University presidents say state cuts slice campus budgets to the bone

Krista Zilles
Staff Writer

Desperate to hold on to $115 million in funds that lawmakers have proposed to remove from higher education in Florida, the state's university presidents launched a statewide media campaign May 8 hoping to pressure legislators to reconsider.

These presidents say Florida's public universities are the only sector of education in the state that is facing such extreme funding cuts at a time when their enrollment is increasing.

"State universities are being cut disproportionately," said UCF President John Hitt, chairman of the State University Presidents Association. "We expect 42,000 students for the fall [at UCF], whether we have the money to educate them or not."

Five of Florida's 11 universities
Please See Budget on 3

ON THE FRINGE

Offbeat theatrical event unfolds in downtown district

Diane Lazic
Staff Writer

Not everyone can make it on Broadway: but for theater artists who imagine their name in lights above Orange Avenue, this weekend marks the start of their turn to shine.

Francisco Laboy, for one, can't wait.

The UCF junior, 23, plays a bewildered, offbeat sloth who has trouble keeping rhythm with his group mates in "Colonel Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club," a musical comedy act in which celebrities, puppets and others battle it out with a single goal: "We are just looking for lots of laughs," he said.

For more information log on to www.orlandofringe.com

Please See Fringe on 8

Peña's two years at top come to an end

Mike Riegel
Staff Writer

Create a Safe Ride program so that college students can be transported safely — check.

Get arrested for disorderly intoxication and spend an evening in jail — check.

Send roughly 10,000 students to Wet 'n Wild and Islands of Adventure — check.

Become the student representative on the UCF Board of Trustees — check.

During his stint as student body president, Marco Peña didn't exactly lead the "average" life of a college student. Peña has accomplished many of his goals, seen a great deal and learned more than he ever thought possible. It seems that he is an example of his own personal philosophy that sees a "world with endless opportunities, where those who try hardest are the ones who succeed."

Peña has departed from the presidential office he's held for the last two years, but he's satisfied with the job he's done and proud of how hard he's tried to improve the college experience for thousands of Golden Knights.

Please See SGA on 9

Staging a show turns students into stars

Diane Lazic
Staff Writer

As UCF senior Natalie Weiss transitions from student to professional stage manager, she's watching a tale of transition come to life. It's a tale she wrote, directed and composed every note for.

This year's Orlando International Fringe Festival, eight UCF students will journey through a world of sex, drugs and apple trees in Weiss's play "Cami, Lamby and Quinn." The story follows the title's

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Topless photo shoot

The director of Ohio University's School of Visual Communication has been dismissed, a week after a student filed a fed­eral sexual-harassment lawsuit against him. The demotion stemmed from a photo shoot in which the student posed topless for the director.

The $30,000 lawsuit was filed on behalf of Becky Hunse, a senior in the school. Last November, Hunse made a sexual-harassment complaint against the director, Larry Nighswander. It was dismissed, and in the federal lawsuit, Hunse alleged that the university was "deliberately indifferent" in its response to the complaint.

Hunse's complaint alleged that Nighswander made sexual remarks and inappropriately touched her while the two were alone during the photo shoot, which occurred in September.

Nighswander, who joined the university as director in 1996, is facing a federal lawsuit for his administrative duties on May 2. He still teaches, and he will go on a yearlong paid leave of absence to work on a photo-edit­ing book in the fall. The leave was approved before the lawsuit was filed.

Hunse also filed a complaint after the visual-communication school in 1997, but it was thrown out.

Last month, the dean of the College of Commu­nication announced a ban on fac­ulty photo shoots of students, and part­ially male student models. The new regulations will be similar to existing rules for the School of Art and will be put in place next week, said Leean Brown, a university spokes­woman.

The policy was originally scheduled to be put in place over the summer, but was pushed forward because of the lawsuit, Brown said.

Breaking ground

Eligible male models at Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia voted unanimously this week to start the union.

Philadelphia is now home to the first­of-its-kind male model union, which will be­come part of District Council 17 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Of the 13 eligible models who could vote, seven cast their ballot for the union.

The models, both male and female, have complained of dirty studios and dress­ing problems.

"When the money is a source of con­tention as well for models,

All models, no matter what their experience, earn what they say in a policy $11 per hour.

The models began to bane their com­plaints last year when some formed the Philadelphia Models Guild. They then approached DC 47 organizer Gary Kapurawsky, who told them they could join a union. Hanft said.

Student editor gets death threats

Six weeks after a controversial opin­ion piece on anti-Semitism appeared in the student newspaper of Santa Rosa Junior College, in Santa Rosa, Calif., the college locked the newspaper office and offered to provide police escorts for the newspaper's 19-year-old student editor after she received death threats from local extrem­ist groups.

Budget cuts could mean larger classes this fall

From Page 1

presidents traveled to Orlando, Miami and Tampa holding press conferences with local media in an effort to educate the public about the dire consequences universities will face if the Legislature slashes that much funding from university budgets next year.

Hitt was joined by University of Florida President Chris Young, University of South Florida President Judy Genshaft, Florida State University President TR. Wetherell and Florida International University President Mitch Maddaluno.

Presidents warned the cuts would not only hurt education in Florida, but would deny many students the opportunity to attend col­leges in their home state because universities would have to limit student enrollment.

The cut would also hamper the state's efforts to climb out of a recession, they said.

The long-term growth and development of Florida depends on its higher education because high-paying corporations won't locate in a state that doesn't have an educated workforce.

UCF will lose about $10.5 million of state money if lawmakers decide to approve the budget cut. Last year's UCF operating budget was about $162 million and it received roughly $186 million from the state. This year UCF expected to receive $214 million from the state, but would get only $190 million under the pro­posed reduction.

The proposed cuts come at a time when UCF anticipates another 1,000 students in the fall, with no additional money for construction.

The $185 million reduction, Hitt said, would hurt the university's academic support services the most, such as outreach programs that help retain freshmen at UCF.

Last year Mrs. percent of freshmen at UCF went on to become sophomores because of those advising programs, Hitt said. Seven years ago, before those programs existed, the retention rate was only 15 percent.

For UCF students, the budget cuts would also mean fewer and larger classes and more adjusted faculty.

USF's health and science programs would bear the biggest blow under the budget cut as would UCF's College of Medicine. USF stands to lose about $20 million and UF would lose $30 million under the proposed budget cut. FRU would receive $15 million less and PFI faces a $20 million reduction.

Like other universities, Maddaluno said UCF would be forced to reduce enrollment and levy hiring new faculty next year.

Wetherell said the Legislature's decision to cut higher education funding would severely hurt the university's academic support services

Class projects

UCF President John Hitt and four other Florida public university presidents took their message that Florida's higher education budget cuts will hurt the students on the road, traveling the state last week to gain public support.

UCF President John Hitt and four other Florida public university presidents took their message that Florida's higher education budget cuts will hurt the students on the road, traveling the state last week to gain public support.

Erika Morton

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Unclear business dreams become a tangible reality for three UCF student entre­preneurs.

They have an office in MetroWest, a community flourishing with business prestige. They have client contacts throughout the state, home of celebrities and top business professionals, and they have not even graduated from college.

"We went from being con­fused to having a career," senior Aaron Underwood said.

Underwood, 21, joined with seniors Michael Chang, 21, and Matthew Davis, 21, and won $10,000 and a business opportunity to run their corporate concierge service in UCF's introduction to Entrepreneurship course last month after the business impressed Joseph Durek, a major entrepreneur in Orlando.

Durek, who founded and former CEO of Lentia International, Inc. — one of the fastest growing comp­anies in Orange County that distributes items such as air cleaners, post-control devices, horse­ware, pet products, personal care prod­ucts and flashlights — offered $10,000 to any team of students in the entrepreneurship class who could come up with the best business plan by the end of the semester.

Davis, who made $25,000 in sales in five years by launching Lentia International, Inc., con­structed the course to teach future entrepreneurs the skills he learned when he started his own company.

Durek presented the class with three business ideas — a cor­porate concierge service, managing rental properties and for­celo­sure, new product development, selling time shares for boats, cars and planes and a venture capital­ist.

After observing an increas­ingly busy society, this team real­ized that business is a highly val­ued commodity so the concierge service impressed Durek.

They adopted it and formed the business, Contemporary Concierge.

A concierge is devoted to providing personal services, from pampering to problem solving. Contemporary Concierge simpli­fies that description by providing over 120 services on the individ­ual and corporate levels, wide­ly ranging from personal grocery shopping to pest control in the kitchen.

"In today's society, people have limited time for themselves and need help with their every­day routine," said Davis at the company's press release.

"We want to perform everyday activities for individuals so they

Class projects

UCF President John Hitt and four other Florida public university presidents took their message that Florida's higher education budget cuts will hurt the students on the road, traveling the state last week to gain public support.

UCF President John Hitt and four other Florida public university presidents took their message that Florida's higher education budget cuts will hurt the students on the road, traveling the state last week to gain public support.
Writing has suffered in America, the report states, and in the least-privileged area of the three Fs — reading, writing and learning.

Modern American universities are opting to test students' skills and knowledge through multiple-choice testing styles, reducing or eliminating the amount of writing on exams and regular schoolwork, the report found.

English and writing professors at UCF say that approach is causing an epidemic of bad writing among college students who haven't received proficient training to hone their writing skills.

While high schools are generally ignoring the importance of fostering good writing skills in students, English Department Chairman Patrick Murphy said proficient writing is crucial because it is vital to communication and reflects a student's or their thinking abilities. "Students must understand they don't need to write beautifully, just that they need to write proficiently," Murphy said.

Murphy said UCF offers too low writing course and more upper division writing courses should be added to every major's curriculum.

The problem is not entirely institutional, though. Many students don't take responsibility for their own writing abilities, Murphy said.

While some students exhibit poor writing styles because they resist the urge to revise their papers, he added, "The average student at UCF requires 40 extra credits to fulfill the writing requirement."

"Our highest priority is to fix that," Murphy said.
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Students launch concierge service with help from successful CEO

FROM PAGE 3

can enjoy the life their hard work has earned.

Davis, now the CEO of Contemporary Concierge, said, "The concierge business was my initial favorite business idea because I understand the demands on a person's personal time."

A normal day for the students begins with the opening of their office at 7 a.m. Checking messages, responding to e-mails and following up with business interests fill the early morning hours. Then they go back to the drawing board to create fresh ideas to improve people's lives. Business projects, classes or miscellaneous tasks follow after lunch.

"Time and repeat the following day," Barber said. "Somewhere in there I eat."

It was only about four months ago that the hopeful entrepreneurs walked into a class they felt as established entrepreneurs.

"Most of the students thought it would be an easy class," Barber said. "Actually, it was the class we invested the most time in.

"We said that the opportunity to work for himself attracted him to a career as an entrepreneur and to the course. The group of 24-year-old entrepreneurs, mainly influenced by their fathers' business experiences, had what they called the "itch" of an entrepreneur at a young age.

"Growing up, my father was an executive for an utility company," Underwood said. "I think being around a business-oriented environment at a young age really initiated my love of business."

Davis' first entrepreneurial endeavor began when he discovered a way to become a jewelry maker.

"On the way home from the bus stop, my friends and I would walk past a telephone pole that had a box that contained wires," he said. "Whenever someone would do work in the box, they would always cut wires and leave them on the ground. We took the wires and made rings, necklaces and ankle bracelets."

While Davis said that his jewelry business was not profitable, he's confident about the success of this endeavor.

Barber is confident too, even though his first entrepreneurial experience was short-lived.

"I liked acquiring baseball cards and re-selling the quality ones for a profit," Barber said. "That was until my parents told me that I couldn't make money from my friends."

The services apply to the total spectrum of a diverse society. Davis said. Services from household chores for a homemaker, to coordinating an event for an elite establishment are practical needs for everyone.

"Durek also has high hopes for his new business."

"Mike is a great 'can do' person," he said. "Matt is dedicated to success. And Aaron understands that customers are the reason why we are in business."

As Barber and Davis and Underwood look forward to their December graduation, their main focus is to expand their business. They are currently speaking with property management groups to provide services within their communities.

Rather than only offering custo
tailored information, a representative will be present inside a residential community to assist the residents. The company will later consider franchise opportunities outside of the state.

But these students haven't stopped thinking of new ideas or business ventures. For them, this is just the beginning."

"I would love to own a restaurant, one day or a small resort," Davis said. "They would be small places that have a home-like feeling, where the employees would know your name and happily order to any request."

Barber's dream business is to own an upscale wine bar and grill.

The Introduction to Entrepreneurship class consisted of 40 students, including Davis, Barber and Underwood, launched seven new businesses this semester as a result of the training, leadership and financial assistance provided by successful entreprenreurs such as Durek provided students.

"Durek inspires me and is what we consider an 'angel investor,'" Barber said. "He has trusted us with a lifelong commitment and has allowed us to be his partners in this new business without requiring us to place any of our money on the line."

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Fringe Festival planted Orlando roots in 1992

FROM PAGE 1

from several other countries, momentarily upping the creativity quotient in a downtown that is still striving to create a permanent place for the arts.

Now in its 12th year, the festival is a buffet that tempts its audiences to sample mostly unfamiliar fare in equally unfamiliar settings. Ticket prices are kept low — $8 or less — to encourage experimentation and keep patrons moving among shows that typically last about an hour. The content ranges from drama to dance, though comedy is king.

"These performers are accepted on a non-juried, first-come-first-served basis," said Chris Gibson, the festival's producer. "This separates the Fringe from any other kind of theater in that the audience decides what it likes instead of producers making all decisions concerning content, form, style and artistic interpretation."

For performers who often-times struggle to find an outlet, that distinction is significant. Sally McArthur, a past festival performer, said the Fringe is "absolutely the very best thing we do theater-wise in Orlando."

Audiences, too, appreciate the range of arts and the novel format in which those shows are presented. "I've been coming ever since it started," said Connie Jordan, who teaches humanities at UCF. "You see great things from people all over the world. You can see some risqué, avant-garde, rare things here."

The fact that it's relatively cheap is another plus, she said. "It's an inexpensive, fun thing for people to do. For a $100, you could see 15 shows."

Orlando was the first city in the United States to create its own Fringe Festival, Gibson said. The idea originated in 1947, in Edinburgh, Scotland, when several acts were banned from that city's celebrated international arts festival and opted to set up tents outside the city and create their own festival. In time, the Edinburgh Fringe grew to become more popular than the main event.

Twenty years later, a Fringe Festival circuit was thriving in Canada. A group of Orlando theater artists eventually tapped into that circuit, drawing several Canadian and English acts to town to help launch Central Florida's first Fringe in 1992.

This year's festival, like last year's, will be centered at Heritage Square, at Central Boulevard and Magnolia Avenue. That location will host vendors, a beer tent, a ticket booth and an outdoor stage where musical and other acts will perform for free. Indoor shows will be performed over nine stages sprinkled within walking distance of the square and along the length of Orange Avenue, from the SAK Comedy Lab, 308 W. Amelita St., on the north end, to the Church Street Marketplace, 50 W. Church St., on the south end. Those venues will be color-coded to help the audience navigate their way to the eclectic offerings, Gibson said.

The event also includes a Visual Fringe, showcasing art exhibits at the Orlando Visual Artists League gallery, 29 S. Orange Ave., and a Kids Fringe, which shows geared toward those up through middle-school age, some of them performed by children.

But don't expect to just sit back and watch. Among this year's Fringe offerings is a "choreo NYC Bar," an interactive experience in which the characters from "Alice in Wonderland" will be welcomed into an East Village tavern setting and go about mixing it up with the audience.

"Our show is interactive and happens all around you," said Christian Kelty, one of the performers in the production. "The audience is welcome to participate. Characters will talk to you throughout the shows. We actually don't even have a script."

No script? At the Fringe, that's no problem.

For information call 407-424-0077 or go to orlandofringe.com. Tickets go on sale at the venues one hour prior to showtime, or may be purchased up until the day of shows at the Fringe Festival booth located inside the lobby of the Orange County Regional History Center at Heritage Square. Booth is open 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily.
SGA members praise Peña's accomplishments

FROM PAGE 1

Senior Marcus Gould, who served as a Student Government Association senator under Peña, said that Peña "was the most important person" in his success at UCF. Gould cited Peña's "belief in the ideas of diversity, accountabilility and access to higher education" as critical to the development of UCF and to Gould's own personal development.

During the first term of his consecutive one-year terms, Peña focused in part on the Providence Rides program, which later became the Safe-Ride program. The program is a transportation service for students who are in dangerous situations and in need of a ride home. This program, which was designed primarily to keep incapacitated people from driving, has become much more than just a substitute designated driver.

"It's been fairly successful so far," said Peña of the program. "It's a program that can save lives." Some of the students who've taken advantage of Safe-Ride agree. "When it's late and your ride doesn't come through, it's a lot safer than walking alone," said junior Leah Strong.

Also during his first term, Peña negotiated a free after-hours pass for some 2,500 UCF students at Wet 'n Wild. In an effort to increase student participation in the SGA-sponsored event, this year's spring excursion was to Universal's Islands of Adventure. The latter event's cost of $125,000 dwarfed the water park expenditure, but thousands of additional students were admitted to the park for free.

"Originally, I was against going to the Islands of Adventure, but it turned out that there was enough money available," said Peña. Since other student services and clubs weren't going to be disadvantaged, and Universal was offering a good deal, he decided to support the outing, which gave a considerable number of students something tangible for the activity fees they'd already paid.

Always very visible during both of his terms, Peña could often be seen either in his office or on the Front page of The Sun, but there were times when the headlines weren't quite as friendly as he'd hoped.

One such headline announced that Peña had been arrested and detailed by UCP Police for disorderly intoxication. The incident occurred in the parking lot of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, of which Peña is a member.

Police were conducting a traffic stop on another student when Peña approached the officer, said the officer. Peña was charged with violating the state's law against consuming alcoholic beverages on public property, and Peña was charged with violating the state's law against consuming alcoholic beverages on public property.

Police did not agree. They described Peña as drunk, and detailed him for a sobriety test that he failed, according to the police report.

In his defense, Peña insists that he was not drunk, and his arrest was the result of authorities profiling fraternities and sororities. The arrest and subsequent detainment cost Peña the opportunity to attend the first UCF football game of the season, but it did little to impede his work as president.

A number of students called for Peña to resign, but he stayed on and remained steadfast in his denial of any wrongdoing. While the incident failed to create an overwhelming distraction for Peña and SGA, it did serve to spark some debate amongst the student body regarding campus police and the Greeks.

"If the police concentrate all their efforts on [Greek], then they're not setting the same standards for everyone else on campus, and that's not fair," said Sophomore Tara Barker, 20. "It was good to see [Peña] stand up against that.

Junior Michael King also did not agree with Barker's evaluation. "If more illegal activities take place in fraternities and sororities, then of course the police are going to spend more time in those areas," King said. "If Peña wanted to address this, he should've done it formally at a meeting, instead of after a night of partying."

During his second term, Peña served on UCF's Board of Trustees. Peña represented the student body and spoke against tuition increases. He ultimately abstained from the tuition vote, but proposed programs that would sustain Bright Futures scholarships for graduating seniors who planned on taking summer classes. The measure eventually passed, ensuring the aid to all those who qualified under the terms of the scholarship.

Peña called his time as a board member not only a personal learning experience, but an educational experience for SGA, as well. "I was able to learn a lot about higher education and better understand the dynamics of how the state operates," Peña said. "Knowing how things got done should give SGA some direction in the future."

Joshua Grosschaus, SGA's director of governmental affairs, praised Peña for his efforts as a member of the Board of Trustees. "He did not back down on student issues with the board," Under-Peña's leadership, new ground was broken between the students and the state government, he said. He called Peña "a true leader," and his administration an effective "conduit" for communicating the concerns of UCF students to the state's lawmakers and leaders.

In his most recent efforts, Peña turned his attention to implementing a photo-only grading system, which he said will put UCPCPs on par with currently advantaged University of Florida students. While he has relinquished the presidential reins to Brian Balles, a member of his cabinet during his second term, he is confident that his team will continue in a positive direction.

Grosschaus said the new administration will be as good, and possibly better than Peña's. While the SGA moves on, Peña is planning to move out. He's enrolled in law school from UF to Harvard — the latter, he admits as a long shot. But he has learned to try.

"Being president has shown me that college is about a lot more than grades," Peña said. "Getting involved with SGA helped me mature a great deal, and taught me things that you just don't learn in the classroom."

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"Where it Pays to Care"
There are moments that an amazing teacher of the Beales and Dodger, and the acting of UCF students, Weiss said the play has taught me that you lose their innocence, but gain a simultaneous action going on, three young women through transitions. The production was done entirely by UCF students, who found more value in the experience than in any material gain.

"What's good about the show is the intention we went into it with," Borgia said. "We are not aiming for commercial success, but hope people enjoy the performance. We also raised every dollar, held our own auditions, found our own rehearsal space and the band. We did it all ourselves."

Borgia has worked as a stage manager, show-staging, and a passion born of acting, entertainment of the performance, moment of the play comes to light in high school. When she arrived at college, years of seeing behind-the-scenes work finally pushed her off-stage.

"I don't miss acting, and I have learned and found that I am meant to be a stage manager," she said. "I am so passionate about it."

I have taken classes in everything from costumes to lighting, which ended up being an amazing tool," she said. "It gives me an understanding of what everyone's job is and why they are so important. I give me a great perspective to be able to let it work."

Senior Anthony Perrella Jr., 23, plays a tap dancer in "Cami." He said the role, like the play itself, underwent transitions during production. "My character is not a typical tap dancer," he said. "I molded him into becoming a true spirit who happens to wear tap shoes."

Perrella, Borgia and Weiss have all been involved with previous Fringe Festivals. Borgia said her last year as stage manager for the show "A Little Cry," kept her interested in the Fringe, something she wanted to continue to work with.

The band taking back the visual entertainment of the performance, Dodger, has never been to the festival before. Dodger frontman Matt Kamm, 18, said he thinks the band will fit right in, though. "We're eccentric, funny people," said Kamm, a sophomore at UCF. "I know it's going to be a fresh, new experience."

The band has played together for two years; most of the members grew up together in Orlando. Performing in the festival offers a welcome change from playing clubs, Kamm said. "It's been an amazing and mind-blowing experience," he said. "It's a very different experience, so much more cultured than just playing a show."

Despite what he called shocking moments in the play, Kamm said it's something people in their late teens and early twenties will relate to.

It does deal with sex and drugs, but the overall message is of hope, and I hope people get that," he said.

Borgia says the most poignant moment of the play comes straight from pop culture, after Lamby sleeps with a guy upon ending a long-term relationship.

"She sings, 'I feel like a whore. It all looks so pretty,' 'Sex in the City,' but now I feel [exploited] hav­ing done what they do."
Experts: Revisions lead to tight writing

From Page 4

said. He stressed that revision is key to becoming a better writer.

"There is a huge misconception that writing is a talent," he said.

Writing is like a sport; it requires frequent and extensive practice, he said. Writing skills need to develop in students from experience, not from birth.

Another common writing deficiency that appears in student writing is that they often don't fully develop their essays to the appropriate audience, Murphy said.

"Students write to an audience that doesn't know them, don't speak their slang and may not know the same background information that they know," Murphy said.

Students must understand they need to shift their writing from self-addressed to audience-focused expression, he said.

Murphy believes students underestimate the amount of writing that will be required of them in their future careers. "They often fail to take [Composition] 101 and 102 seriously," he said.

UCF has taken some measures to combat poor writing to restore student writing skills to a satisfactory level. The university is currently up for the lack of writing instruction.

"Consultants are here to help fine-tune papers from any discipline," said senior Melissa Ringfield, a writing consultant.

Ringfield, 22, said consultants check everything from grammar to structure, looking for a central focus, valid explanation and a thesis statement.

"Students have a habit of doing one draft and turning it in," she said. "We try to help them become better writers, and we urge them to do more than one draft."

According to Anastasia Bojanowski, the university writing center's coordinator, many students don't know the center exists.

In an effort to promote the center's services, consultants advertise on campus and some teachers require students to have their papers reviewed at the writing center before they turn them in.

While Bojanowski said the writing center can help correct writing flaws, the system needs to change.

"We can solve writing problems here at the university, but we need to have more writing classes," she said.

She faults high schools for training students to pass tests like the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, rather than showing them how to write essays.

Because of this failure in the system, colleges need to work harder to pick up the slack, Bojanowski said.

While professors say UCF needs to do more to offer students writing instruction, basic English courses at UCF exceed the schedule every semester. This fall, UCF will have 40 to 50 instructors to teach 3,000 students enrolled in English composition classes.

Though educators at the college level have been making up for the lack of writing instruction in high schools, student inspectors have received for years, teachers at the high-school level are finally beginning to feel the pressure to boost writing proficiency.

The Scholaristic Aptitude Test, a common college placement test, will include an essay portion beginning in 2005.

Murphy and Bojanowski said that unless more writing courses are required in students' standard curriculum, writing will always be a difficult subject for students to tackle.

But Murphy said there is no one solution to end all the writing problems.

There will always be a conflict between teaching skills and learning styles are never going to be the same, he said.

Column sparks controversy

From Page 3

The Ode Leaf, a fiercely published online edition of the college's journalism department, published an opinion column on March 18 titled "Anti-Semitism Ever the Result of American Violence on the Campus." One professor, who requires students to read the column, cited the newspaper's commitment to encouraging debate and free speech on the campus. "The First Amendment isn't there to protect unarguable stories," he told The Press Democrat, a Santa Rosa newspaper.

But Robert P. Agee, the college's president, said that "the article should never have been printed," according to The Press Democrat.

The college's Academic Senate will meet this week to discuss imposing greater editorial control over the student newspaper.
Opinions
Wednesday May 14, 2003

OUR STANCE:

Education cuts will cost students and hurt Florida's economy

If Florida's proposed budget is adopted during a special legislative session this week, state universities could lose $115 million. UFSP will be forced to raise tuition, cut funding to programs and salaries, or both.

Anticipating the dire implications of this budget, presidents from universities throughout the state made a media blitz last week to draw attention to the issue and rights. The severe impact these cuts will have on our school and the state's economy in the long-term make a reversal of course critical. The state cannot cut university budgets so drastically.

The state faces an economic recession mirroring that of the nation. Because tax revenue is lower than budget requirements, the state government must find ways to cut costs or boost revenue. Its budget largely ends with universities, and through the budget takes money from nearly all sectors of the state-funded system, universities will carry the greatest burden of all.

The breakdown of cuts to K-12 schools, community colleges, universities and other sources shows that although universities use less than 16 percent of the state's education funding, 35 percent of the budget cuts will come from university funding, a wide disparity. By contrast, community colleges will incur less than 8 percent. K-12 schools will see cuts lower than their share of the budget as well.

University presidents are begging legislators and members of Gov. Jeb Bush's administration to reconsider the cuts. They say the state's economy will suffer more if higher education suffers. Their argument makes sense. At a time when regions such as Central Florida are working to attract high-tech industries, depleting the technologically-skilled workforce is counterproductive.

Fewer available workers will attract fewer companies, which ultimately will mean less revenue for the state. The budget crisis is a short-term problem brought on by a weak economy. Cutting funding to schools, especially universities, will cause a ripple effect that will hurt the state's economy for years to come.

Florida's legislators should heed the advice of well-intentioned university presidents, and reconsider their budget strategy, before the state's education problems get worse.

OUR STANCE:

New president must continue Peña's legacy

During Marco Peña's two years as president of the student body, he has defended the rights of students both formally and physically. As a member of the UCF Board of Trustees, he spoke out against tuition hikes, though the hikes eventually were approved (with Peña's abstention). He championed the Safe-Ride program, aimed at helping students in dangerous situations get rides home. He even threw students a couple of parties, at Islands of Adventure this year and Wet 'n Wild in 2002.

Despite opposition from administrators to some policies, Peña succeeded in fighting for student rights. The legacy he has left for new Student Body President Brian Battles to continue is not unlike that of great defenders of civil rights. Battles must ensure that the commoners in this system, the students, are given a voice in matters of great importance, such as tuition and other fees.

The pressure now on UCF to contract its budget will soon lead to higher tuition. Though preventing the cost of student life from going up is unreasonable, Battles must continue Peña's fight to keep burdens imposed on students fair.

The controversial and costly end-of-year events Peña supported should continue, though the cost of those events should be more carefully weighed to prevent student groups from feeling ignored or left behind, as some did this year. The effort USA made to provide funding for all student groups is admirable, though.

Most critical to the success of the new administration is involvement with students. Internet with your constituents, and listen to what they have to say. Know what's bothering students. Regular open forums with students to promote such a dialogue should prove invaluable to improving student representation.

The reins were passed to Battles last week. He now stands as the voice of UCF's heart and soul, its students. Peña has the reins left to see what they cost. Hopefully, Battles will keep the course Peña established and champion student concerns, while at the same time working even harder to forge a positive relationship between students and their government.

"Man is free at the moment he wishes to be."
Weapon of mass dysfunction?

Mike Riegel
Staff Writer

Just so that it's perfectly clear, this column has absolutely nothing to do with legalizing marijuana in the United States. Most of what I wrote that essay in high school, and we got crappy grades because we were high when we wrote it.

This column is about the Canadian government's intentions to legalize marijuana, and President Bush's intentions to stop them.

Bush and his advisors have hinted that if Canada decides to legalize marijuana, then the United States would make it more difficult for Canadian goods to cross the border and be sold here.

Bush is sure it's creating an amazing legacy of foreign policy. He must've inherited his diplomatic tendencies from his great-grandfather, Genghis Bush. It will be interesting to see if Bush decides to invade Canada because they've legalized marijuana -- a weapon of mass dysfunction.

I can already hear the country songs proclaiming the evils of pot and the Canadian government.

In fact, I learned that Toby Keith is writing a song called, "You Know They Speak French There, Too." The Dixie Chicks declined to comment when they were asked if they would support an invasion of Canada. They did, however, immediately rip their clothes off and scribble messages all over their naked bodies. (Several people reported the one in the middle ran out of ink.)

But those loud-mouthed Canadians aren't bowing to Bush. They have the audacity to believe they've allowed to make their own laws in their own country. Nice try, guys. We know what kind of lose you've got flying on your flag, and you don't have maple syrup with it.

In a completely unsubstantiated and wholly fabricated statement that I made up, Bush said, "Mexico will not allow sovereign countries to rule themselves, at least not without 'Mexican help.'"

Bush then threatened Canadians, urging them to return to Osama and Saddam, the last two "terrorists" that stood against Mexico.

Osama and Saddam could not be reached for comment, as they were dead or on a beach with a couple billion dollars to keep them comfortable.

The Bush administration does, however, have an actual rationale for threatening Canada, but mine is much funnier and more entertaining.

Bush and his kinfolk would have us believe that if Canada legalizes marijuana, U.S. drug laws would be undermined and more drug smuggling would lead to organized crime.

In other words, Don Carlos is going to be replaced by Don Cannabis. Or maybe Bush is afraid that a strong gust of wind will blow a green cloud of smoke south and we'll all get a contact buzz that causes the entire country to miss Must-See TV on Thursday. Don't worry, George, maybe the green cloud will cause us to forget how bad the economy is, too.

In one minute might be poisoned by that cloud of pot on our way to vote in the next election. You'll just have to make sure the Supreme Court is in an air-tight room so they don't forget to elect whomever they want.

Proponents of the Bush administration will say that I'm just another pothead who wants to take advantage of a country where I can purchase marijuana that's cheaper or higher quality.

Well, they'd be wrong. I don't smoke marijuana on a regular or sporadic basis, so I don't have a personal preference as to whether or not it is legalized. I prefer crack, a nice vintage '82 or '83, before it became so commercialized and mainstream.

My point is that the United States should set its own foreign policy and not set the policies for all foreigners. Canada can do what it wants, because contrary to what some creative geography by Republicans would have us believe, Canada is not the 51st state. Everyone knows that title belongs to Mexico, where insane amounts of marijuana are produced every day and smuggled into the United States.

As with most issues that make absolutely no sense, the Bush administration is trying to justify its stance by invoking the almighty image of the "child." What about all the children who will go to Canada and smoke pot? Won't those children explode once they get a whiff of Canadian marijuana?

Here's what I propose to those children when they return from a Cheech and Chong-esque trip to Canada: When the customs agent asks you if you have anything to declare, just say, "Bush," I'm really high and there's nothing you or Bush can do about it.

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May 14, 2003 • The Central Florida Future
Women's sports win All-Conference title

ASHLEY BURNS
STAFF WRITER

There was no surprise when the Atlantic Sun Conference announced that the winner of the 2003 Sherman Day trophy was UCF. The award for top women's athletic program was earned by UCF for the second consecutive year. The Knights' teams set a conference record by compiling 253.3 points on the year. Georgia State set the previous record in their 1997-98 campaign, in which they poured in 229.3 points. Florida Atlantic finished second to the Knights with a final score of 241 points.

"We're real proud of our coaches and student-athletes here at UCF," commented Athletic Director Steve Orsini. "As I tell them our goal each year, athletically, is to be conference champions. I'm real proud that our teams have reached their goals."

2002-03 women’s sports accomplishments

Women's basketball: En route to the regular season Atlantic Sun Conference title, the Knights finished with a 19-10 overall record. Erin Paige was named to the All-Sun Second Team. As a junior, Paige averaged 10.3 points per game, ranking her fourth in the conference in scoring.

Women's golf: The women's golf team made its third appearance in the NCAA regionals and finished third. The team was led by Shayla Smith. She received All-Region honors.

Women's tennis: Despite finishing third in the A-Sun regular season, the Knights reached the A-Sun finals where they were defeated by Florida Atlantic. The Knight tennis team is aiming for another conference title.

Women's softball: The Knights finished the season with a 39-22 overall record, finishing second in the A-Sun conference. Ashley Burns - STAFF WRITER

UCF softball proves Sophomore success

Knights reach finals in A-Sun tournament

ASHLEY BURNS
STAFF WRITER

In only the second season of UCF Softball's existence, the Knights made a major impact in the Atlantic Sun Conference. UCF finished the regular season with a 13-7 conference record, earning them the number four seed and the team's first-over appearance in the A-Sun tournament.

The first obstacle for UCF came in the form of the Stetson Hatters. Thursday at 9 a.m., Stetson jumped out to a seemingly insurmountable 5-2 lead by the bottom of the fourth inning. UCF ace Dottie Cupp stayed strong as always, finally receiving the support in the top of the fifth. Centerfielder Jania Shinhoster reached first on an error by shortstop. Dottie Cupp, the pitcher for the Knights, stepped to the plate. She got the walk, and then the single by Dee Clasby. Then, the Knights filled the bases, allowing a sacrifice fly byBrian Cooper. The Knights tied the game at four when Jania Shinhoster scored on a sacrifice bunt by Kragt. The Hatters then took the lead with a barrage of hits. After singles by Mann and Wilson, a double by Davis, the Knights rallied to break the tie in the bottom of the third with a two-run home run by Jenny Brown.

Coming into this weekend's series at Stetson, UCF baseball was 16-18 overall, 9-3 in the A-Sun. The Hatters were 21-21 overall, 7-5 in the conference.

"We're real proud of our coaches and student-athletes here at UCF," commented Athletic Director Steve Orsini. "As I tell them our goal each year, athletically, is to be conference champions. I'm real proud that our teams have reached their goals."

Knights fall short

Stetson takes two out of three from UCF in key series

ASHLEY BURNS
STAFF WRITER

Women's cross country: For the fourth consecutive season, the squad was named an All-Academic Cross Country Team. The Knights finished third at the A-Sun Championships.

Women's golf: The women's golf team finished fourth overall in the A-Sun Conference.
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Eleven players return to softball team next season

Dottie Cupp received A-Sun First-Team All-Conference honors for the second consecutive year.

Key loss hurts tourney hopes

Dottie Cupp was second on the team with 15 regular season wins and 20 complete games.

FROM PAGE 14

stop Carrie Craft. Lindy Oakley fol-

FROM PAGE 14

Key loss hurts tourney hopes

Eleven players return to softball team next season

One of the Knights' second on the team with 15 regular season wins and 20 complete games.

Dottie Cupp received A-Sun First-Team All-Conference honors for the second consecutive year.

Despite the deceiving record and many times during the regular season, UCF's pitching staff has struggled to maintain their form over the weekend in order to sweep the Dolphins and win over the pesky Wilson, but was provided with a walk-off three-run homerun by Zennecky.

With this win, the Knights fell to 6-5 on the season, while Stetson's Roger Lincoln improved to 5-7. The Knights stranded eleven runners in Saturday night's 11-8 loss. McGuff was dropped from the field.

The infielder crunch, jumping out to a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first. Green started the offensive burst with a walk, and was advanced by best, who received a rare pitch to swing at for a single. Dottie Cupp then hit another big double, this time to left, scoring Green and Best.

When the 3-1 victory, McQueen jumped to 8-2 on the season while Michael dropped to 7-0.

The Knights tied the game at eight in the top of the sixth after a double down the line in left field by Butera. He advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt by Brown and scored on a sacrifice fly by Butera. Cobb settled down and fanned two batters in the bottom of the eighth to take the tie into the final inning. The Knights were retired in order in the top of the inning and the Hatters ended any hopes of the same happening to them.

Singles by Mike D'Aoust and Brandon Peritz led to Kyle Homosko taking into replace Cobb. Best was able to retire the pesky Wilson, but was provided with a walk-off three-run homerun by Zennecky.

A single by Bear. He advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt by Butera, and scored a run when Jordan took the mound against Stetson's wins.

The Knights tied the game at eight in the top of the sixth. The game was behind home run to score Best and give Atlantic University, whom they were toward another complete easy, tying the game at threes.

Nagel, allowed Cupp to score easily, tying the game at threes.

Another error, this time by catcher Stacy Nagel, allowed Cupp to score easily, tying the game at threes.

The Knights showed a weekend's innings with a singie to score Best and give the Knights the 4-3 win. Sawyer betred her career high in seven innings and only allowing two earned runs on five hits, while striking out four for the Knights.

The Knights' third game led them to the face the Lady Owls of Florida Atlantic University whom they were also 1-3 against during the regular season. UCF seemed to be avoiding the late inning crunch, jumping out to a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first. Green started the offensive burst with a walk, and was advanced by best, who received a rare pitch to swing at for a single. Dottie Cupp then hit another big double, this time to left, scoring Green and Best.

The Knights, who dropped to 23-6, were 1-3 against in the regular season.

A single by Bear. He advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt by Butera, and scored a run when Jordan took the mound against Stetson's wins.

The Knights jumped out to a 2-0 lead through the top of the sixth inning. The Knights were an error by catcher Stacy Nagel, allowed Cupp to score easily, tying the game at threes.

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The Knights, who dropped to 23-6, were 1-3 against in the regular season.
Jennifer Montgomery (24) was one of four Knights to earn NSCAA honors as A-Sun Freshman of the Year along with her All-South Region Second Team Selection.

Women's sports program takes top A-Sun honors

FROM PAGE 14

Sun. Kim Tudor was named to the Second-Team All-Conference.

Women's soccer: Winning the A-Sun Championship, the Knights finished with a program best 18-5-0 record. The team finished an outstanding sixth in the nation in scoring. Jackie Van Looven, Jennifer Montgomery, and Nicole Cieslack were named to the NSCAA All South Region second team, while Allison Bagriiff was named to the NSCAA All South Region third team. Montgomery was also named the A-Sun Freshman of the Year.

Softball: The Knights advanced to the A-Sun tournament in the program's second season. Dottie Cipp, Janis Shihbester and Stephanie Best earned All-Conference First Team recognition. Best was also named A-Sun Player of the Year as a sophomore.

Women's track and field: The team finished 1-2-3 in the season. The women earned a number three seed in the A-Sun Conference. Marieke Gunawan was named to the All-Conference First Team. Julie Pecastaing was selected to the All-Conference Second Team. Pamela Fernandez took home All-Freshman Team honors.

Women's volleyball: The women won the team's tenth A-Sun title, an all-time conference record. Santaella Sante won the A-Sun Player of the Year award and tournament MVP.

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8 Days a Week

Highlights of the cultural calendar

LINNEA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Wednesday, May 14

Sean Paul in concert

The Warner Brothers Video and Universal Music Group present Sean Paul in concert as part of downtown Orlando's Blue Jam series at 8 p.m. at Railroad Park. Tickets are $25 in advance or $30 day of show.

Thursday, May 15

Open Lumberjack World Championships

Presented by the Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show, the Open Lumberjack World Championships will be held at 10 a.m. at Universal Studios. A competition called "Thumping the Barrels" will be held at 3 p.m. at the same venue. For more information, call 407-957-0101.

Friday, May 16

Morgan Heritage at CityWalk

Reggae ensemble Morgan Heritage from the 2008 Island Def Jam tour, will perform in Orlando. Tickets are $15 in advance or $18 day of show. For more information, call 407-423-1515.

Saturday, May 17

Fringe Festival continues

The 12th annual Orlando International Fringe Festival runs May 15-26. More than 75 events are on the menu throughout downtown Orlando. At least 40 local bands also will perform at Central Florida Village as part of the Fringe Festival. For more information, call 864-2772 or visit www.orlando fringe festival.org.

Sunday, May 18

Basketball at CityWalk

Atlanta Hawks and Orlando Magic face off at 6 p.m. on the outdoor tent stage at Universal Studios CityWalk. For more information, call 407-824-4000.

Monday, May 19

Line Dancing at CityWalk

Join us in our vintage line-dancing lessons from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. every Monday in front of the CityWalk Orlando's Outback Steakhouse.

Tuesday, May 20

Basketball at CityWalk

Atlanta Hawks and Orlando Magic face off at 7:30 p.m. at Universal Studios CityWalk. For more information, call 407-824-4000.

Wednesday, May 21

"Motown Night" exhibit

The iconic Motown Records is on display at the Newseum in Washington.

"And so the ancient stone walls fell away, just like that song we all know..."

A man in a shepherd's hat and beard has his head shaved and2001, over a hundred yards from the site of the ruins of the synagogue. Then came the moment of truth. In front of the crowd, Jason stopped, looked at me and said, "I want to experience the Holy Land for our visitor's eyes." - a successful and easy way to legally distribute music over the Internet.

Last week, Apple Computer Inc. offered an olive branch by launching the music services iTunes Music Store. The service, which provides customers with more than 200,000 songs for $0.99 per download, or an entire album for $9.99, sold more than one million songs in its first week.

"It's easy, I figured out how to..."

When the devilish walk through Holy Land...

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

LINNEA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Sunday School, I exchanged an embarrassed glance with Jason — my gag, Jewish computer — and decided we were probably both headed for hell. We were, after all, gucking our way through the Holy Land Experience, Orlando's $10 million "living biblical museum," housed in a few hundred yards from the site of the ruins of the synagogue. Then came the moment of truth. In front of the crowd, Jason stopped, looked at me and said, "I want to experience the Holy Land for our visitor's eyes." - a successful and easy way to legally distribute music over the Internet.

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"It's easy, I figured out how to..."
Online gambling – don’t bet on it

How one student lost it all over the Internet

MIKE RIEGEL  STAFF WRITER

Robert Tyler thought the Oakland Raiders would beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in last year’s Super Bowl. "If they had," he said, "I might still be at UCF right now.

Instead, he is once again living with his parents in Miami. A constant offshore breeze is clearly audible over the phone as he talks, and so is Tyler’s regret at having gambled away his chances to attend UCF.

“I love watching football and basketball,” Tyler, 21, said, “I would make friendly wagers all the time with my friends, and I would usually win. When I saw an ad for a casino Web site where I could bet online, I thought I’d try it.

Tyler checked it out and found that all he needed was a credit card, an address and a computer.

The Web site was owned and operated in a foreign country, outside the jurisdiction of U.S. laws prohibiting gambling. So he signed up and started placing wagers on his favorite professional sports.

"But at first, I didn’t know it was this kind of se, he said, so I placed a small bet and waited to see what happened," he said.

While he doesn’t remember the game or the teams they played on, Tyler does remember that he won the bet and received a check a few days later. His credit card statement also reflected that he wasn’t being scammed.

After that, Tyler’s bets increased in both frequency and amount. "If I went on a losing streak, I’d bet a little more to catch up, but that didn’t always work. I got into a pretty big hole, but I had just enough credit left on my card to get even again. I just had to find the right game,” he said.

What Tyler found was last January’s Super Bowl between the Raiders and the Buccaneers.

Las Vegas has long been considered the premier attraction for legal gambling in the U.S. Until 1995, people outside the Nevada area had few options if they wished to place a bet on a sporting event. At that time, the first online casinos began, bringing the ability to gamble into every American household and downtown room with a computer and an Internet connection.

The Web site operators could credit card almost anywhere in the world and offer the standard slots, video poker, blackjack and roulette.

Some had additional options for betting on collegiate and professional sports. The sites contain tutorials on how to place bets so that novice players can learn the gambling lingo and better understand what they’re betting on.

Accounts can be opened with a valid credit card, and other wagers can be funded directly from betting accounts. Making something as simple as possible is the goal of these sites, and it can also act as a lure for people who might otherwise steer clear of playing for money.

“Never would have tried betting on sports if it hadn’t been for easy,” 23-year-old senior Danny Lawrence said. “I’d been to Vegas a couple of times, but this was like someone brought Vegas to me. I had to try it.”

While Lawrence quickly “lost a little bit of money” and decided to stop playing the games, the online casino business continues to thrive.

Bear, Stearns & Co., a global investment and banking firm in New York, estimated that there are about 1,800 Web sites devoted to gambling, all of which operate outside the U.S.

These companies make $4 billion annually and more than half of that total can be attributed to U.S. business.

What can online casinos do that a landlocked casino can’t? Well, a Web site can provide players out of money with little recourse in the event of fraudulent behavior.

Web site operators can credit card customers whenever they want or not at all and then hide in the anonymity of cyberspace. With these casinos in different countries and the relative absence of legal regulations, online gambling is, in itself, a gamble.

In addition to its susceptibility to deception and deceit, a U.S. Senate committee report found that the detached environment of the Internet may contribute to gambling addiction. The report cited the readily accessible nature of online gambling, the absence of tangible money and the immediacy of the bets as attributes that could help develop gambling addictions in a much wider segment of the population.

Having established the potentially detrimental nature of these Web sites, federal lawmakers have proposed different legal packages that would limit and regulate online gambling.

Right now, Congress is considering several different bills related to online gambling.

One of the more recent bills introduced was the Unlawful Internet Gambling Prohibition Act, sponsored by U.S. Rep. James Leach (R-Iowa). The measure, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives but died in the Senate, would have made it illegal for financial institutions to give customers the ability to fund their online casino accounts.

With the absence of current legislation, some credit card companies have cited the readily accessible Web sites, such as MasterCard, are responding proactively to customer complaints by refusing charges for Internet bets in certain situations. But that doesn’t help the people they’ve already made up to run up a considerable balance.

"After I lost the Super Bowl bet, my credit card was maxed out and I had to come back to Miami," Tyler said, almost in disbelief. "I couldn’t afford to live on my own anymore.

"I didn’t wish to give the exact amount of my debt, but he did say the amount was almost in five-digit territory.

Tyler has decided to take time off from school and work as much of the debt off as possible, and then return to UCF and continue his sophomore year.

"My parents were pretty mad, but they said I could move back and work to pay it off."

The final parts of the agreement, Tyler said, were his promises that he would no longer gamble for any purpose, and that the credit card bills would come to a lower limit, at least for a while.

"[My parents] could bail me out and pay the bill, but they told me that I was on my own, and to learn from it," Tyler said. "Since I wasn’t allowed in, I could definitely understand where they’re coming from."

And while he doesn’t call his problems with gambling an addiction, he does acknowledge it was the path he was taking. "A couple of my friends asked if I was OK, and I honestly thought I was. Unfortunately, I didn’t realize that I was in trouble until it was too late."

Tyler is now working full-time in the mailroom of an office building in his hometown of Coral Gables, a suburb of Miami. He says that the work has made it easier for him to keep the promise he made to his parents.

"I’ve got a lot of time to think about what I want to do with my future and a lot of time to think about what I don’t want to do with my future," he said.

When asked if watching sports is still as thrilling as it was when he was mired in the game, Tyler laughed and said that the excitement does wane in the absence of wager.

"Said Tyler: "It doesn’t get my adrenaline going like it used to, but I still love to watch sports, and I don’t have to worry about whether or not the Dolphins win by 4 — I can just be happy when they win."
Breaking dress codes, Christian virtues at biblical theme park

FROM PAGE 18

"Ina bhilin under my halter-top-style shirt.

Ours. We randomly chose an exhibit with a cool name and stumbled over to the half-hour long, "Wilderness Tabernacle" show. There, a silent, Santa Claus-like priest mixed out the story of the biblical hero, Aaron (to the narration of a piped-in, booming voice) enhanced by dazzling special effects.

But who was Aaron again? Jason was completely mystified, and I could only remember a little from my childhood years in Methodist Sunday School. Although I'm sure I should have some memories of the Tabernacle show, we randomly chose an exhibit for a brief look. According to our Mickey Mouse-like experience, we probably missed the crucifixion, the ascension and witnessing Christ's death once a month, focusing on Jesus' role as a teacher. In fact, the stereotypically brown-haired, bearded actor's performance actually brought joyful tears to my eyes. I remembered all the positive qualities of Christianity.

However, I couldn't help but wonder if the audience would have accepted a different-looking Jesus as easily. After all, in many African-American churches, Jesus is depicted as a black man. I would love to return to the Holy Land Experience someday and see "Dwayne's alive, you know, playing the part of Christ."

Store the park closed at 5 p.m., Jason and I unfortunately missed our chance to visit the Scripture Garden, the Holy Land's top-notch biblical art museum.

"Oh hell.

However, I think we were both relieved to be getting back to a world where we understood the rules of the game.

"If we've been part of an interactive church play all day," Jason commented, as we lumbered past the holy novelties and saintly souvenirs of the gift shop.

I knew exactly what he meant. The Holy Land Experience had turned out to be pleasant, educational ... and very one-sided.

Jason suddenly grabbed a book off the counter in the gift shop titled "What Every Jewish Person Should Ask." apparently another thinly veiled attempt to convert Jews to Christianity.

Perhaps they should change the park's name to "The Christian Experience" instead.

Linnea Brown can be reached at brown@ucf.edu.

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Today's the Day, a musical presentation, is just one of many theatrical performances that guests of the Holy Land Experience can take in.

Lepic said cheerfully. "There have been people who have had their way in, of course, but after being surrounded by the Bible's story throughout the day, they accept Christ.

"Oh... the immersion technique.

A gaggle of bearded-looking Asian tourists suddenly screamed past us, speaking rapid-fire Chinese and pausing for pictures in the faux Jerusalem marketplace.

I briefly wondered if they had come here by mistake, expecting a more Mickey Mouse-like experience.

Lepic glanced around at the audience and turned to the performers. "The crucifixion? I'd love to feel the blood instantly draining from my face."

Apparently, Lepic wasn't kidding. In fact, the Holy Land actors act out Christ's death once a day, around noon.

My mother, who visited the Holy Land Experience a few weeks ago, told me that the performance she witnessed was extremely intense.

"First, Jesus is crucified with all the guests in the marketplace, and the next thing we knew he was being taken away," she said, her eyes misting over. "It was very gory and came as a shock to everyone."

This is how it's done.

"Um, where else can you say, "Too bad we missed the crucifixion." Jason joked.

Good point.

We peeked inside the empty tomb, where a lone tombsitter lay draped on an empty stone bed. A man wearing a T-shirt that read, "Not only am I perfect, I'm Puerto Rican," appeared to be meditating, so we politely left him alone and took a seat on a bench to await the final, 15-minute acting performance in the garden.

"The Ministry of Jesus," turned out to be the best performance of the day, focusing on Jesus' role as a teacher. In fact, the stereotypically brown-haired, bearded actor's performance actually brought joyful tears to my eyes. I remembered all the positive qualities of Christianity.

However, I couldn't help but wonder if the audience would have accepted a different-looking Jesus as easily. After all, in many African-American churches, Jesus is depicted as a black man. I would love to return to the Holy Land Experience someday and see "Dwayne's alive, you know, playing the part of Christ."

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Waiting tables at 5:30 a.m. is not most students’ idea of an ideal summer job.

The ugly side of summer jobs

DIANE LAZIC
STAFF WRITER

The end of the spring semester always brings a greater demand by students for part-time summer employment. But this year, many looking to find that perfect job to balance between classes and the beach may be out of luck.

As the unemployment rate rose to 6 percent last month and the United States enduring its deepest job slump in over 20 years, students find positions in the job market scarce or altogether unappealing.

Junior Tim O'Connor, 21, has experienced the low-paying employment typically open to college students while working as a janitor for a medical supply company. "I got sick of cleaning toilets and mopping floors pretty quickly," he said.

Looking for employment in the service industry, students accuse their managers of taking advantage of their labor. O'Connor quit cleaning bathrooms to work at a Mexican restaurant, finding himself in an equally disgusting situation. "I had to work super late some nights because [my manager] did not pay any attention to the [labor] laws," he said.

In an effort to leave the restaurant industry, graduate

PNLEASE SEE Healthcare ON 23
Lip-gloss may also give the appearance of moistening lips, but in actuality, the gloss may be removing the natural moisturizing effect our body creates by inhibiting ventilation of the skin (in effect sealing the skin).

Dr. Michael Deichen
Student Health Services

I have noticed that when I use certain lip-glosses, it tends to leave a white film-like streak on my lips after 2-3 hours of application. I have to constantly make sure I carry a mirror with me to make sure I am not walking around with this streak on my lips. What is causing this? I have noticed other people have the same problem. Is it something to do with the lip-gloss or with my health?

Various dermatological reactions can occur related to lip-gloss. These products may contain dyes or perfumes that can cause local irritation or allergic reactions. Lip-gloss may also give the appearance of moistening lips, but in actuality, the gloss may be removing the natural moisturizing effect our body creates by inhibiting ventilation of the skin (in effect sealing the skin).

I can remember when I was a resident-in-training, the chairman of the department of dermatology suggested that oil produced from the nose was the best lubricant for dry lips. For good reason, I have never been able to bring myself to suggest this to my patients. I believe that the white streak you have noted is related to drying of the applied gloss. This drying causes the gloss to become opaque. Fortunately, there are many lip-glosses on the market. I would advise that you sample different products and try to select one that is hypoallergenic, free of perfumes or alcohol.

It is possible, in our environment, that you will not be able to avoid this reaction. Frequent application of the lip-gloss may be your only recourse. If you have irritation, consulting or tenderness of your lips (or the surrounding skin), I would suggest that you visit us at the Student Health Center for more advice and consultation.

E-mail your questions to: Askadoctor@ucf.edu
iTunes, only available on Macs, plans to expand services to Windows

FROM PAGE 18

use it in 80 seconds," graduate student Dante Sampang, 27, said. "It's easily searchable, and you can buy your favorite song without having to buy an entire album." Apple only provides the iTunes services to Mac users in the United States, though the company has plans to launch a Windows version before the end of the year.

Upon downloading the high-quality song, the Mac user owns it and can share the song with up to three Macs, copy it onto [iPod] portables or burn it onto an unlimited number of standard audio CDs. Moreover, every song downloaded will include digital album art.

"I love the ability to preview songs before I buy [from the music store], and I love the download speed," junior Michael Stealy, 23, said. "It also sounds incredible, it rivals raw CD audio."

Stealy said iTunes Music Store has the potential to dramatically change the music industry. "In a few years spending $17 for an entire album, but less than $1. Now I only get free music in return." Smith agreed. "This is the kind of thing where in five years we will look back and say this is where the revolution started. It's a historic time and that's very exciting."

With the initial success of Apple's services, independent labels and artists are looking to jump on the iTunes bandwagon. Despite the dramatic success, Apple still faces competition from subscription providers, as well as free online music services.

"I've been spoiled by getting music for free on the Internet," graduate student Hayden Smith, 32, said. "I spent years spending $17 for an album and seeing the artist get less than $1. Now I only get free music in return."

Senior Kristy Davis, 27, said she would never use Apple's services unless she could get music at no cost online. "If I like an artist I'll buy the entire album, but if I want one song I'll get it online for free," she said.

Yet some customers see iTunes as a fair way to prevent music piracy.

Stealy says iTunes is superior to free online music services such as Napster and Kazaa. "Peer to Peer file sharing is free, but it's also stealing," he said.

The only shortcoming of downloading is they are doing something wrong, the music industry has filed numerous lawsuits against companies such as Napster, Music City, Kazaa, Napster2, Audioswap and more.

Apple executives say iTunes will eventually help prevent peer-to-peer file sharing. "It's not free, but its 99 cents a song, [which is] pretty doggone close," said Apple CEO Steve Jobs, quoted on April 25 in Wired News.

Smith said the music industry should have done this a long time ago and not have spent millions on lawsuits that alienated customers. Another big hurdle for Apple is that it's still at the mercy of copyright holders. While all five major record labels are currently participating in iTunes, many artists remain critical of file-sharing services.

"Acts such as The Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Madonna have not allowed their music to be added to the service catalogue. Other artists believe saving singles diminishes the art of a complete album. Yet the industry has various artists willing to participate in iTunes new venture. The future of iTunes is uncertain. If its popularity remains high, executives say it will revolutionize music distribution, but some music lovers just see it as another trend in the digital battlefield."

David said: "The music industry needs to let it go. There's nothing they can do about music on the Internet."
Healthcare systems, theme parks currently hiring in tough economy

Sarah Lieving, 23, vows that she will immediately find other employment for the summer.

While the Labor Department recently reported a loss of 48,000 jobs in April, Lieving may find her goal to be a challenging task.

The largest of these layoffs are coming from the public sector. Public employers lost 40,000 jobs nationwide last month.

Economists said they will expect economic improvements in the coming months as the winding down of the war in Iraq reduces uncertainty and makes businesses and households more willing to spend money.

But they also report that it is unlikely that things will turn around quickly enough for students to find their dream summer jobs.

Those looking for a part-time job will not be hurt as deeply as the thousands of new graduates tossed into the unstable economic and employment malaise. But, as companies are forced to cut back, they are often cutting able students talk with a representative from Universal Studios about job opportunities at the theme park.

Though one in five employers — 22 percent — hope to add to their payrolls, nine percent plan to trim jobs in the second quarter of the year, according to the latest survey by Manpower International.

Human resources advisers say that when the economic situation worsens, employees may cut down on the number of full-time positions or they may increase the internship positions available because they pay student interns less and are not required to take them on as employees.

They suggest students searching for jobs to keep their minds open to a variety of positions.

Money Magazine also reported that the industries hiring the worst are the airlines, technology and manufacturing. Two labor markets that are doing well are healthcare and real estate.

Construction employment also grows as 15,000 slots were filled in April alone. And since July 2002, general contractors for residential building projects have accounted for 30,000 new hires.

While a hiring freeze exists, some companies remain willing to take on college students.

A human resources representative at Universal Studios said that students don't need experience, and they can easily be trained to start working over the summer.

Marilyn Waters, the manager of Public Affairs at Walt Disney World, expressed the same sentiment.

"Six to 8 weeks ago we announced that we are hiring for 2,000 positions," she said. "There are a wide variety of positions available to sales, food services, even to be a lifeguard. We train our employees in all of these positions."

Waters also said that Disney is hiring about the same number of employees that they were hiring around this time last year.

Another field currently hiring is healthcare, says Maggie Mendez, a human resource representative for Orlando Regional Healthcare systems.

"We are currently hiring and do have entry level positions," she said. "If all depends on a student's background, experience and what they are looking for."

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Hogs n honeses and makos to deliver

Prime entertainment has combined forces with

orca Orlando 25" orange ave downtown Orlando 407-830-0031

For more info log on to www.primo-entertainment.com

Bus pick up at lake claire 10:30 pm

From 10 to 12 bar

Summer

Hogs n honeses

One cover

Two clubs

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