UCF alumnus’ career blasts off

Former NASA official accepts post as shuttle boss in Houston

Andrea Cuccaro CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last month NASA appointed a UCF alum to take on an important role at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Enriched with a very ambitious resume, William "Bill" Parsons landed in the top role at Johnson Space Center after serving close to a year as NASA manager and director of Stennis Space Center in Mississippi and working as a branch site supporter at Kennedy Space Center. Parsons, 40, who earned his graduate degree in engineering management from UCF in 1983, had been tapped for the position a week before Ron Ely announced he would step down as director April 23.

While the search was quick, and consideration from within NASA and outside were considered, Parsons was chosen for his wide range of expertise.

Parsons began his career as a U.S. Marine Corps infantry officer and became a manufacturing engineer and an aerospace engineer at Cape Canaveral.

Please see Engineering on 3

Fast track program lets high schoolers skip senior year

Erica Messore CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most UCF students know from experience that Florida's high school curriculum is aimed at well-rounded education. Students are required to take 24 credits, including electives varying from physical education to music.

High school lets students experience a variety of activities that help them decide on what their interests are and help them choose their career path. On Monday, Oct. 7 Bush gro-students another option: skipping most of those electives and getting out early. High school freshmen this fall will have a choice of skipping a year altogether, sacrificing elective credits for a quicker graduation based on core

Please see Elective on 4

Teacher evaluation forms are available, but go unnoticed

Mike Riegel STAFF WRITER

There's a reason teachers leave the room when students fill out their evaluations. There's also a reason they're not allowed to read the evaluations until the grades are finalized.

At the UCF Library, those reasons are filed and stored for anyone to look at, but only after teachers turn in their grades for the semester. Every survey filled out by a student is kept for two semesters at the library, then returned for storage to individual colleges on campus.

The archive consists mostly of the bare minimum responses, a list of checked boxes on standardized answers to the standard questions evaluating teacher performance. The occasional evaluation shows some core to it, though, with responses ranging from disgust to gratitude.

"This [professor] is pretty close to my size and weight, so I hope I see him at Boney on Monday night," one student wrote, referring to his professor.

Please see Students on 6

UCF: Computers could become a requirement

Brandon Harman STAFF WRITER

Parents of incoming freshman Rebecca Williams bought a computer for this year. They thought it was a requirement. "How else are you going to do your work?" asked her father, Doug Williams. Many freshmen come to college with a computer in their educational arsenal. There is no mandate that you have one, just that you have access to one. UCF, like many universities throughout the nation, is considering making computer ownership an requirement.

Indeed, UCF has considered such a requirement for freshmen for the past three or four years, said Gordon Chavis, executive director of Undergraduate Admissions. If such a policy ever is adopted, however, it would not take effect for some time.

"All universities are serious about investigating the need for requiring incoming freshmen to own a computer," especially given technology and the access computers give students via the Internet," Gordon said.

Joel Hartman, vice provost for Information Technologies and Resources, said discussion of the importance of computers in students' lives led to a change in the Golden Rule handbook in the fall of 2002. When UCF started requiring incoming students to have access to a computer. The rule falls short of forcing students to buy computers because UCF offers computer access throughout the campus.

"The rule isn't an ownership requirement, but it doesn't prevent a department, program, or college from requiring one," Hartman said.

Requiring students to own a computer.

Please see Expense on 4

INSIDE

The horror

Wrestling outside the ring

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UF FACT

The number of students enrolled in the university's science and engineering programs has steadily increased over the past decade.
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when the slogan ignored the 18-year-old's gender.

McPherson was briefly the Seminoles' starting quarterback last fall. However, he was accused of gambling on football games. The Tallahassee Democrat reported that prosecutors had charged McPherson and not two of his friends, who admitted gambling, because the football player had broken a public trust reposed in him as a member of Florida State's team.

The jury deadlocked, 5 to 1, in favor of conviction. The vote was not considered because a conviction required a unanimous verdict.

McPherson and McElhose, whose ability to recruit was restricted this year after he admitted to violating NCAA recruitment rules, told reporters that he would fight to keep his job.

Shirt alert

Students at Duke University, feeling that their reputation for homophobia was undeserved, decided to give it a make-over — starting with their own wardrobe.

This spring, hundreds of students were brightly colored T-shirts emblazoned with the words "I'm not a homophobe" by film teacher Barry Sandler.

The T-shirt campaign was conceived by a group of undergraduates over a dinner conversation about the Princeton Review's ranking of Duke as the most homophobic college in the country in 1999.

(Sanford, an associate professor of screenwriting at UCF, said that he was the first to suggest that the two groups combine efforts to create the film by writing as a graduate student.

The T-shirt effort has not been without controversy. Some students have questioned whether the slogan ignored lesbianism and transsexualism, while others were mailed at the implication that being gay required anyone's approval.

But aside from those objections, the
Elective cuts leave students guessing about majors

FROM PAGE 1

classes.

Florida lawmakers crafted the measure to stem the expan-
sion of select classes at public schools. With a budget shortfall as a consequence of economic woes, allowing students to leave school sooner means high school will cost the state less money, and broaden its options. The measure has met with controversy from opponents who fear elimi-
nation of electives fail to prepare students for college and their careers.

"It's a joke. It is basically an idea to save money," said Bril Taylor, a journalism teacher at Phil High School in Deltona. "It is heading toward allowing students to take the FCAT freshman year, pass it and graduate. High school is much more than core classes and electives."

Students who choose the "fast track" option will trim their major electives needed to graduate from 24 to 18. The pared-down schedule will require some tough decisions. Some students will not be eligible for the Bright Futures and Medallion scholarships, forcing some students to find other sources of funding for college.

"Students will be under more pressure to 'catch up' type courses or remedial courses to reach the level of preparation to enter college courses," said Manoj Chopra, a junior outbreak school teacher. "They will also feel the impact of the change from high school to college life as more of a shock."

In choosing the fast track schedule, students would lose electives like drama, journalism or gym in favor of basic education courses like English. Students would lose electives that are a necessity for college, vocational and tea. Consequently, students graduating early will have a less varied academic back-

ground, though UCF counselor Mary Harms said being rounded is not a criterion for admission.

"Though not technically necessary, skipping ahead by skipping electives ultimately disadvantages students, said Stephan Sutton. "Electives are a necessity because they help to broaden opportunities and [students] explore different areas of life," said Sutton, 19.

"At High School sopho-

more Heather Reeves, 15, has decided to take the fast track and graduate in 2004 as a junior. She said missing the classes means saving otherwise wasted time. "Most of the electives don't benefit me in college, volleyball and tennis will not make me any more of a well-rounded student."

Students prepared to sacri-

fice their electives would miss more than just time. Students might also miss senior-class activities like the senior prom, graduation and their senior picture. Something Reeves says she's will-
ing to overlook. "I don't pretend to think things, so I don't think it will matter."

"Missing out on the official final year of high school would have been a mistake," said UCF freshman Kristi Simpson. "I had wanted to see much fun my senior year to con-

sider graduating early," said Key. "I also learned a lot of responsible especially when it came to procrastination."

"High school is not just about learning inside the classroom, but also learning outside the class-

room and that's what we're losing," said Fine Hills High Principal Michael Mongelli, an opponent of the fast track.

Mongelli said the system will lead to logistical problems for high schools. "The thought of rising juniors will have to double up on English classes, which will cause schedule conflicts," Mongelli said.

Fast track could lead to future problems because it will decrease enrollment in senior class offerings. Additionally, if this becomes popular among stu-
dents, faculty sizes could shrink, leading to a shortage of teachers for core classes.

"Students will not have their senior year to mature," said Mongelli, which leads to questions about how well fast-track stu-
dents will handle college life.

"My maturity level was differ-

ent from my junior year to my sen-

ior year because I went through a lot of girl problems in those two years, and my priorities weren't straight," said Sutton. "My senior year was when I realized that I need to start preparing for the rest of my life."

"Maturity is highly individual from student to student. I found that many students are bright enough to handle the rigors of the coursework in college but may not be emotionally or developmentally ready for the necessary transition," said Rich McLaughlin, asso-
ciate director of the UCF Counseling Services.

Four years of high school don't necessarily make a student mature, though. Harman said, "If [students] are mature enough to handle graduating high school high school early, they are mature enough to handle college.

"Though finishing high school a year sooner may sound appealing to some students, they will likely polarize the student body," Harman said.

"After finishing high school a year sooner you may sound appealing to some students, students may likely polarize the student body," Harman said.

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Students ignore valuable source for evaluating teachers in advance

From Page 1

ring to the nightclub's fight night. Only the names of the professors and the dates of the evaluations were left out, leaving readers to guess if the evaluating student wants to buy the professor a drink or beat him about the head and shoulders in the betting ring.

Though evaluations ranged in scope from methods to materials, some students issued complaints on the most personal level—hygiene. One student declined a certain professor's offer to "always had horrible breath," which convinced most students to choose a seat at or near the back of the class.

The comments aren't made up of veiled invitations to fight and complaints about personal hygiene. The opposite can be said for a majority of the evaluations. Most students ignore materials, some students issued formal complaints, others issued more carefully; the archives are an important source. 

Junior Matt Kramer offered one reasonable reason for the lack of readership, "I've been here for UCF for three years and I had no idea what happened to them after they left me in that envelope."

Kramer, 21, added that he knows many people, past and present students, who've gone to UCF, and he's never heard them say anything about the accessibility of the evaluations.

Sophomore Kim Spiewak, 20, questioned why students weren't told where they could find the completed evaluations when they were filling them out. "They make it a point to read off those directions every time," Spiewak said, "but they don't bother telling us how we can use [the evaluations]."

Those that have looked at the evaluations, like sophomore Craig Somerville, have a different set of concerns. "I was trying to find out about a professor and the professor told me to try to teach the evaluations in the library," said Somerville, 21.

"They're scored by colleagues, so it had to look through most of the evaluations from the College of Arts and Sciences to find what I was looking for."

Student Body President Brian Battles has a plan to combat the difficulties students have with evaluations. He wants to put them online, making them more readily accessible to students.

Although Battles was not available to comment on the particulars of his proposal, Somerville did say he thought it would be a good idea. "If you could search for a particular class or teacher, that would speed things up quite a bit," Somerville said.

According to Cohen, each college sends its teacher evaluations to the library after they've been reviewed. The library keeps the two most recent semesters' worth of evaluations behind the reserve desk, and sends the older material back to the original college that it came from.

At press time, the spring 2003 evaluations were not yet available.

More federal agencies help employees with student loans

Report comes as surveys show grads concerned about debt

Stephen Barr

THE WASHINGTON POST

Sixteen federal agencies provided more than $40 million in fiscal 2002 to help a total of 660,000 employees repay their student loans, according to Personnel Management reported Monday.

The tally suggests that loan repayment aid may be taking hold in the government. In fiscal 2001, only one agency, the Health and Human Services Department, gave an employee money for a student loan repayment—$1,000 to a personnel specialist.

OPM's latest report on the programs shows the State Department authorized most of the loan repayments in fiscal 2002, providing $35 million to 407 employees. The payments were spread across several job categories, including consulate, public diplomacy and economic and political affairs officers.

The General Accounting Office also made extensive use of the Program in fiscal 2002. It defined 189 employees with $662,000 for loan repayments, OPM said. More than 80 agencies, the GAO employees receiving loan repayment aid were analyzed.

The programs, which provide money for student loan repayments, included the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 35 employees; the Energy Department, 17; and the Interior Department, 33.

Some agencies with large workforces authorized relatively few loan repayments. The Defense Department authorized the Agriculture Department, 2, and the Justice Department, 2.

In addition to the 16 agencies that are providing loan repayment aid, OPM said, eight agencies reported establishing plans to do so, but they have not yet said if they will begin to repay students.

"I am encouraged by the agencies' increased use of existing flexibilities such as the student loan repayment program," said Kay Cole James, OPM director, in a statement. "James said OPM is committed to promoting the value of the student loan repayment program, as well as other existing recruitment and retention incentives, as effective tools for attracting and retaining well-qualified, high-performing employees."

OPM's report on the program, required by Congress, states at a time when few workers show that college graduates are increasingly concerned about education debt. Last week, a Brookings Institution survey showed that college seniors studying for jobs considering high benefits more important than salary.

Sixty-seven percent of those students with more than $20,000 in debt said repaying college loans was a very important consideration in their decision about where to work after graduation. About two years ago, after Congress expanded the number of employees eligible for loan repayment aid, OPM issued regulations authorizing agencies to set up programs. The rules allow agencies to pay as much as $40,000 a year per person and as much as $40,000 total per person. To receive the benefit, applicants must sign an agreement to remain in the service of the agency for at least three years. In comments to OPM, most of the 16 agencies said they established the programs to help recruit and retention goals.

The State Department said it used loan repayment aid as a way to recruit Foreign Service officers for overseas jobs that have been difficult to fill. For civil service employees, the department has offered the benefit as a way of keeping valued workers, OPM said.

The program's biggest problem is a lack of funding, the agencies told OPM. "One agency commented that because agencies have such limited budgets, it is difficult, if not impossible, to find money to fund the program," OPM said in its report.

One of the agencies said the program was held back by "a perception of inequity among employees," the OPM report said. "Some managers are reluctant to use the program because it forces them to single out an employee."

One agency said it has decided not to offer the benefit because the agency mostly hires mid-career applicants who are no longer repaying student loans, OPM said.

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Editors apologize for theft of online design

FROM PAGE 3

T-shirts have been a hit. They were distributed free on several occasions, and each time, supplies ran out within minutes. Now Schaefer and his friends are fielding requests for information about the T-shirts from Guilford College, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and other nearby colleges.

Copied Web-site design

Young University's student-run newspaper organization, BYU NewsNet, has received two national awards for Web-site design after student editors at the university learned that much of the NewsNet site's layout was lifted from a different Web page.

The designers of the NewsNet site — which serves Brigham Young's student newspaper and its television and radio stations — adopted the basic layout and color scheme of Buildcom, a Web-page design guide owned and run by CNET Networks.

NewsNet's editors learned of the similarities between the two sites in April from a student at the university, according to Jim Kelly, NewsNet's general manager. The editors then began to alter features on the BYU Web site, including its color scheme and many of its icons and graphics.

In May, the organization received two citations for its Web site, Editor & Publisher, a newspaper-industry magazine, named NewsNet as a finalist in its Best College Newspaper Online Service category, which evaluates both the content and design of student publications.

The University of Missouri at Columbia's chapter of the Society of Newspaper Design awarded the Web site first place in its College Newspaper Design competition.

Neither award is accompanied by a grant or a prize but the design focus of the second award sparked misgivings among the NewsNet editors.

Kelly sent letters of apology to the sponsors of both awards, asking that NewsNet be removed from finalist lists.

The University of Missouri has already promoted its second-place finisher, the Indiana Daily Student, to first Editor & Publisher plans to delete BYU NewsNet's name from the list of winners on its Web site and also to post a brief explanation of the decision, according to Craig Sullivan, the magazine's online editor.

Kelly also apologized to representatives of CNET.

In the letters, he wrote that two Brigham Young students — one of whom has since graduated — were responsible for NewsNet's pilfered Web design. The students were unfamiliar with copyright laws, according to Kelly.

Kelly says that NewsNet is planning to redesign its site completely without input from the students who lifted material from Buildcom.com. In the meantime, the altered NewsNet site bears only a moderate similarity to the Web-design guide.

COMPILED BY KRISTA ZILIZI

FROM PAGE 3

"Making Love" and "The Mirror Crack'd." He has taught screenwriting on and off for 10 years at UCLA, California State, The American Film Institute and the University of Southern California School of Cinema and Television. Sandler started teaching in the UCP Department of Film in January.

Though Sandler said he has not heard of any of his students having a script of theirs rewritten, he said every writer eventually goes through a situation like this.

To prepare students for life in Hollywood, Sandler teaches lessons he learned from his own work. Students watch movies Sandler wrote, and he tells them about his experiences with each production, including problems he had.

Sandler has continued to write since submitting the "Evil Never Dies" script. He's currently adapting a dinner novel, "The Front Runner," about the relationship between a gay Olympian and his coach.

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Computer requirement for admissions a costly waste

UF administrators have pondered requiring incoming freshmen to buy their own computers, though no plan currently exists to implement such a policy. The goal of such a program would be to ensure that all students remain on the same footing, with the same access to technology in a world increasingly reliant on computers for basic tasks—especially academic ones.

On several levels, the idea of mandating computer ownership is problematic. Those students who don’t already own computers likely can’t afford them.

At UF, those students without computers of their own use the handful of labs on campus, which offer reasonable hours most of the year. The computers at these labs generally offer the services most students need—word processing, Internet access and printing.

These labs don’t just exist to support the students who don’t have the means to buy their own computers—these computers offer convenience for students who don’t have Internet access at home and for those who would rather find a computer when they need one on campus rather than tote their laptop everywhere. The labs also serve students a trip home when they need to write a paper.

By mandating computer ownership, the university could find itself questioning the value of these labs, even reducing the amount of computers available, or closing some labs entirely.

More pressing is the matter of students paying for computers. If students must have them, they’ll need a way to afford them, if they truly can’t. To turn away students who don’t have the financial means to purchase their own computer, UF will be forced to develop a financing program or low-cost computer sale program to help poorer students buy a required machine.

Between the strains of students who can easily afford new computers and those who have little means to do so are those who already have a computer, but one that doesn’t meet school standards. Though these students could have perfectly adequate computer for their needs, they may not meet school standards, forcing students to needlessly buy new machines.

If standards for computing power truly accommodate every major, UF will have to recommend computers powerful enough for graphics and film majors in English majors could make do with less powerful and less expensive computers.

The likelihood of an exaggerated standard is already apparent. Incoming freshmen are being recommended, but not required, to buy a computer with a 1.5 gigahertz processor and a flat panel monitor. Both of these features are grossly excessive for students doing ordinary computer work like Web surfing and word processing.

Only the most intensive graphics and mathematical work could make use of such a powerful processor, and in no case is the far more costly flat panel display necessary.

Still, should it implement such a requirement, UF would not be the first to cave into the pressures of technology. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has required incoming students have their own laptops since 2000, and UNC was reacting to a trend it saw in other schools.

UF needs to give careful consideration to the implications of such a policy. Incoming freshmen are currently safe from this unnecessary financial burden, but future classes can’t be so sure.

O U R  S TA N C E:

Fast track means wrong track for Florida students

Florida lawmakers last month faced a tough decision. They had to fit the public school needs into a smaller budget, while managing to reduce the size of classes to no more than 25 students in high school, with smaller classes in lower grades.

The demands are inherently contradictory. Reducing the size of classes will cost the state money in new classroom construction and new teacher salaries.

Meeting the demands of voters while staying in the budget was a tricky business, but the Legislature managed to pull it off with tricky legislation. Among the changes is a popularly named “fast track” program, designed to reduce the cost of educating high school students by getting them out of school sooner through an accelerated three-year program.

To get high school students out a year earlier, legislators created an optional program based on fewer electives, reducing the credit requirement for graduation from the current 24 to 18. Students will take only three credits of electives. In theory, this program will reduce the amount of high school seniors, reducing the cost of education as a result.

In practice though, the program will show serious flaws. Reducing the amount of instruction students receive in high school will make students less well-rounded, and less prepared for the world of work or higher education.

By taking electives, students get a taste of career possibilities, which gives them a better idea of what they want to do once they graduate. By skipping this step in the academic journey, students may reach the career they desire, but they reach it less prepared.

If students join the workforce after three years, they know less about their interests, and less about their skills than students with the extra year. If students go to college, they know less about what major they should pursue. As a consequence, students have to guess, with a greater chance of frustration and failure.

The Legislature, though crafty, needs to do better if it wants our school system to improve.

“Man never tells you anything until you contradict him.”

—George Bernard Shaw

Letters to the Editor

Speak your mind

Top education officials want to implement an FCAT-like test in Florida universities that would determine how much state funding colleges would receive. While students would not have to pass the test as a requirement for graduation, state officials say the tests will be effective at measuring student success.

Should Florida colleges require students to take a standardized FCAT test in order to graduate? Let us know what you think in 300 words or less.

E-mail your responses to editor@uffuture.com and include your first and last name and phone number.

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MIKE RIEGEL
STAFF WRITER

Stepping out of your house is a dangerous proposition these days. If you're trying to go and have to go through the Red Hot Chili Peppers concert, then you're wearing a free-shirt and a belt.

Oh, and don't worry about passing any drug test for the next few weeks, either.

For those who missed last Tuesday's joint effort from the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Snoop Dogg at the TD Waterhouse Centre, I can't stress enough just how joint this concert was.

Surveying the crowd, I noticed many people were feeling very elevated. It's as if they had ingested some magical herb that lifted their spirits. I didn't know any better, I'd say that many of my fellow concertgoers brought their favorite plants, Mary Jane, to the concert with them.

And just in case you're not receiving my not-so-hidden message, a lot of people were smoking marijuana. Some were hiding it; others were wearing necklaces made of fake marijuana plants. You didn't have to go whistling loud or at the MtV parking lot to get recognized.

But the most endearing face of all-time, Snoop Dogg made a peculiar choice for his first song. Complete with his band, the "Snoopadelics," Snoop sang a cover version of Metallica's "Sad but True." Some people might remember a similar performance by Snoop at the MTV video awards. Snoop did get a couple of the words right, but he seemed pretty preoccupied with the "clesedules" he brought on stage.

But more recent than the rampant drug use was Snoop's grammar. Historically speaking, I know he's not too fond of using proper English, but the manner he had above the stage was more than incorrect — it was incontinent. The bumper proclaimed that Snoop had "Paid That Cost to be Da Boss."

That's right; he spelled the word "the" two different ways in the same sentence.

After Snoop, the Red Hot Chili Peppers took the stage and played an amazing show. Check out this video of hits chosen from roughly 10 years of quality material. The crowd was definitely into the show, matching the band's intensity, and in some cases even taking it a little too far.

After a song that was particularly conducive to crowd surfing, Flea, the band's bassist, singled out a male fan who got a little grabby with a female crowd surfer. I believe his exact quote was something like, "If you're a dude that grabs a girl's [expletive] or [expletive], you don't belong at our show. Just because you can't get laid, doesn't mean you can do [expletive] like that, you little [expletive]. Get the [expletive] out of here, you [expletive] [expletive]."

My only real complaint about "daisy," experience was with "the" folks who think purchasing a $40 ticket to a concert is a right. Expect them from behaving like civilized human beings. Loud music is not a natural excuse for abandoning all forms of social etiquette and inter-species polite-

If you can whistle loud enough to burst the ear drums of everyone in your section, then tone it down a bit. It's a high note. Some of us came to listen to music, not some drunken imbecile trying to reach the unattainable whistling threshold that only dogs can hear.

And no one should be so mesmerized by the music that they can't mistake the parking garage for a restroom. We're all housebroken — or at least we're all trying — so let's do our best to avoid these and display in the future.

If you can't be a [expletive] adult, then keep your [expletive] at home. As far as everyone else, I'll see you at the next show. I'll be the drunk one running around with my pants around my neck, whistling as loud as I can and mistaking your shoes for a urinal.

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Racing outside of the ring

Two UCF coaches rebuilding a lost sport

DEFENSE

Bigby headlines highly favored Knights' defense

UCF's strong safety earns early honors

OFFENSE

Schneider snubbed in preseason Heisman watch

UCF's quarterback has all the numbers, none of the respect

From the Sports Desk

Three players selected in Major League Baseball draft

Before last week, UCF produced 17 Major League Baseball draftees in only two years. That number rounds off at 20 now as Vic David Stertzbach, Ryan Bear and David Tieryes were picked up in the late rounds of the 2003 draft.

Stertzbach, UCF's ace over the past two years, was selected as pick 270 in the ninth round by the world champion Anaheim Angels. Stertzbach is the sixth Knight drafted by the Angels.

Bear will try to stay in Florida as he became the first Knight ever selected by the Florida Marlins. The Marlins chose Bear with the 59th pick in round 20.

Tieryes, a walk-in on his senior year, saw very limited time in the 2003 season, but will join Todd Bohrson as the second player drafted from UCF by the New York Mets.

Knights' defense loses impact player

As if the departure of Elton Patterson to the NFL didn't leave a big enough hole on the defensive end, another key player has left the team for professional ball.

Defensive end Rashad Jeanty has signed a free-agent contract with the Edmonton Eskimos, beginning his season with the Canadian Football League July 21st.

The gifted pass rusher made his decision when his second player drafted from UCF in 2003 became a prob­"
Reisman committee. Rivers is a become a sympathetic cause to the terbacks from Schneider is rather quarterback in the Atlantic Coast obvious. Pickett plays in the touchdowns. Manning ended the had less percentage and 11 less passing pass had 182 more pass attempts the ference also had 182 more pass attempts the them and the types of Manning, Pickett, and Rivers while these teams have con­ sistently tougher schedules than Manning, Pickett, and Rivers State. position are Mississippi's Eli Manning, Washington's Cody and Andrew Walter of Arizona While these teams have con­sistently tougher schedules than Manning, Pickett, and Rivers Manning, Pickett, and Rivers and Florida Atlantic, and defensive back for the Hokies, Kevin Jones, who will be Tech's offensive centerpiece. When it comes down to what is important, Schneider knows what he truly wants. If he had to decide between being the second greatest NCAA passer ever or a MAC Championship, his answer is sim­ ple. "A MAC Championship, there's no question about it," said Schneider. "I'll do anything for it right now."

Schneider needs 3,500 yards to set record

Reisman hopefuls. DeAngelo Banks, who played at Banks, and Rivers were all at least ten points lower in pass efficiency than Schneider. Pickett had no more yards but had 112 more pass attempts and three less touchdowns. Rivers had less yards, a lower completion percentage and 11 less passing touchdowns. Manning ended the season 50th in the nation in pass efficiency. He had less yards on more attempts, less touchdowns and two less interceptions.

The difference in these quar­ terbacks from Schneider is rather obvious. Pickett plays in the PAC-10, a conference that has recently become a synonym for the Heisman committee. Rivers is a quarterback in the Atlantic Coast Conference, obviously no stronger to Heisman and NCAA conservatism. Manning, who posted merely above-average numbers in 2002, is simply a beneficiary of his legendary name. Last year, three of the Heisman finalists were passers, including Miami's Ken Dorsey, Iowa's Rushel Babcock, and eventual winner and USC standout Carson Palmer.

Palmer earned the trophy for being an outstanding all-around quarterback, posting slightly better numbers than Schneider, yet still falling below him in quarterback ranking. Banks, who played at UCF as Duante Culpepper's backup, had a Cinderella season, posting outstanding numbers, but still falling way short in yards. Downs was re­ognized merely for his career num­bers as Willie McCooore stole the spotlight in Miami. The fact that Downs was rec­ognized for his career numbers only makes the case for Schneider stronger. Downs has had the luxury of more powerful weapons when his team played tougher teams. As for the critics that sight Schneider for having to play teams like Liberty and Florida Atlantic, Miami gets away with their 10 point win over Rutgers and Temple only because they share a conference. Schneider has two main dra­wbacks heading into the 2003 season. First, he is losing three key elements to his passing game. The departure of wide receivers Jimmy Fyfe and Doug Gabriel has taken away his familiarity for his targets. Center Mike Mabry helped give Schneider plenty of room and time to pass but that position will have a
Wrestlers garner national recognition

FROM PAGE 10

the national championships at the University of Iowa. But that was the closest he and his wrestlers would come to either national championship hopes or Division I-A competition a year later. In 1987, UCF disbanded the team due to the imposition of Title IX legislation.

The history of Title IX is long and controversial. While the idea behind the legislation was to create gender equality and proportionality in all aspects of higher education, it has often affected athletics most directly.

"UCF has more females than we do males," states Rouse. "We have to have more female athletes than we have males. Not an even amount — we need more. Right now we're about 65 girls too few. I think the women's additions are wonderful, but we're not going to be proportionately balanced until 2030. The problem right now is the legislation that requires this proportionality, and UCF is making progress towards it. But if we added varsity wrestling, then we wouldn't be balanced."

Indeed, across the country, men's wrestling has taken a hit over the past two decades, with the number of collegiate teams shrinking from 770 to the current 350. The sport no longer exists on a NCAA level in the state of Florida.

Six years ago a wrestling club league was created to try to compensate for this drop. UCF wrestling now exists under the governing body of the National Collegiate Wrestling Association. The Knights began wrestling as an extramural sport under the NCWA two years ago.

Coach Bob Wargo recognizes the importance of the team's participation and membership in the NCWA. "This new national league gives us an opportunity that we wouldn't normally have, because opportunities were taken away from us years ago when Coach Rouse and other UCF wrestlers were dropped. It's similar in many ways due to the fact that there is interest and now there's not any NCAA opportunities.

Wrestler Jeff Ruberg helped create the UCF Wrestling team and immediately sought Rouse's expertise.

"Coach Rouse came on board two years ago so the team first got started," recalls Ruberg. "He's the one that's been absolutely critical to our club and the success that we've had. It's not only the time that he puts into coaching, but also the money out of his own wallet..."

We've got great talent that we recruit from all over the state. We've never been around a better group of guys. Their attitude and their willingness to stay competitive has a lot to do with the success..."

If Rouse's talent is unparalleled, his endurance is even more astounding. Rouse spent the majority of the 2002-03 season confined to a wheelchair due to injuries sustained from macular degeneration from diabetes.

Wargo also has had a long, successful wrestling career. As a four-year starter at Slippery Rock University, Wargo was a two-time NCAA East Regional place. He won three state team championships with the Westminster Schools and Harrison High School.

Coach Wargo came on last year and he has been an excellent assistant coach," said Ruberg. "His role has been with technique and day-to-day practices and he has done a great job with that. The overall attitude of the team has risen as he has made them more technically sound.

As to the team's success, Ruberg recognizes the greatness of the individual.

"We've got great talent that we recruit from all over the state," says Ruberg. "I've never been around a better group of guys. Their attitude and their willingness to stay competitive has a lot to do with the success, but you need the guidance to make it to the next level. That's what the coaches have provided."

In 1982-83 UCF Wrestling had a budget of $13,000. Twenty years later that budget has increased to $35,000. The majority of the funds are raised by Rouse and Wargo, who continually travel to pursue donations. A small portion of the budget is issued by the Student Government Association. However, the drawback to that funding is the fund is too small to be recognized as a club. Currently the team is in debt $14,000. That money has all come from Rouse's own pocket.

The donations they collect are also distributed to the wrestlers to compensate for the lack of NCAA scholarships.

"We have to go raise the money," admits Rouse. "Some of it comes from student government, but we have to raise the rest. We have a $30,000 budget and we're competing successfully. We're spending money and we have 30 athletes, but we're getting rid of the program."

As far as the future of UCF Wrestling on a varsity level, Rouse admits there are no immediate changes planned. The status of the team makes the coaches and the athletes work harder at recruiting to overcome the club title.

"Right now we are an extramural club sponsored by student government and we compete with other colleges just as if we were a team," says Rouse. "We can do anything any other team can do except go to the NCAA Championships. That's a big drawback. This is a recruiting problem. We will always lose the five or six best wrestlers with such good skills to the major Division 1 schools like Oklahoma.

"We're traveling like any Division 1 team would," says Wargo. "Our budget is comparable to many Division 1 teams, and we're competing in national tournaments against those teams throughout the season. I think our kids are open to the opportunity plus they get to stay in-state, and the majorities of our kids are bright Future scholars."

As much as the wrestling team tries to get out of the community, they also give back as much as they can. This past season, the team taught wrestling and interacted with many offenders and other juveniles at Orange County's sized Street Jail.

The coaches are currently trying to raise $50,000 in last fundraising effort to host the National Championship in Orlando. In the meantime, the team will continue to work to succeed. When the new athletic building is opened, the UCF Wrestling Club will continue to operate out of a cubicle in the Office of Student Activities, while they look to earn more national championships.

The team's goal is to lose the burden that comes with the title of club sport. The wrestlers, as well as all other club athletes, have never written a projected national media, losing important recognition for their triumphs at the national championships.

"We've never wanted to give up," admits Rouse. "The mission is so important, but it does get frustrating. Right now we could go anywhere in the country, wrestle any team, and not get embarrassed. We're living a dream and trying to rebuild wrestling in the state of Florida."

---JOHNNY ROUSE
Coach, UCF Wrestling

Coaches Johnny Rouse, left, and Bob Wargo have built a championship-caliber team without the support given to NCAA Division I-A teams.

WRESTLING CLUB

UCF wrestlers took this season to help teach wrestling to juvenile offenders in jail.

Jeff Ruberg, former UCF Wrestling Club president, left, and Bob Wargo have built a championship-caliber team without the support given to NCAA Division I-A teams.
Knights ranked 31st in defense

The defense will be tested. The defense will be tested...

As for the bosses on the defense and his new leadership role, Bigby continued. "Every year you lose guys. Other guys have to step up and that's just the way it goes."

"I have the same goals as the team's goals," Bigby continued. "My goal is to win a MAC Championship and to win all of our games. I'm working toward that and that will help me to win the award. This is the time when I have to take more of a leadership role because we have a lot of young guys coming in. The leaders were Kassian and Elton and they just left. We need leaders to step up in their positions, and I think that I am one of those guys."

As for the early predictions, defensive coordinator Bill O'Dtavio recognizes the attention but refuses to let it Interfere with his preparation.

"I don't know how people make those predictions," O'Dtavio said. "We have high expectations of ourselves as we always do here. I guess if you look on paper we probably have a majority of guys coming back, but we have holes just like everybody else. They're going to say what they're going to say and our expectations are to be as good as we can be, so I just leave it at that."

O'Dtavio was also pleased with Bigby's recognition.

"That's an honor and I'm glad to see that some of our guys are getting recognition, because he's certainly played well these past two years," O'Dtavio said. "He has improvement in his game that he has to do, and we have high expectations of him. We're just going to hold his feet to that fire."

The defense will be tested immediately in the 2002 seas-

son, as they will face off against the run-heavy Virginia Tech offense and the lightning fast play of running back Kevin Jones. Jones split time with Lee Suggs last season and is favored to rush for close to 2,000 yards this year.

This first match-up does not bode well for the Knights, especially with the loss of defensive end Rashad Jeanty. However, O'Dtavio remains confident and steadfast in his commitment to improve from last season.

"Overall, we need to play better run defense and pass defense...and create more turnovers," said the linebacker specialist. "You're always looking to improve. I'm hoping that we can make more big plays on defense than a year ago. Every year you go in trying to improve on things, and you can never remain static in this business. There's no one on our schedule that's not capable of beating us, so we have to be ready to go to work."

UCF finished third in the MAC in defense in 2002 and will return eight starters this year.

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Get wired into the world of cyber dating

Why are some students choosing to find love on the Internet?

Trina Priore
Staff Writer

With the dawn of the 21st century comes a revolution in communication, technology and college relationships. No longer are students turning to bars, the beach or class to find that special someone. The creation of online dating sites has replaced the initial person-to-person meeting and transformed searching for love into a World-Wide-Web quest at your fingertips.

Sophomore Jeff Shrinko, a 21-year-old management information systems major, maintains such a site. After brainstorming online business ideas, Shrinko and Craig Codere hatched a radio advertisement that sparked their own creation, datelorlando.com.

Orlando singles can post profiles with their physical information and interests, as well as secreting others' profiles.

Initially created only for college students, datelorlando.com now includes middle-aged professionals and people new to the area, as well.

"I am a little surprised at the turnout," Shrinko said. "We basically took a concept, learned a lot along the way and made it into a reality."

A unique feature on the site is the ability to "flirt" with other users. Clicking on the "Flirt" button sends preformatted messages via e-mail with a link to the interested person's profile. Also, cellular text messaging through an online forum lets users talk without disclosing confidential information.

To appeal to the college crowd, Shrinko tries to make the site affordable. Datelorlando.com costs $5.99 per month or $14.99 every three months.

Please see Datelorlando.com on 17

8 Days a week
Highlights of the cultural calendar

Linnea Brown
Staff Writer

Wednesday, June 11

The Faucets from New York: Their iconic Hors d’oeuvres is being served by regular habitation Night Intermezzo. 100 guests competing in a tour for $50 each. The show begins at 7 p.m. and runs to 9 p.m. at the Laidig Hall. $12. Check the show line or box: 407-906-0988.

Thursday, June 12

"Unleashed Reflections: the Deluge Experience" exhibit: This one exhibit of works by local artist Karen Garlock is open Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. with the author of this theme, and you may pick up your tickets held June 12 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Seminole Piano Galleries, 101 E. Alafaya Trail, Suite 125. Box: 407- 291-3900.

Friday, June 13

Polish-speaking change comes to UCF: The U.S. Polish Culture Club hosts David Brzoz, 1990 law and business major, who will present the law and history program. "Polish History: How to speak with Poles, Subculture and Sons." This presentation begins at 6:30 p.m. in Room 110 of the Computer Science Building. 407-425-2073.

Saturday, June 14

"Kidnapped in the Moos" at Bread Box Inn: fortune teller Eleni Isitou in the Moos, known for her entertainment barefoot shoes, performs at Bread Box Inn on an approximate schedule from May 24. Show begins at 9 p.m. with a meet and greet and awards ceremony. Tickets are $10; 407-934-2583.

Sunday, June 15

Dallas police change imposed on me: Dallas police have imposed a no-smoking rule on Dallas police. The popular lounge is closing at 8 p.m. and running 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. tomorrow. Lemonade: downtown Orlando. 21 and over. Free.

From "Wonders" entertainment for those who wish to kick out the dust clouding charge, Royal Gardens at Warner Park, Westminster Lakes and Winter Springs. Marketers will host free family movies at 7 a.m. on Sundays and Wednesdays throughout June. All films are rated G, PG and PG-13. Free admission and refreshments. Times are as follows: Shadow Box, 6 p.m. Sunday; Koa Cat, 7 p.m. Sunday. 407-429-5385.

Tuesday, June 17

Trendy meets mysterious in Orlando's outrageous Eye Spy

Krista Zilizzi
Staff Writer

Some people will do anything to get into a bar.

Maureen Brennan mooned a crotch and trolled around in circles tilting it like an unwanted stiletto, while Slnee Smies dressed a beevon- srick, embracing it in a romantic slow dance. "I've got to do whatever it takes to get in," said Smies, 24. "This is the newest, trendiest place."

Few bars can convince guests to display such outrageous behavior, and most wouldn't even bother if this isn't your typical bar. Locking boss-induced dance music and sex-included women, Orlando's newest bar, Eye Spy, provides visitors with a unusually surreptitious experience.

From the outside, it's difficult to determine the exact location of this downtown clandestine establishment. Marked simply by a sign that reads International Import-Export, the bar's entrance resembles a shipping warehouse.

The wooden warehouse gate that serves as the front door remains locked all evening. If a patron walks in, it's up to them to knock and reveal the secret password to be admitted.

Once the gates open, the ambience changes from mysterious to a bit conservative, especially when you realize you've just stepped into a spy type lounge.

"That's where we're all having fun," Simon Sullivan, often mistaken by bar patrons as Yuni Son-of-a-
Orlando’s newest ‘funny boy’

Junior Chris Florence entertains crowds every week at the Improv

JOE HARLESS
STAFF-WRITER

Junior Chris Florence jumps from a quick-witted Dave Chapelle imitation to a DJ Chris impersonation as he entertains a crowd at the Improv’s small dinner theatre, hoping to gain their laughter and acceptance as one of the up and coming college comics in the Orlando circuit.

For the past month, the 24-year-old has performed at amateur nights every Wednesday at the downtown comedy club.

For his five-minute routine, Florence likes to use “everyday stuff that pisses you off so bad you have to laugh at it.”

He completes his act from Wednesday night with an impression or an impersonation to a DJ Chris or one of the Up and coming comics in the downtown circuit.

“I’ve always been a clown. Comedy grabbed me in college.”

— CHRIS FLORENCE

Florence had no prior stage experience beyond drama classes in high school and college before he started performing full-time in 2000 at a club in Altamonte Springs. Seeking to balance both school and performing, he took a break from doing full-time shows and performed off and on for two years before entertaining at the Improv.

“The time off made me better, more insightful,” he said. “I had a better idea what I wanted to do [with my act].”

Florence plans to move to Los Angeles to perform, but not before finishing his last year and a half of school.

“It looks good to put on my resume that I did shows here, [but] I want to finish [school] before I leave.”

Completing his stand-up act, Florence heads to the Improv’s balcony to watch other comedians. Of the ten amateurs performing, Florence receives some of the best audience feedback before Wilson introduces the headliners, including a surprise appearance by Chris Tucker.

Florence has never lost his time slot to perform, but experienced a close call once when he was scheduled last in order and a comedian from BET showed up unexpectedly.

He adds, “I was almost cut [then],” he added.

Florence enjoys his weekly shows at the Improv. “I’m confident, but you always learn new stuff,” he said, especially from watching the well-known comedians perform.

For more information about show times and scheduled entertainers, contact the Improv at 321-281-8000.

Comedian and UCF student Chris Florence entertains the patrons of the Improv on Church Street Downtown on Wednesdays.
Hidden cameras and two-way mirrors adorn the walls of this bar

FROM PAGE 14

bitch. Dressed in a delightfully tacky brown polyester suit, he speaks in a thick, over-enunciated Russian accent.

At this espionage-themed bar, a quick wit and good-gumshoe humor are the ticket to a fun-filled evening with many surprises.

Inside, booby-trap cases are actually doorways to hidden chambers. Framed art on the walls are two-way mirrors that allow those behind them to spy on other patrons. Hidden entrances and magnetic access cards provide the most clever reversionary a way into the bar that many patrons are unaware of.

And Yuri is one of many improvements who mingle through the bar, providing the service, and the atmosphere that seems to be the whole allure of this spy bar, which has managed to fill to capacity most weekend evenings, with virtually no advertising since its opening five weeks ago.

"It's on all the downtown. It's a world of mouth kind of place, like a real spy bar would be," said Yuri, who is not a real spy but known as Christopher Robin creator, of the bar's niche, an interactive theater production on West Church Street.

"This is really a unique experience as opposed to other bars downtown where you go in and just get it and out with your friends," he said. "People come in here and get played with and have a good time, and they come back with more friends the next weekend."

Kelty is responsible for recruiting the bar's spy agents, many of whom work in places like ASL Comedy Lab or other downtown bars.

Others, Kelty says "just come in and see what we do, and they want some play." He has auditioned at least 20 potential spy agents — but only half have made the cut.

"They have to be able to think on their feet and have to be good listeners," Kelty said. "We do a lot of improv games to test that. It's all about listening and saying 'yes' to whatever the patron offers you."

The final test for the auditioning agents is creating characters on the spot.

The characters that auditioners create are later found roaming around the bar on any night, demanding secret passwords from patrons in order to get in, or instructing those without the password to perform outlandish stunts to earn their admittance.

Yuri and a dozen other improvements also carry on story lines that actively court audience involvement.

Last Friday evening, Yuri was caught by police investigation his name, a spy named Dr. Intergrevert, who were late gloves and carried a

brief case that he claimed held an antidote that would allow him to take over the world. Throughout the course of the evening, the two launched insults at one another through bars who ran messages back and forth.

While the spy-themed scenery and audience interaction are some of the charming details this bar provides, many will agree that the hidden cameras and video monitors are the most amazing feature of the spy bar.

It's no surprise that Yuri and his spies demand outrageous speculations from those coming into the bar — well, not to the regulars already inside watching them on the monitors at the bar while they slam tequila shots and puzzle bars.

But for first-time patrons like Freeman and Simms, it never occurred to them that the spies' demands were a play to capture some comical footage. They didn't even know they were being videotaped.

But then again, none of the patrons inside the bar know that they're being video taped either, until they see themselves on the monitors. A dozen cameras are positioned strategically out-of-sight to capture footage from almost every angle inside and outside of the bar.

Nothing is ever completely prepared to anyone in Eye Spy, where mystery is what creates most of this bar's appeal, according to William Waldren, responsible for most of the bar's design, right down to the secret Exit phone.

"You may think you have seen everything, but every time you come back, there is always more and more in find out — and that's the fun," he said.

Over the next few weeks, Waldren says he intends to open new hidden rooms and install more cameras. And most recently, the spy agents began carrying out an ongoing story line designed to capture the attention of their regulars.

"If you're not drinking too much, you can actively follow it, though it's very subtle," he added.

While the bar seems to thrive on the concept of mystery, regulars seem to revel in the idea of knowing what the average patron does not.

"In most places you'll see VIPs if you have enough money to spend, here you're VIP if you know what's going on," Waldren said. "Once you start learning the secret rooms and the games, then you got to sit back and watch people and enjoy what's going on."

While the idea of a spy-themed bar isn't entirely unique — movies and books have romanticized the idea for years — it's something different for downtown Orlando. But most of the bars Waldren has designed downtown are an exception to the norm, including bars such as Room 39, Spy10 and The Social.

The inspiration for Eye Spy didn't come from one particular place says Waldren, who travels around the nation routinely scouring out other bars for inspiration. The idea for a spy bar came from a similar place in Milwaukee, Wisc., with additional elements borrowed from bars in Los Angeles and New York.

The rest, he says, is a result of six months of brainstorming followed by a year of construction.

Props, such as this dead body wrapped in a tarp, help immerse visitors in the experience. At Eye Spy, a themed bar in downtown Orlando.

With the help of Tom Freeman and Michael Winship, members of the bar's design team, the idea for a spy-themed bar became a reality for Waldren.

"They would take ideas that I came up with and pitched them further," Waldren said. "They made secret bookings work, trap doors, things like that. The logistics of it aren't quite as simple as going to

Home Depot and picking it up — they had to be quite creative."

And so far, creativity has made this bar thrive.

"This is a little different than everything else," he said. "We're trying to make it cool but on the same time to also be able to mix with people."

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The common problems appeared. Makeoutclub.com and Dateorlando.com join the search page to seek out pictures as well as other girls in his area. But just as important is that every woman over the age of puberty should be eating with the goal of preventing disease and maintaining optimum health for the rest of your life. Common foods that aggravate PMS:

1. Caffeine, including coffee.
2. Dairy products, including milk, cheese, and butter. Interferes with the absorption of magnesium, a mineral that decreases cramps and stabilizes mood swings. Their high sodium content can increase fluid retention and these products are usually high in fat, as well.
3. Chocolate increases mood swings. Intensifies sugar cravings and is high in fat. It also causes breast tenderness. Sugar intensifies anxiety, dizziness and headaches.
4. Alcohol depletes the body's B vitamins and disrupts carbohydrate metabolism, as well as being toxic to the liver, so hormones aren't metabolized properly.
5. Oranges, papayas, and pineapple have higher sugar contents than other fruits and vegetables because they ripen faster in the hotter climates.

The idea is to reduce your intake of refined sugars and fats, and foods that are highly processed and full of chemicals. All these foods appeal to the palate and may provide a quick source of energy but provide few nutrients and can disrupt your hormonal chemistry. If you have PMS, you probably crave one or more of these foods. These cravings may be hard to combat, but they can be overcome with diligence and time.

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

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Dateorlando.com joins dozens of similar sites

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three months. "The good news is we don't plan on changing rules. Ever," he said.

Three years ago, an online dating site directed towards college fans and musicians appeared. Makeoutclub.com allows people to post pictures and bios as well as search by specific criteria.

"I used to just post my profile and wait for others to IM me or e-mail me," sophomore Matt Pickler, 20, said. He also used the search page to seek out girls in his area.

Freshman Jeremy Klas, 18, said Makeoutclub.com helped him to meet people when he moved to the Orlando area. "Seriously, the first friends I made in Orlando were all from Makeoutclub.com."

Klas actually dated someone briefly whom he met online. He admits it was a nice time, but she eventually moved, and they lost touch.

Not all students, however, are thrilled with the idea of finding dates online. "I don't really see the point to online dating," junior Jen Heyden, 20, said. She admits that the only advantage Internet relationships would provide is to combat a person's initial shyness.

Another site, recommended by Klass, that promotes friendship as well as romance is Friendster.com, which provides a bulletin board, private messages for direct communication, make-up suggestions and book or movie recommendations.

Some sites hope to spawn relationships through physical appearances. Faceup.com allows users to rate posted pictures of men and women.

Senior Nicole Pauleau, 21, is a frequent user of the site. "The site is overall good. It gives everyone the ease to talk to people online and meet people they wouldn't ordinarily meet."

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