

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Please see Blind on 6
Blind student to pursue master's with new vision

Hearing wants to make the many.

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 blind. Guzman hopes 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 technology that will help him and others better their lives and futures. "This technology is amazing," Guzman said. "I can see my fool bar on my computer; I have not seen this good in so many years. The Jordy makes things so crisp and clear."
Hackers banned from revealing tricks

FROM PAGE 3

card system, called the Blackboard Transaction System, to about 225 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 organizers 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 attending 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 taunted Blackboard and Georgia Tech’s 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 dormitory 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 declined to elaborate.

—COMPiled BY STAFF WRITER KRISTA ZILLI

FREE BEER?

FOR SELLING MY BOOKS?

IS THIS A JOKE?

Nope. No joke. Sell your books to either CB&S or Knight’s Corner and we’ll give you a mug that you take to Applebee’s to receive a FREE BEER.*

*Good April 22 through April 25 only, while supplies last. Hurry in and bring your books!
Professor worked with first computer to crack encryptions

FROM PAGE 1

The UCF professor's battle was no exception. It differed from a typical World War II soldier's battle, much like today's landscape is being shaped by advances from earlier wars. Hilton's work is relevant to both.

Hilton's war was dominated by computer technology. Commanders and military officers today would be lost without computer aid.

Hilton's war was relatively controlled and orderly in the role as a descoder, was ironically one of the experimental aspects of World War II. It provided a safe computerized computer-controlled conflict our nation is fighting today. Hilton's creation and methods of deciphering encoded messages would lay the foundation for computerized military tactics today that rely on computers to do things like guide smart bombs and precision missiles to specific targets.

Hilton never imagined that his method of comparing "gibberish and gobbledegook," as he then called it, would be deciphering during World War II, would be relevant in 2003. Hilton's work was relevant enough — his guesswork removed much of the speculation, for military operations today.

Hilton began his military career as an undergraduate at Oxford University, where he was recruited by the British Foreign Office to work at Bletchley Park — the British military's decoder headquarters.

"I was in my fourth term at Oxford, and the foreign office was looking for mathematicians with a knowledge of German," he said. "Well, I wasn't a mathematician, but I was specializing as a student of mathematics."

"My knowledge of German wasn't very profound," Hilton said. "I just taught myself some, because obviously, at that time, it was interesting to understand some German."

Hilton started his work at Bletchley Park in January 1942, deciphering the German Enigma codes. By the end of 1942, Hilton was transferred to the research department, where he worked on developing the new German Fish codes.

"The Nazis thought they were on the master rhythm, and that the stupid British would never be able to decipher their new code," he said. "Of course, they were wrong."

The decoding involved a combination of methods that quickly ran through possible solutions to reduce the possibilities to a manageable number. Mathematicians such as Hilton then made intelligent guesses or sentences in the messages.

"At a certain time of the day, the British commanders would require some weather predictions. We would know that a message received by a U-boat at that time would probably contain the location of a U-boat," he said. "So we would have the idea that the message, at that beginning, would have a certain sequence of characters."

The guess-and-check method used by cryptanalysts required the ability to think mathematically rather than a comprehensive knowledge of math, 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 greatest mathematicians of the 20th century. "I got to know some of the greatest mathematicians of that time."

"I would have expected to be 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 equalizing aspect 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 bomb types — I just regard 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 trying to become 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, we were at the outset of the war, as it looked then, as if we were going to lose because Germany had already conquered most of Western Europe."

For Hilton, the war against Germany was a necessary measure. He is not as decided 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 our museums and hospitals," he said. "It is about time that the human race stops using war as a means of settling policy goals. It is appalling that we can't do better."

And 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. "Now it is of course easy to be patriotic at a time of war, but it 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 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, high-technology society to devote so much of its effort to being efficient at conducting war."

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 form their own judgments.

"PETER HILTON
Mathematics professor

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Dr. Charles Bailey, with CNS Healthcare is offering screenings in Orlando for participation in a research study of an investigational medication for those experiencing symptoms of bipolar depression. Eligible participants between 18 and 65 years of age will receive a comprehensive psychiatric examination and study medication at no cost. Health insurance is not necessary. Enrollment is limited. ©2002 Clinical Neuroscience, Inc.
Don't blame Internet
for rise in ID theft

HEATHER NEWMAN
Knight-Rider

Identity theft is soaring, thanks in high-tech tools, tight 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 sterling credit ratings that took years to build.

If you're one of the many people who suspect the rise of low-tech crime, such as stealing mail or credit-card numbers, think again. Law enforcement experts say the identity theft isn't going away anytime soon, thanks to high-tech tools, such as dumpster diving, online shopping and racking up credit-card bills.

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Race-neutral policy threatens diversity in law, medicine fields

MICHAEL FLETCHER
THE WASHINGTON POST

If race-conscious admissions plans are 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 a study released by associations representing medical and law schools.

The study comes in the wake of a Supreme Court decision that invalidates 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.

However, in his opinion, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote, "If anything, race-conscious admissions programs are more successful than race-neutral programs in producing a diverse and outstanding student body."

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 that we have is that without race-conscious admissions, the number of African Americans in an entering class of 225 would fall below 21, said Jeffrey Lehman, dean of Michigan's law school. In the 1960s, Michigan had 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. "I believe that we can achieve that, but we can't do it just from looking at race alone."
Affirmative action divides races, opponents say

In 2001, for example, underrepresented minorities from families with incomes of $40,000 or more averaged 219 on the Medical School Admission Test; whites and Asians from families with incomes under $40,000 averaged 257 and 255, respectively.

But accounting for economic hardship will not level the admissions playing field for minority and poor students, medical school officials said. The Association of American Medical Colleges asserted in a brief filed with the Supreme Court.

At the University of California, the percentage 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 made up 16.5 percent of the first-year medical students at the five state-run medical schools.

In 1995, blacks and Latinos comprised 22 percent of the first-year medical students at the University of California. The decline occurred even though the University of California employs an array of race-neutral strategies aimed at boosting minority enrollment.

The University of California 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 who 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 have 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 program 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.

Several 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 averages and test scores," said Neil Parker, senior associate dean at UCLA medical school.

The decline in the number of black and Latino medical school graduates has not level the admissions playing field for minority medical school applicants, he said. Last year, 13 percent of the first-year medical students at UCLA's medical school was black or Latino.

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 socioeconomic 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 and running up more than $7 million in fraudulent charges. Those patents 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 work events), that could lead to results for 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 clean 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 is discovered that quickly and it doesn’t end quickly,” said Barbara Span, vice president of external affairs at Star Systems, the nation’s largest ATM-debit network. Her company regularly does ID theft research.

“There are a lot of sources to get an individual’s personal financial information,” she said. “You can’t be cautious enough.”

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 OK. There had been a flurry of activity on his account: a pile of applications for new cards, old cards being maxed out, and a new address popping up in the records for the first time in 17 years.

“I knew nothing about this,” he said.

He asked for, and got, the phone number and address the person was using to open the fraudulent accounts. Then he called the number, posing as a bureau clerk for one of the credit card companies.

“I called this number in Detroit, and asked to speak to yourself,” he said. “The man said, ‘Yes, this is him.’”

He quizzed the man about the facts on the application, discovering that he knew Barlow’s work history, Social Security number and a pile of other personal details.

“It was absolutely chilling. He never skipped a beat.”

Barlow filed a complaint with the state Attorney General’s Office online. In days, officers from that unit, the Detroit Police Department and the U.S. Postal Inspector’s Office had set up a sting, catching the crook red-handed.

It turned out that the man, Barry Curlew, had done this before. He got Barlow’s information from a form Barlow had filled out at an optometrist’s office years before. When the office closed, it simply dropped the records — including his personal information — into a trash bin.

“Where’s there Curlew got the file. He later pleaded guilty to reduced charges in federal court.

“This should never have happened,” Barlow said.

But that’s how it often does. Barlow was Internet savvy, even using the Web to help catch the crook. Still, his online activities had nothing to do with getting his good name stolen.

Barlow also was lucky. There is no requirement for credit agencies to call when there’s unusual activity on a person’s account, especially considering they don’t offer credit themselves. In fact, if you want that service on a regular basis you typically have to buy it for as much as $90 a year.

There are few regulations that handle how papers with personal information are stored or disposed of.

Most people know someone who’s been the victim of identity theft, national studies show. The Federal Trade Commission says there were 162,819 new cases reported to the federal government in 2002, almost double the previous year’s total.

Even that could underestimate the real number of thefts. In a November survey of 2,000 adults by Star Systems, 5.5 percent of respondents said they were victims. If the survey reflects the experiences of most Americans, that would be almost 12 million victims nationwide.

And, as in the research done by every agency that’s studied the crime, Star found that most victims’ problems had nothing to do with the Internet.

“THERE doesn’t appear to be any direct connection with the use of technology,” Span said.

That would be the good news.

“Access to somebody’s information can be facilitated by technology but not the Internet. In other words, computerized record keeping could make it easier for workers in hospitals or other financial institutions to steal a peek at other people’s personal information;

Doctors’ offices and hospitals, which often have everything from dates of birth to Social Security numbers in employment information on a single new-patient form, are required under new regulations to computerize all of their records by October.
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Board whacks budget behind our backs

T

he chairman of the boards of trustees of Florida's 11 public universities con-

cluded a trend of budget cuts that could and will only get worse. The budget cuts, more than $90 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 is limping along, state universities will be forced to find new sources of revenue. Besides the poor state of Florida's economy, the state's flawed DCF system is another worry. Families lost another child last week. This time, Zachary's custodians will not be the first to question Florida's priorities.

The caseworker conducted only a limited background check. Now, it is too late to do something. He replaced the head of the DCF Kathleen Kemper, last year, but her replacement, Jerry Regier, has not solved the agency's problems. Many months after Regier took the reins, the DCF is still in crisis. The DCF needs to improve right away; before it is too late.

The DCF needs to improve right away; before it is too late. The DCF's inability to properly fund the DCF and its many problems plague the DCF. The DCF needs to have 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 need to happen as soon as possible.

The state's budget cuts will only slow growth, which may not be so bad at UCF. State universities will not be able to grow, especially at the pace they want, unless they have sufficient funding from the state. The chairman of the UCF Board of Trustees, Dick Nunn, 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.

Not only the public nor the governor nor the university system, the state's flawed DCF system is another worry. Families lost another child last week. This time, Zachary's custodians will not be the first to question Florida's priorities.

As Nunn said, universities will have to become more accountable for their spending. They should trim expenses, stop unnecessary projects and practice more financial management. They also must do more to improve the image of the university system. 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 chairman of the boards of trustees meet in the future, they should do so in public.
Spoils to the victor

MICHAEL KINSEY
THE WASHINGTON POST (D.C.)

President Bush, who was once in favor of the idea of "nation-building" during the 2003 campaign, is now nation-building all over the place. He plans to spend something like $80 billion over the next 10 years on reconstruction in Iraq. The agenda includes everything from repairing the oil pipelines, which were cut by Saddam Hussein's minions, to cutting down electric pole plants and rebuilding the elementary school textbooks. Like the Clinton administration, the Bush administration now realizes that you cannot pour soldiers and bombs into a country and then just walk away and expect the country to be repaired after a war?

The provision for domestic companies violates international law of course. It seems like just the other day when Donald Rumsfeld was sokeking Saddam Hussein about the importance of obeying international law. The World Trade Organization rules forbid governments from favoring their own companies against the companies of foreign nations when they are looking to spend some money.

This is not one of the high-minded international laws that we agreed to just because we're so nice and can't really be expected to obey, my dear fellow, being the world's only superpower and all that.

This particular law is superpower-friendly. Our country is in one of more than the big global companies that are most likely to benefit from open markets for government business.

We also have a smaller government share of GNP 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 markets to-government contracts, which they are under-standingly 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 goods to foreigners.

As the folks pointing 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, give the work to that firm in Texas is just paying too much. Even if the Uzbek firm is able to underbid the Texas one only because it is an Uzbek government subsidy, that just means a bit of the burden 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-connect-ed companies. You shouldn't have that.
Football will open with Sunday ESPN game

Kristy Shonka
Staff Writer

When UCF Athletic Director Mike Alderman received a call from the Mid-American Conference about changing the date of UCF's football season opener, he thought it was too good to be true.

He and MAC Commissioner Rick Christopherson are good friends and said, "It's exciting. Maybe we'll be playing in the SEC next year, too?"

The freshman set an A-Sun record for the lowest round in history with a three-day total of 849. The round was played with a score of 854. The tournament was held in Daytona Beach, with third and fourth place finishes, respectively.

The A-Sun's women, Anna Green led the game with a 235, and Kristin Sordel with a 236 (51st). The A-Sun men's team as the top 20 individuals. Finishing out the tournament for the second year in a row with the top 20 individuals. Finishing out the tournament for the second year in a row with the top 20 individuals. Finishing out the tournament for the second year in a row with the top 20 individuals. Finishing out the tournament for the second year in a row with the top 20 individuals.

The championship game, the level of play, the opposing team — these were all familiar aspects to the top-seeded UCF men's tennis team as the Knights clinched their first-ever Atlantic Sun Conference Championship on Saturday, defeating third-seeded Georgia State, 4-1, at the Manderill Tennis Center.

UCF improved to 20-3 and obtained the Sun's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in school history. With the loss, the Panthers end their season at 16-6.

UCF defeated ninth-seeded Florida Atlantic, 4-0, Thursday afternoon and advanced to the 2003 Atlantic Sun Conference Championship semifinals. UCF head coach Rick Orsini said, "The Owls were good. We played well and we're happy to be here."
Knights rise, then fall
After beating FAU's ace Friday, the Knights dropped both games of Saturday's doubleheader

ChrisBernhardt

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 posting the conference's best pitcher for an 8-3 victory Friday night to begin the three-game home set. But rather than build on that win and turn an up-and-down season around, they played two of their least impressive games of the season on a sour note, 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 Jay 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 friends against one another, with the Blue Wave's 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 gave up five runs (four earned) and seven hits in seven innings against four runners with a walk in seven innings, left fielder David Mann doubled home Mike Murray and held it until the fourth. Then the suddenly hot Knights bats exploded.

Nathan Kragt had UCF's only hit in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader against Florida Atlantic. The Knights lost that game 9-0.

Stertzbach cruised for seven innings after giving up the run in the first. Trouble found him in the seventh, as he permitted a couple of runs to score, thanks in part to an error by first baseman Ryan Bear. But the Knights got four back in the bottom of the frame to knock out Core. Stertzbach and Kyle Timpner knocked in the runners, with a couple of errors on the field leading to a 1-0 advantage.

Loading off the following inning, Bear boot ed 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 supporting for Bear, who never saw a runner reach second base and allowed just one hit and one walk in seven innings en route to striking out eight.

"I think (at game) Greg Cozart did a great job of keeping those guys off-balance and I locate 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 Bean (8-1, 2.49 ERA) in the first game of the doubleheader, UCF needed to play some of its crispest ball of the year. But in the top of the second inning, left fielder David Mann mishit a fly ball off the bat of Rusty Brown into a single, Matt Furl later came up next and hit a triple into the right-field corner to give the Blue Wave a 1-0 advantage.

"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," Core (0-2) gave up eight runs in the 6-1/3 innings, the most runs he has given up all year. Stertzbach (2-4), returning to the weekend rotation after spending the last month and a half in the bullpen, went a career-long 8-1/3 and gave up just two earned runs, striking out eight.

"I think (at game) Greg Cozart did a great job of keeping those guys off-balance and I locate 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."

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Shedden wins 10,000 meters

Sophomore Ann Larsson’s high jump of 5 feet, 7 inches earned her second place in the event. UCF owned the hammer throw, with Wilson, sophomore Liz Jovanovski and freshman Ryan 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 Olandose won the discus event and finished sixth in the javelin. Sophomore Sam Scheuerer and freshman Kyleen Colosanti rounded out UCF’s domination of the field events with fourths and sixth-place finishes in the pole- vault, respectively.

Outstanding senior Shedden returned to his pre-injury form and won the 10,000 meters in 37 minutes, 61.21 seconds. Freshman Andrew Marrero upset the favorite to win the 3,000-meter steeplechase by finishing 10.09.72. Junior Denae Dillman finished fourth in the 4,000 meters in 11:54.41 and sophomore Amy Giles ran the 1,500 meters in 2:42.12, also finishing in fourth. Freshman Alex Carlsness took third in the 800 meters with a time of 2:15.61.

Senior Kim Waugh took fifth in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.43 seconds in an extremely tight race—one-hun- dredth of a second separated fourth through sixth places. Colosanti finished one-eighth 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 11.98 seconds and sixth in the 200-meter dash in 24.89 seconds.

Stertzbach, Fox move into weekend rotation

Innings of work, FAU added two runs in the fourth to knock out UCF’s starter Mark Michael (6-3) 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 second game 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. It didn’t make some plays early in the ballgame, both ballgames, that could have been made that would have gotten the pitchers out of their jams.”

In the fifth, Mincks (6-3) 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 home all the way from first.

Later in the inning Derek Hositan hit an RBI double to make the score 4-0, then scored when shortstop Matt Fox committed two errors by bobbbling Tim Mascia’s grounder then failing to throw the throw over Deri’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 Brice, 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 loss to improve to 3-2.

UCF very much in danger of missing the conference tournament, fell to 25-17 overall and 9-9 in conference play.

Tight end Canada Braly guided UCF to a perfect 1-0-1 record against Atlantic Sun opponents.

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UCF lightweight
8+ wins at SiriS

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

The Lightweight 8+ boat — which included Tiffany Richmond, Lauren Gunder, Heather Seward, Tiffany Beck, Laura Brad, Kristen Kosor, Katherine Motes and cerebrum Summer Taylor — earned the gold medal in its event with a time of 6:37.5.

Meanwhile, the Novice 8+ crew of Alme Bogaty, Deana Christianson, Kristen Ronch, Holly Campbell, Jacque Miller, Summer Tuttall, Christina Richardsonville and coxswain Heather Brown earned the bronze at 7:06.6.

After coming in fourth in the semifinals, the Varsity 8+ crew was relegated to the 5:40s, in which the pair of Collette Woodley and Ashley Shagley earned the bronze.

The Golden Knights return to action on May 9 at the two-day Dad Val Regatta in Philadelphia.
IM season ends; champs crowned

In the women's tournament of the night, the Ballers were looking to keep their championship, but the Bandits, who will surely be forced to play comp next year, were on a different level as they took home the title.

The next two games were not for the faint of heart. 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 18.0 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 was able to put Lambda Chi away, 5-4. Lambda Chi denied their second title of the season - ends; champs crowned

IF football

In four-on-four flag football, worlds collided when the Panics beat Lambda Chi, 25-18 to win the competitive league flag football title.

The competitive championship, winning 8-3 in five innings, but the cinderella squad whose season - ends; champs crowned

floor hockey

Championship week would conclude indoors with three floor hockey finals.

In the first game of the evening, the Boof Cainos, who double as the UCF soccer team, took out GDI 7-1. The Boof Cainos, who will surely be forced to play comp next year, were on a different level as they took home the title.

The next two games were not for the faint of heart. 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 18.0 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.

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Sat., April 26th at 2 p.m. • UCF Softball Stadium

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Golden Knights
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 mountain-sides 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 and needs to become familiar with their destination through researching maps, books or the Internet. "Guidebooks give advise 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 that travelers will have a stress-free, fun vacation.

Wagie said it is important to leave copies of important documents such as passports, visas and identification safe at home. "In case of an emergency, you want to have that information somewhere so that you can contact your relatives and have it found quickly," he said.

Ekno’s Travel Vault (http://www.ekno.com) allows travelers to store copies of their identification online for easy access, he said.

When preparing for a trip abroad, Wagie said to pack lightly. Luggage becomes cumbersome and takes up space. "Every time I’ve gone out, 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 jeans and change shoes to make them more comfortable.

**Alice Morrison was one of six ‘bodies’ in the murder-mystery final that required Honors Elementary Spanish I students to solve the crime by asking questions in their new language.**

"It’s better than reading a book and having a quiz. It was more fun than hard, and it really gets the curiosity flowing."

**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 as gruesome as a set 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 skin 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.

READER RESPONSE

**PLEASE SEE KILLER ON 26**

**Striving to become a secret agent man**

**Fascination with killers steers one student toward FBI**

*JESSE SCHRAGE STAFF WRITER*

Marshall Vilet thought about being a teacher. But after taking an Introduction to Education course in community college, he knew it wasn’t for him. He wanted a more thrilling occupation.

He discovered his calling while reading "Whoever Fights Monsters," by Robertessler.

The author profiled serial killers he had encountered during his years as a government agent.

Intrigued by the stories, Vilet vowed to join the FBI.

"Serial killers are fascinating and evil," he said. "When you think about it, human beings don’t have natural predators except for other human beings."

Vilet, a 25-year-old graduate student, currently works for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in Lake Buena Vista. He started in the summer of 2001 with a three-month internship, and then returned later that year as a full-time intern.

Vilet was working for INS when the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks took place. "It was definitely a watershed," he said. "We got sent home at 10 a.m.

Vilet says that government services have changed since the World Trade Center fell. "To see what it was like before and after, it is so different," he said. "It is now very law-enforcement oriented."

Vilet also holds a different perspective of police since he began his work with INS. "I’ve always been respectful of police, but I have more respect for officers now, considering that I have a job in law enforcement."

While Vilet would like to work in the behavioral sciences unit of the FBI, which profiles serial killers and investigates cases, he knows he will have to finish his education and gain experience to do so.

Vilet dismissed the public’s perception of an FBI agent. He said television has created that image by relying on stereotypes.

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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.

research customs and laws of a country before visiting

Traveling on the Web

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 Americans traveling abroad to Western Europe, Wagie said. 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.

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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 crowds 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 juice 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- ly and personally enriching experience."
Price check: Students pay for campus convenience

Many items are available for less a few blocks away

Ali Babcock

Buying a banana on-campus to eat between classes may seem sensible. It is a healthy snack, and priced about 50 cents as a candy bar. Buying the same banana off-campus, though, could cost far less.

On average, buying food and school supplies on-campus costs 20 percent more than at comparable outlets just blocks away from UCF based upon a recent survey of selected items.

For example, the banana that sells for 73 cents at the convenience store in the Student Union costs only 53 cents at a nearby Publix Supermarket, reflecting the difference in price of many products on- and off-campus.

Campus vendors, including the chain restaurant Wendy’s, carry more for more food items than their counterparts off-campus.

While all students are aware of the price differences, not everyone tolerates them.

“There is no doubt that they overcharge us,” said sophomore Jessica Guadalupe, 19, because UCF takes advantage.

Guadalupe is frustrated by price inflations for products on-campus.

“One time I wanted to buy a can of tuna on-campus and it was $0.50. I was like, ‘Why can’t they get the same exact brand for like 50 cents anywhere else.”

Overcharging on-campus is inconsistent. While campus vendors do not charge more on products such as tuna and bananas, Guadalupe said those same vendors offer better deals on items such as two-liter bottles of soda.

Even those who buy on-campus do not always choose to pay the vendors’ prices.

On-campus resident Dave Williamson, 21, a junior, has endured the higher prices at university vendors because of convenience, though he prefers shopping at off-campus grocery stores for his needs.

“I don’t think that he has seen some outrageously overpriced items at any of the convenience store Knighstop.

Don Leland, food service director at UCF, notes sales operations at the Marketplace, Knighstop and Chick-fil-A. He said there is an overwhelming demand for more food outlets on-campus. UCF spends more than $5 million annually on food service facilities for its 49,000 students, faculty and staff.

A 3,000-square-foot grocery store near the Marketplace favorite is under consideration to provide for those students who may be uninterested in current food venues, Leland said.

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

Many students wonder, then, why overcharging remains a problem.

Junior Melanie McNeil, 19, said the prices at the campus Subway run higher than at some off-campus locations.

A comparison between the campus vendor and a Subway on Aliyama showed the prices generally were consistent, with the exception of the Veggie Delight which was 19 cents more on-campus.

Yet McNeil said the campus store 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 Bellstern 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 Rotan, 21,操 by the lack of a 99-cent menu at the campus Wendy’s. Items from that budget menu in particular cost 10 cents more than at the Wendy’s 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 vendors, they make up for in lower campus vending-machine prices.

“Vending beverages on-campus cost less than at all other outlets surveyed, at 99 cents for a 20-ounce soda or water. Students who pay with their UCF ID card save another 5 cents.

On-campus 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 $0.49, compared to $1.49 at a Mail Box Express 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 departments on-campus, non-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 department’s business can go toward academics, rather than office 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 location is one of nearly 500 stores in the Barnes and Noble College Bookstores chain. Though books comprise most of the store’s business, it also sells office supplies and some food products.

The bookstore charges the most on all-off-campus vendors for the products surveyed. For example, four AAA Energizer batteries at the bookstore cost $1.98, more than a dollar above the off-campus average.

The $1.25 price of a 20-ounce Dasani water bottle in campus stores also topped the comparison price list.

The same bottle sells for 99 cents at the CABS Bookstore across the Alayna Trail from campus, or can be had for 85 cents with a UCF ID card at a vending machine just 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. "Tiger paper is about $1.20. You can get that somewhere else for half the price."

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

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

Editor’s note: The prices in this report reflect a survey conducted between April 10-18 at the following outlets:


Off-campus: Wingsby, Subway, Chick-fil-A, Chick-fil-A, Publix Supermarket, Barbara’s, Reddit, Wali Mart Neighborhood Facility, Three O’Clock, Market 200 East, 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 every-
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.

“But 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 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.

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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 introduction to the slippery world of spyware.

First, he mistakenly downloaded 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 discussion 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. Undesirably, the program came preinstalled on most users' computers, and its software that spied on users.

KaZaA is partnered with Brilliant Digital, which makes software that is downloaded invisibly and 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 siphoning of processing power from its customers' computers. 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 Agreement. But EULAs are so filled with legal jargon that they're largely unread. Many KaZaA users protest, saying 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 victimized 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 corporations.

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**Ask a doc**

**Patti Stuart**  
KPD Inside Health Service

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, irritation 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 contributing factors leading to this condition:

- An injury to, 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 hyperresponsiveness to mast cells (histamine).

There is no evidence that Vulvodynia is caused by an active infection and it is not a sexually transmitted disease.

There is currently no "cure" for Vulvodynia. Treatments are directed toward alleviation of symptoms and may provide some or complete relief. It is important to remember that the cause of vulvodynia is still unknown and each individual's symptoms are unique, no single treatment works all the time or is appropriate for every patient. Some women respond very well to a particular treatment, while others respond poorly or experience unacceptable side effects. It can take time to find a treatment or a combination of treatments that will decrease or provide you with relief of your pain.

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, please call the Student Health Center at 407-823-2701 and make an appointment. You may also contact the following organizations to obtain further information or addresses of local support groups.

- National Vulvodynia Association  
  P.O. Box 4991  
  Silver Spring, MD 20994-4991  
  Telephone: (800) 379-8757  
  Web site: www.nva.org

- Vulvar Pain Foundation  
  P.O. Box 177  
  Graham, NC 27253  
  Telephone: (336) 246-0704  
  Web site: http://www.vulvarpainfoundation.org

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

**Monitoring software may be impossible to uninstall**

**From Page 27**

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 bucks in getting people's attention, and people willingly partake of these programs. Then suddenly they notice that getting pop-ups all over their computers when they visit certain Web sites." McKenzie's company sells SpyCop for $45, but free adware/spyware scanners are also available. They include Ad-Aware by Lavasoft (www.lavasoft.com), which last year 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 about problems directly attributable to adware and spyware.

F. Lee Pyles, owner of Computers in Howell, Texas, says it has become commonplace to find domains 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 hidden uninstallers and malicious comments that trick users into reinstalling, rather than deleting them.

"Other times, you'll try to uninstall and you'll want you to take a survey, or they ask you, 'Why are you uninstalling?'" said Pyles. "Others will try to take you to their Web sites. 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-adware free zones, he said. But until consumers encounter widespread identify 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."
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