Basketball team faces tough opponent in first tournament match since 1996

ASHLEY BURKE  Staff Writer

A week of wandering has finally come to an end.

The UCF men's basketball team enters the NCAA Tournament as a 14 seed in the East Region with high regional hopes. The Knights, who scored 36 points in their bye against Providence on Friday in Milwaukee.

I thought they were on the verge of being a No. 3 seed if they won the Big East tournament, and certainly a No. 2 if they didn't," said UCF Coach George O'Leary, of Pittsburgh. "Somehow they slipped in to a 3 seed which is very shocking to me.

"I think we're playing a team that is really a No. 1 or 2. I'm sure that they're sting in wondering what happened. The score that they've had, with their middles and RAS, I think they have a lot to prove."

George O'Leary, UCF's NCAA selection show announcer, remixed the men's basketball team that had them playing in cities from Denver to Raleigh against opponents from Providence to Wake Forest. The Knights were not predicted by anyone to face the Panthers, Pittsburgh, which lost to the Big East final last year, was thought by many to be a possible No. 3 seed. I think we're of one the teams that can beat anybody," UCF guard Dexter Lyons said.

"We're not Tough enough not to worry about who we're going to play but now we can go into games prepared.

The 14 seeding is the best the Knights have ever reached heading into the Big Dance. UCF was last invited to the NCAA Tournament in 1996 when the Knights shocked the Trans-Atlantic Athletic Conference by beating Missouri in the final round of the conference tournament.

That was the Knights were a 1 seed, and eventually lost to the University of Massachusetts in the final round of the NCAA Tournament.

"A lot of guys are sitting at home and wishing they could be in the tournament," said O'Leary.

UCF guard Dexter Lyons said.

"We've had a pretty good year. We've been to some places where we didn't win, but we've won a lot of games. We've had a lot of good players this year. We've had a lot of good coaches this year. We've had a lot of good fans this year. We've had a lot of good memories this year. We're going to have a lot of good memories when we get back from the tournament."
West: Blacks not yet truly equal

In his address, West focused on the history of race relations and theongoing struggle for equality. He noted that while some progress has been made, the issue of racial equality is far from resolved. West emphasized the need for continued education and advocacy to ensure that the challenges faced by the African-American community are not ignored.

Students fire new volley at Bush about Iraq

In a military briefing given on March 23, 2004, Tommy R. Frank, listed Secretaries of War, announced that the U.S. military is developing new strategies to defeat the enemy in Iraq. The briefing also included plans for future operations in Afghanistan.

The students called on Bush to end the war in Iraq and to begin a new approach to dealing with the Middle East. They questioned the motives of the administration and called for a more transparent and accountable process.

University Writing Center Extends Operating Hours

The university writing center has extended its operating hours to accommodate the needs of the students. The center is now open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays, and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends.

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200 dead, 1,500 hurt in 10 Madrid bomb blasts
MADEIRD, Spain — 200 people were killed and at least another 1,500 injured when a series of terrorist bombs ripped through trains during the Spanish capital's morning rush hour Thursday.

Government officials quickly called the bombings the worst in recent memory and occurred three days before national elections. In the Basque separatist group ETA, which has wired a bleak political campaign for 1999, a return to an Arab-language newspaper in London later claimed the attacks were carried out by the al-Qaida terrorist network but provided no evidence.

The latter was signed by the Abu Hafs al-Mauritani Brigade, which links al-Qaida and has falsely claimed responsibility for other attacks.

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia visited hospital after hospital. “Whoever did this are vile, cowardly murderers,” the king said in an address to the nation.

Spain's interior minister was quoted on the Web site of officials are investigating the involvement.

In the Capitol, Kerry refused to take back comments from a Republicans including House Speaker Dennis Hastert, Kerry said: “I have no intention whatsoever of taking back comments from a Government attack squad that specializes in trying to mislead people and to negate the real priorities that this country needs to focus on.”

When you are not pregnant. I have been taking them about a month, but I wanted to know if you think they are necessary. Is a multivitamin better for a college student? I choose foods that are high in fiber and other substances called phytochemicals, which a pill cannot provide. If you choose to take vitamins, avoid those that you call “megadoses,” because they may provide too much of an ingredient. For example, too much zinc can create liver problems. Also vitamins can interfere with medications that you take (i.e. vitamin E and 0.5 mg of pyridoxine). The prenatal vitamins are rich in the right balance of vitamins and minerals in your body is essential. Lacking can lead to conditions as night blindness or anemia, on the other hand too much of some vitamins and minerals can cause toxic reactions.

I’m not sure how big of a role vitamins play in your daily life, but now I have decided to get my master’s degree.” Zimmerman said. “Most of my friends have decided to go back to school to “delay some decisions until the United Nations backed off.”

Kerry does want to repeal the Bush tax cuts that are saving more than $300 billion a year. Companies surveyed said they plan to hire 13 percent more graduates than last year. However, job seekers might be competing with more new graduates that last year.

If you think you don’t eat enough of fruits and vegetables, it is very likely that you are not getting all the vitamins you need. For more information see the healthlink’s site www.healthlink.org.

Some college graduates go back to school after finding no work
Mark Stifflington, a senior engineering student at Marquette University isn’t looking for work. He’s going back to school to work on his master’s degree. Mark Stifflington,

Some college graduates go back to school after finding no work. The outlook, according to the station needed a process," the station's president Drew Reiber said. "Most of our officers are film majors; but this really is a public health environment. The prenatal vitamins are rich in the right balance of vitamins and minerals in your body is essential. Lacking can lead to conditions as night blindness or anemia, on the other hand too much of some vitamins and minerals can cause toxic reactions.

Food sources are more beneficial since they are more complex. They give you a variety of nutrients and include many vitamins and minerals, fiber and other substances called phytochemicals, which a pill cannot provide. If you choose to take vitamins, avoid those that you call “megadoses,” because they may provide too much of an ingredient. For example, too much zinc can create liver problems. Also vitamins can interfere with medications that you take (i.e. vitamin E and 0.5 mg of pyridoxine). The prenatal vitamins are rich in the right balance of vitamins and minerals in your body is essential. Lacking can lead to conditions as night blindness or anemia, on the other hand too much of some vitamins and minerals can cause toxic reactions.

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Students take a love of nature downtown, Student Union gets a face lift

A coalition of UCF clubs wrapped up the two-week Unplug 2004 campaign, aimed at disconnecting students from technology, by taking a bike ride from the Student Union to downtown Orlando and back March 6. Eight students made the round trip. At right, the Student Union Food Court was remodeled over the break to include more school colors in the design. The left half of the photo is the new Food Court.

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ILLUSTRATION BY AMBER PLANK
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A-Sun champs move on to NCAA

where we are," Lyons said. "They wished they could have grabbed another board or made another shot or stole another ball. I'm just so excited about this.

The men earned a spot in this year's NCAA Tournament by defeating Troy State 68-65 in the first game of the Atlantic Sun tournament last Saturday in Nashville. The victory marked the last conference game at UCF for seniors Roberto Moorman, Josh Bodden, Rob Ross and Lyons.

"We were hoping for a 33 seed," said Bodden, a senior forward. "There's a chance anything can happen. Pittsburg is probably the best No. 3 seed in the history of the tournament.

We've just going to have to play the best we can no matter what," Lyons said. Most of the UCF players took a few days off last week for Spring Break, but once Thursday rolled around, it was business as usual. Spencer resumed practice Thursday, despite having to move his teams to locations other than the UCF Arena.

"I'm just happy we're in the tournament," Junior Marcus Avant said. "We're not going there just to make a trip. We're going there to win. It's going to be a tough game and Pittsburg could have been a No. 1 seed, but we're a good team, too.

The men also took some time to support the UCF baseball team Friday night, as they were all smiles during the 8-0 Knights' victory over Gardner-Webb. The men were paying the baseball team back for its support in Nashville at the A-Sun tournament last weekend. Spencer showed off his arm before the game as he threw out the first pitch.

The Knights will resume full practice this week, and are treating teams like Pittsburg the way.

"Our record shows that we can play great baseball," Lavine added. "We're out to play baseball. It's the dream for all of the great guys on this team.

We've been waiting on this all week. It's time to go to work."

At Bodden, Lyons, Moorman and Ross, they'll keep hoping that they can push their last game as Knights back one more week.

"If you're hungry, you're going to get it," Lyons said.

Famous Roe never had abortion

The resolution was struck down 23-13. Senators also overwhelmingly supported a bill to fund a campus visit by Norma McCorvey, the famous "Jane Roe" of Roe v. Wade, which is the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that made abortion legal. The campaign rebuilding on a Conservative Coalition effort, Students for Life and the Catholic Campus Ministries are bringing McCorvey to campus on April 9.

McCorvey went public with her identity as "Jane Roe" in the 1980s, a decade after the 1973 court decision. She was granted the right to have an abortion under the decision, which legalized abortion under the larger heading of a woman's right to privacy. Because the case dragged on for so long, McCorvey never went through with the abortion, and instead gave her child up for adoption. Now, McCorvey has become an anti-abortion activist, supporting overturning the landmark ruling.

Her appearance in the Commonwealth Club's "The Truth About the Supreme Court" was supposed to be open to all students. McCorvey's visit will cost the Senate $850, of which $400 already has been allocated to ROCK for an event that never took place.

Sen. A.J. Aussaard was the only senator to vote against the bill, saying that McCorvey would not be telling objectively about the abortion issue, but would be pushing her pro-life stance.

Heather Smith, the president of ROCK, disagreed. "This woman has lived on the front line of the fence with the abortion issue from the line," she said. "She is a student, regardless of race, regardless of gender, respect and learn about her.

The Senate also accepted the program to be one of Sen. Ben Reid, creating an open seat representing the College of Business Administration. SGA President Brian Waters will appoint a replacement.

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Dexter Lyons and the UCF men's basketball team take their A-Sun championship into the first round of the NCAA Tournament this week.

A-SUN CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

60 UCF 55 TROY STATE

Closing seconds prove fatal to women's season

Two last-second free throws against UCF gave Lipscomb its first-ever A-Sun championship.

MATT DUVANY
Sports Editor

Even though the UCF women's basketball team lost for the regular season title, the Knights went into the Atlantic Sun Tournament as the No. 4 seed.

The Knights defeated Mercer 79-68 in the first round before five players scoring in double figures. Forward Tasha Allen and guard Ashley O'Donnell (11ff) and 14 points respectively) helped UCf win 11 of her points in the second half.

"Early in the first half I was struggling and trying to find my game," hdison said. "At halftime coach told me to relax and not rush my shot. That's what I did. I built some confidence, and we were able to go on a run." In the semifinals, UCF upset with pesky Belhaven to open of the second straight year the Knights pulled away after a 1-point lead for the 62-52 victory.

"It wasn't a pretty win, but I hold the kids in a locker room away," coach Gail Striegler said. "We fought hard, and really showed a lot of determination."
Baseball keeps on winning

Bergman's bunch wins 5-4 of first two A-Sun series

FRANK KOSHEL

Bergman's bunch wins 5-4 of first two A-Sun series

Why most students were celebrating Spring Break, the Knights baseball team was taking care of conference foes Lipscomb and Gardner-Webb, compiling an impressive 5-1 A-Sun record early in the season.

UCF took two out of three from the Lipscomb Bisons in Nashville with lots of extra baseball throughout the series.

"I don't think the players fell like they played as well as they are capable of playing," UCF Coach Jeff Bergman said of the Lipscomb series. "We didn't play too well offensively. I thought we pitched well all series."

The Knights (14-4, 5-1 A-Sun) opened with the 5-1 victory, which was called after six innings due to rain. Matt Fox struck out six batters, giving up an unearned run in the third on an infield single by Lipscomb left-fielder Kyle Nations, giving Fox his fourth win of the season.

UCF gave Fox some run support early with Dee Brown driving in David Mann in the first inning for an early 1-0 lead. UCF added another run in the second and two more runs in the third by sacrifice flies from Ryan Bono and Drew Butera.

The Knights 4-5, 5-1, series opener was a doubleheader after a walk-off home run by Lipscomb right-hander Nathan Simioni that gave reliever Tim Bozich his first loss of the season. Pitcher Kyle Bono struck out six batters in five and two-thirds innings, giving up an error by defensive replacement Jon Cooper in the fifth inning with a Lipscomb double in the sixth for three runs to send the game into extra innings.

UCF took the lead in the fifth inning with a Chandler Rosa single that scored Kevin Richardson and a David Mann double to lead off. Winds were blowing out to right field, and the Knights moved the bases on all three players. The Knights 4-5, 5-1, series opener was a doubleheader after a walk-off home run by Lipscomb right-hander Nathan Simioni that gave reliever Tim Bozich his first loss of the season. Pitcher Kyle Bono struck out six batters in five and two-thirds innings, giving up an error by defensive replacement Jon Cooper in the fifth inning with a Lipscomb double in the sixth for three runs to send the game into extra innings.

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Tennis continues to dominate doubles

NATHAN CURTIS

Both the men's and women's tennis teams found success during home weekend, as both finished the weekend 2-1 and picked up nine wins in total.

The first stop for the men was against Vanderbilt, as they took the doubles in the beginning, but when they went on to GCal to take on the Commodores in doubles play, the Commodores took the doubles.

The Miami men's tennis team will next face off against Nebraska and Florida State at home this weekend.

Billings scores 10 off the bench in final game as Knight

PORTER

Again it was Hudson who broke the game open, as he scored 39 of her 27 points in the 3-0 win, coming off the bench and shooting 8-of-22.

Allison Rich (21) made 17 points on 5-of-10 shooting, with four makes from behind the arc.

With the victory, the Knights improve to 13-12 overall and 3-5 in the Atlantic Sun conference.

The two teams will face off again next weekend in the home finale against Stetson.

Fox remains unbeaten, leads Atlantic Sun pitchers with fifth win

PORTER

Fox has not lost in 6 starts, going 8-0 with a 1.38 ERA in conference play.

Jet Black vs. the Knights (8)

Game of the series was played last week against the Knights as UCF routed Georgia Southern 4-1.

Unfortunately for the Knights, the final record was not in their favor, as the Knights were swept in the final game.

Game two of the series was just a day ago, as the Knights once again faced off against the Eagles, but this time the Eagles had the upper hand and were victorious in three straight sets.

The two teams will face off again next weekend in the home finale against Stetson.

For more information, please visit ucfknights.com.
Lyons, hitting on 18 attempts. Morentin was shooting from three-point land, when Josh Bodden scored and recorded a 71-63 victory over in points to lead four players in state rival Jacksonville.

from the start of the tournament double tic fast breaks and a selfless-by-relentless defense, opportunis... job done.

JOINING THE DIVISION I-A LEVEL: Marcus... things up a bit when he decided.

Even tough Lyons garners top man up and play three games in four nights, Lyons, who decided to go with Ross instead of the second-leading scorer with 30 points, Lyons and Gary John-... there was no way I was going to let my team lose that game.

Ken Barkely has been known to write autographs and talk with fans and media about free

There was no way I was going to let my team lose that game."

The Knights started the game on an 8-0 run behind a pair of threes from Avant and Lyons, while holding Troy State scoreless in the opening three minutes.

The Knights never trailed, but it wasn't because of its defense. It was because of a coaching decision. Speraw knew he had to fire all his shots to escape with a win and he did. Despite it, in the end it came down to basics. Troy State missed four free throws in the last 20s. UCF converted 7-of-8 in the final minutes.

Said Lyons, “We're going dancing and they're going home to watch us.”

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(Not valid with any other offer or insurance, New patients only.)
Don't rely on attack ads for the truth

With the presidential pri-
mary season now coming to a close, many people are now blurring into America's heartland, where they can't help asking themselves, "What do we do now?" In the hope that their message will hit home, the George W. Bush campaign has been making ads that are making things easy for you—you don't even have to get out of the couch, let alone change the chan-
nel, to find out what they have to say. But the ads are bad, and you can't be sure whether what they say in ads can be a problem. It will be months before Bush's ad

much better, Florida's Democrats turned out in droves to the pri-
mary, with about 700,000 of the 4 million registered Democrats voting in this,
Severity, humanity and common sense

Regarding the person who smoked pot and got caught, "Feeling harassed, not protected". Feb. 26. To deny an existence of severity is to deny a fundamental rule of the humanity you so passionately defend.

Nothing about being human exists in black and white — hence you are entitled to your opinions of courtesy versus anger towards your accusers. As for law, consider the terms associated with their disregard: misdemeanor, felony, offense, federal offense, first degree and premeditated. This list includes more words than we have for types of snow, and each one clearly affirms a jaywalker. Considering how many crimes we are captured with their disregard: misdemeanor, felony, offense, federal offense, first degree and premeditated.

"everity"

The point is, the officer did not treat you with the same respect that kept you from being arrested, or receiving any number of other consequences more severe that the one you were caught, you were not prosecuted to the full extent allowed in your situation.

"suffered."

Let's get positive, just a little please. It is a paradox that I am writing to request your respect, maybe a little more positive because this letter itself is a complaint.

I am looking at the future very Monday and Thursday because it is my school's newspaper. I support my school, therefore I will support its newspaper. In addition, the school that I went to last year was much smaller and the paper was non-existent.

Every Monday and Thursday I make my way to the newspaper stand and grab a copy of the paper, but have recently found myself dis-appointed with the content. The paper is exactly what the media is slowly becoming, negative. It seems as if it would be the end of the world to report about something positive or give credit where credit is due.

After the March 1 edition, I can conclude that the paper thinks that George W. Bush is the worse president to take office, Mel Gibson's The Passion of the Christ is a ridiculous story and Mel Gibson is the most separated president from the student body in the country. These views are what is ruining America. It seems as if it would be the end of the world to actually give credit to something that you weren't adamant about.

We all have our personal beliefs, but the view that the future so heartlessly distributes is a ridiculous story and Mel Gibson is the most separated president from the student body in the country.

"protection."

Future newspaper, I leave your paper be a little more positive, just a little please. Let's get positive, just a little please.

"your paper was non-existent."

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Arts & Sciences Career Panels

Presented by:
University of Central Florida
Career Resource Center

Time: 10:30 am to 1:30 pm
Date: Tuesday, Mar. 16, 2004
Place: Key West Ballroom A&B (SU 218AB)
Attire: Casual
Speakers: TBA

Employers will be on hand to talk about potential careers for majors within the College of Arts & Sciences. This program is ideal for anyone considering declaring a major or trying to discover what career possibilities are available for their already-declared major.

UCF Career Resource Center
Student Resource Center 7C
P.O. Box 140185
Orlando, FL 32816-0185
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Fax: 407.823.5909
Email: crc@mail.ucf.edu

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Swing into Spring with the Office of Student Involvement

Monday, March 15 1-3pm CAB Comedy Committee Amateur Knight Tryouts in the Student Leadership Program Conference room, Student Union 208 • Tuesday, March 16 1-3pm CAB Comedy committee Amateur Knight Tryouts in the Student Leadership Program Conference room, Student Union 208 • Wednesday, March 17 6am SGA Rally in Tally. Take a bus trip to the state capital fight for the Bright Futures Scholarship and have your voice heard. 11am-2pm UCF Get Green, Get Lucky. St. Patrick’s day event on the Student Union Patio to promote organ and tissue donation. • Thursday, March 18 7-9pm UCF Masquerade Ball to end Racial Profiling in the Live Oak Room • Friday, March 19 10am UCF Helping Hands Volunteers. Volunteer to shop with the elderly at the Fashion Square Mall. Contact Carolina Tannhauser at Fairyfly7@aol.com for details. 2pm SGA Sports Day: UCF Baseball vs. Stetson • Saturday, March 20 12pm CAB Cultural and Fine Arts Culinary Series: Sushi Knight at Fusion Restaurant. Sign up in advance in SU Room 208 • Monday, March 22 7pm CAB Cultural and Fine Arts Culinary Series: Pastry Knights at Natura Coffee and Tea. Sign up in advance in SU room 208. 8pm CAB Speakers Committee Presents the “Great Debate: Heads vs. Feds;” The Debate to Legalize Marijuana in the Cape Florida Ballroom • Tuesday, March 23 9pm CAB Comedy Committee presents Amateur Knight 2: Judgement Night in Wackadoo’s • Wednesday, March 24 10am-4pm CAB Special Events presents Make Our Bus Tour on the Student Union Patio • Friday, March 26 6pm EXCEL Etiquette Dinner at the Marriott World Center. Seating is limited. 6pm SGA Sports Day: UCF Baseball vs. Stetson • Saturday, March 26 9pm-2am Late Knights: Bright Lights, Big City in the Student Union. This month’s Late Knights features an interactive version of the movie “Chicago” brought by CAB Cinema, casino games, free food and much more.

If you could save a child’s life for only $1, would you do it? Help VUCF and the local Red Cross Club during Measles Week, March 15-19, as they endeavor to raise $1,440 and save that many lives in a third world country. Stop by the table located on the Student Union Patio daily between 11am-3pm to donate $1, the cost of a Measles vaccination, and save a child’s life. If you would like to do more to help the Red Cross Club and VUCF, contact Zehra Siddiqui at sahai83@hotmail.com, Jessica Maykrantz at gato_enorme@hotmail.com or visit www.measlesinitiative.org.

Not ready to see your Bright Futures Scholarship axed by the state? Then sign up to attend the Rally in Tally on March 17. After meeting in the Student Union at 6am a bus will head out for the state capital and leave Tallahassee at 6:30pm. Free food and beverages will be provided at Sloppy Joe’s. RSVP to strainor@mail.ucf.edu.

The office of Student Involvement is home to Student Government, the Multicultural Student Center, Homecoming, Late Knights, Campus Activities Board. EXCEL – Every Knight Can Excel in Leadership. Volunteer UCF and over 300 clubs and organizations. For more information on events and campus involvement, visit the Student Union Room 208, 407.629.4971 or http://ost.sdes.ucf.edu.

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Funded by the Activity and Service fee as allocated by SGA.