Retention helps start Senate in
good shape

SGA officials looking to reach out to student body for greater input this year

ASHLEY BURNS

"Retention" is the spring goal for the UCF SGA Student Senate, and, since last semester's elections, only six students are still in office.

Speaker of the Senate Mark White attributes that rate to a November retreat.

"Usually, with Student Senate, you have anywhere from 48 to 62 people come in," White said. "Eight off the bat you have four or five people who decide they don't have the time for it or they're not really committed."

"This year, with 16 senators returning, we are only losing one person and that was late into the semester due to scheduling conflicts."

He attributed retention to senators' effort in their work and to how much they care about their jobs. "Not only are we keeping retention up, but the morale is rising smoothly," White said. "We're handling a lot of issues, but we haven't had any complaints, so far."

"We're trying to really reach out to student organizations when it comes to questions."

While said student organizations have become more proficient at bringing exact amounts to their requests.

He said he expected the senate to continue to strive to improve "with a couple of the new programs we're going to start up."

Senates plan to facilitate meetings for students and student organizations with college deans to help all of them get to know one another and to improve communication within colleges.

The meetings would be designed to help students learn what their senators are doing for them and to find out how better to voice their opinions.

The Senate will also be continuing a survey of popular opinion about what organizations, if any, should be made to the Recreation and Wellness Center.

A few thousand surveys have already been gathered, but, to collect more, senators are creating a Web site to allow students to log on and voice their opinions directly.

"We're going to be receiving OTTF money in about a half a year to a year and that will help us to expand the site and Wellness Center," White said. "They really want student input on the project, and Student Government is going to help them to do that." The Senate has taken it as its job for the semester.

The survey is used in part to keep track of popular opinion, and we want to make sure that students are satisfied.

Once all of the surveys are tallied, the sen- ate plans to create a task force to find out which ideas could become reality based on budget. "It's a good process that's starting," White said. "We're hoping that the results are going to show that hard work pays off."
Conference win brings UF recognition

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One Last Stand on current on Apr

Dining on Tuesday morning. After working from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., he expected to be "wiped out." To make matters worse, he learned that he had been diagnosed with a rare disease.

"I'm very happy to be alive," he said in a press release after the band was signed. "We are extremely excited for what the future holds and for everyone involved in this process, and thrilled to all the fans who supported us locally.""...

A woman charged with killing her 12-year-old daughter was found guilty of murdering her in her home as punishment for wearing too much makeup and not being on time to school. The defendant's attorney said she had no knowledge of the incident, but the family's lawyer said they were relieved.

On Thursday, the Florida Bar approved a new rule that will allow law students to practice law for a limited period of time, subject to certain conditions. The rule was intended to help alleviate a shortage of qualified lawyers in the state.

In other news, the University of Central Florida announced that it will offer a new online course on the history of Islam, starting in the fall semester. The course will be taught by a professor who specializes in Islamic studies.

A recent survey found that 80% of college students believe that texting and driving is a serious problem. The survey also found that 67% of students say they have witnessed a friend or classmate texting while driving.

The University of Central Florida is one of the few institutions in the state that offers a course on the history of Islam. The new online course, which will be taught by a professor who specializes in Islamic studies, is expected to attract a large number of students.

Add to your UF experience.
Visit: http://www.ors.ufl.edu/ to find out how you can get involved on campus.

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Go Knights! Go Knights! Go Knights! Go Knights! Go Knights!
Michelle Morse attended a hall meeting on the Boulder campus four days after that. Morse had to either become a reluctant celebrity, for minority students and faculty, or go on offensive against racism. Morse argued.

"Racism is a cancer, and this is no peaceful coexistence with cancer," said the Boulder Professor, president of the Greater Metropolitan Manhole minority students and faculty.

"Either we get rid of this cancer, or we will get rid of us," Morse said.

A 20-year-old CU student said a recent event in his life was reported to be an aggressive attack. Morse said.

Two CU students face charges, one was sent to a Hispanic cross-country runner, and other racially motivated attacks. Morse urged the city's leaders to join the Greater Metropolitan Manhole community leaders on Tuesday.

A state House committee has been looking at minority ninth-graders in Minnesota and Denver. Morse urged the city's leaders to join the Greater Metropolitan Manhole community leaders on Tuesday.

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Kristina Grochowski, Alum C
I was nervous about adjusting to college life. Leaving home and entering college, people experi- ence many different feelings and may feel uncom fortable about becoming an adult and taking on new and extra responsibilities.

"The signs of an eating disorder can be hard to detect.

Many are excited about finally being able to tailgate with regularly. He added that his son is a Golden Knight and said it hoped to avoid a major confrontation.

State attorney defends officer’s actions

"I CAN GET YOU A JOB WITH DISCOUNTS ON UCF TRADECOURSE.COM."

When the pressures get too much, some may turn to eating disorders as a way to cope. People with eating disorders may feel cold all the time, and may not be able to control their appetite. Eating disorders can also lead to weight loss and the scale shows the person is thin.

"When he battered him, Young said he had the setup."
Parents worry about paying for college more than retirement

EILEEN AJT POWELL

NEW YORK — Reports about the rising cost of a college education appear to be having an impact on the savings patterns of American families.

A survey has found that parents with children under age 18 are more concerned about saving for their children's education than they are about saving for retirement.

The study was commissioned by The Vanguard Group and mutual fund company, which is based in Valley Forge, Pa., and is called Financial Insights: 2005, which shows parents are saving less for retirement.

The survey found that 67 percent of the more than 1,000 parents who were interviewed said saving for college was of primary concern, compared with 8 percent who said retirement was their top financial goal.

The results said that saving for a house, car or other major purchase was most important.

Most families with children under age 12 were saving for college — 64 percent — than were families with children under 12 who lived in college-going families.

And 10 percent of families with younger children said that grandparents and other relatives were helping them to save, compared with 25 percent of families with older children.

John Heywood, a principal of Vanguard's education market group, said he expected the savings patterns would be motivated by college costs.

"I believe people are recognizing the increasing costs of college and starting to save earlier," Heywood said.

The cost of sending children to college has been rising in recent years.

According to the latest survey from the College Board, a nonprofit association that is headquartered in Washington, D.C., the cost of tuition and fees at four-year private institutions rose 7 percent to $21,328 for the 2005-2006 academic year, compared with 2004-2005, while costs at four-year public institutions went up more than 7 percent to $10,224.

Most financial advisers urge families to save for retirement first, not college, and then put money aside for their kid's education, arguing that families can borrow to fund college but not retirement. But Heywood said it's still important to have savings for college.

"People hear that and they say, "Too bad about retirement money, our kids are going to college,"" he said.

Heywood added that for young families, "retirement is farther off than the kids going to college, so that's less urgent."

The families who have been saving for their children's college educations have an average of about $47,000 per child so far, the study found.

It said that about four out of 10 families were familiar with the Section 529 college savings plans, which allow families to save for college. Savings in 529 plans are tax-deductible. Withdrawals and distributions are tax free when used for education.

Vanguard manages Section 529 programs in New York, Iowa, Nevada and Colorado and runs 529 programs in 29 states. Upromise can claim family contributions into 529 plans.

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Audrey Robinson says her dog is "allergic to everything."

She owns Kimberly Carver Spa, "It's nice being around the dogs."

Both women have been volunteering for more than two months. They show up at 6:30 in the morning and stay until the work is done.

Other volunteers come, too. A 65-year-old woman who works a backup一事 comes twice a week and cleans out the runs.

On weekends, troubled youths are paired up with volunteers to help at the sanctuary. A lot of elderly volunteers come and sit with the animals. They brush them, and, importantly, they love them.

Volunteers are vital to the journey's end, but Thoet is clearly the leader of the pack. A rooster — whose name is being withheld — became a lesser aggressive one. Thoet reports that the rooster "gets bored; he doesn't do that here!"

The rooster got the name "Lefo," the leader of the pack. A rooster has been the rooster around a chicken coop for most of the sanctuary, but now Lefo "is the guy at the top of the pack. A rooster comes out and beats the dog around."

In front of the house, a faded white Honda civic is in the driveway. The engine is gone, and the windshield is broken. The car serves as the roosting spot when they sleep there at night.

She explained that journey's end is in trust and that her employees will provide the volunteers with a salary when she is gone.

"There is money for insurance to cover the council," she said. "And the sanctuary will be able to continue work.

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TODAY

New

Monsoon

An indie band with an Indian flair—cool. But the band has gained attention for its international flair and use of odd instruments like the Australian didgeridoo. Could this band send people away from their phones? New Monsoon hits tonight. See them before they become cool. Doors open at 9 p.m. at The Social. 407-246-1419

TODAY

Paint the Town

Orlando Museum of Art continues its popular series of 1st Thursday programs with a celebration of Orlando's cityscapes and landscapes by local artists. Event also includes admission to regular art galleries. Begins at 6 p.m. 407-896-4247

TODAY-SUNDAY

Emergenza

Backbooth hosts a whole slew of rising bands of all varieties this weekend including Unfinished, Kastdown, Maniacal, This Last Dance, Cover the Sun, Attila the Huns, Bury the Ashes and many, many more. See them before they become cool. Doors open 7 p.m. nightly. 407-999-2570

TOMORROW

Women Who Rock

The Social celebrates bands that aren't afraid to get a little girly with shows by women-fronted bands. Groups include A Girl Named Chuck, Anding Mudder, Pretty Ugly and Shadow Rising. Rocker chicks are cool. Doors open at 8 p.m. at The Social. 407-246-1419

SATURDAY

Metal Legends

Tribute Show

Led Zeppelin, Ozzy Osbourne, AC/DC and Van Halen aren't touring anymore. We'll, Ozzy does sometimes, but the rest are AWOL. So you have to settle for tribute bands. That's fine, though; cover bands are just as good as the real thing, right? Doors open at 7:30 p.m. at House of Blues. 407-934-2583

SUNDAY

The Wild Bunch

Sam Peckinpah's violent Western revitalized the genre and redefined how Westerns would be viewed in coming years. Odds are you've never seen it. The new two-disc set is the perfect opportunity to correct that. For Spring Break 2006, I chose the less tropical locale of Long Island, NY. As far as relationships are concerned, I had big plans for 2005. It was supposed to be the year I resolved to find true love, not to fall for smooth-talking jerks and to be a little less jealous about, well, everything. I am sad to report that I threw all of my resolutions out the window. Every last stinking one of them. So this year, I say the hell with outlandish resolutions. You can't resolve to find true love or to get over a past lover. But there is one resolution you can hold true to: Resolve to be, PLEASE SEE RESOLVE ON A8.

This New Year's, let's resolve to throw away unattainable resolutions.

William Goss & Matt Hedgescock

Affiliated with the United Press

With the 2006 winter movie season upon us, film buffs now face the annual Three-Month Thrust of quality movies. And while January to March may be the dumping grounds for all the trash Hollywood wants us to avoid, there are plenty of movies coming out this winter, that should give audiences something to live for and even more comic book adaptations to appease the wrath of two Beastie Boys music videos for the films to ramp up for in 2006.

Pet Sematary 3

The first two films were loaded with grisly, tense death scenes, so expect more of the same from this movie. What's the point of being excited about this movie? Yeah, these movies are usually dreadful. Could this film scare people away from them? Let's find out with Beans. Scheduled for release July 15.

Gino Royale

They've been much ado about the selection of Daniel Craig to play the next James Bond (He's ugly? He's getting too old, but he seems like a front-runner, his acting is much better than previous, silly stipend). A return to semi-reality is a welcome idea. Scheduled for release Dec. 15.

TODAY

What we love, what's worth it and what's definitely not.

NOT JUST SEX

Dana DeLay

Moments Change

An intriguing idea at first glance, but after a year, you tend to forget the things you planned to change. For me, the past year was a brief shining moment, we can put the past indiscretions, regrets and screw-ups behind us.

On can't wait! Every year I write myself a letter with my New Year's resolutions on it. Then I mail it to myself and only open it on the eve of the following year. It's something I've been doing for the past 10 years. I've made resolutions about starting fresh, and, even for a brief shining moment, we can put all the past indiscretions, regrets and screw-ups behind us.

Another year has gone by and I find myself reflecting on the past and looking to the future. I love the beginning of a brand-new year. It always seems as if there are endless possibilities for starting fresh, and, even for a brief shining moment, we can put all the past indiscretions, regrets and screw-ups behind us.

Or can we? Every year I write myself a letter with my New Year's resolutions on it. Then I mail it to myself and only open it on the eve of the following year. An interesting idea, but alas, after a year, you tend to forget the things you planned to change. Once in a while, I had received to visit a tropical location for Spring Break 2006, I chose the less tropical locale of Long Island, NY. As far as relationships are concerned, I had big plans for 2005. It was supposed to be the year I resolved to find true love, not to fall for smooth-talking jerks and to be a little less jealous about, well, everything. I am sad to report that I threw all of my resolutions out the window. Every last stinking one of them. So this year, I say the hell with outlandish resolutions. You can't resolve to find true love or to get over a past lover. But there is one resolution you can hold true to: Resolve to be, PLEASE SEE RESOLVE ON A8.
Western union packs powerful punch

Brokeback succeeds through its strong performances, subtle story

WILLIAM GOSS

Two people go up to Brokeback Mountain. When eventually each of them is married with children, but they are never nearly as satisfied as they are with each other. All they can afford is the occasional fishing. In the end, they resist the romance of Brokeback, the one place where they can't deny their love.

That synopsis is relatively novel, except for the mention of Brokeback Mountain, which has become irresistibly associated with "gay cowboy movie." However, the homo­sexual subplots are only a few minutes about a minute of the entire film. Still, it's better than all the other serviceable and nearly tragic romantic positions. The depiction of "gay" seems inaccurate. Same goes for "romance," yet explicit depiction of sexual relations between two main men, but their relationship

remains under that label. It's never said. It's just "that thing" the audience feels.

The word "gay" in a lot of contexts is no more than a catchphrase. So, why is the infamous word in the marketing for the film, when the film has something else to say about it? The audience is left to infer, and that is only fair.

Brokeback Mountain

Directed by Ang Lee
Starring Heath Ledger, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Williams, Anne Hathaway
Based on the novel

WILLIAM GOSS

2006 packed with sequels, comic book forte

From January 14

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest

This film should really be called Dead Man's Chest Sequel. Yes, Dead on the High Seas for Two More Hours. You know what? Never mind. It's a good movie about a bunch of pirates. The first film, though overly long, was an enjoyable romp, and a year at the movies is never complete without a helping of undead pirates. Scheduled for release July 7.

Scooby-Doo

An animatronic releases a bunch of venomous snakes on a plane, and Samuel L. Jackson tries to stop him while finding out snakes. For real. The film is already a cult Internet phenomenon, and while the fan base is about to get even larger, the film should still be avoided like roadkill by hipsters. Scheduled for release July 7.

Superman Returns

The title says it all. After a long hiatus, the Man of Steel is finally back in theaters, this time hoping special effects to prevent a vision of Superman seven years in the making. It also doesn't hurt that the film is directed by Bryan Singer, who beheld the audience with a smashing, hero-like first two X-Men. Same goes for Superman Returns. Scheduled for release June 30.

Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream: The Pick of Destiny

Grab your popcorn, because the world's self-proclaimed greatest band ever is coming to the big screen. The film chronicles the highly fictionalized rise to superstardom for the band's regular efforts to push back from November to March is a bad sign as well. The trailers look somewhat prom­ising, and with the Wachowski siblings of Matrix fame directing it may yet be a good movie. Scheduled for release March 7.

3

Though Bryan Singer has already won an Academy Award for his directing, the film is a dire­cational misfire. The story is about a band's quest to find a lost love that they thought was dead. The plot is poorly crafted and the performances are weak. The film is a disappointment. Scheduled for release May 30.

Resolve to remember men aren't psychic

smarter about the opposite sex. —7

From January 1

After the roaring success of the 2003 resolution, I give you these wisdom-filled resolutions for 2006. By Sommer Janiss

1. Guys, resolve to be a little less critical when a guy can't read your mind. Guys make mistakes — even the guy you're in bed with. I think it's fine. I think it's fine that sometimes you are not as obvious as you think. There are not that many things to get up for life's Clock for the Feminine. Be a little more vocal about your needs and wants rather than playing for a deaf ear or a boyfri­end.

2. Respect the sea as not being a man. The sea is not a beach, and want it. This is why I want to respect this to your­ self whenever you feel that urge to "Tell me what she wants." We all want to be together so badly, but we must be careful about this.

3. To each and every one of your leaderless and locked daughters, resolve to be a great place to meet

the love of your life. The love of your life is not always a fine, if you go, you choose. But a drawn-out, hairy situation is not the situation. Friend relationships are made of long-term promises and memories and conversations, not maddeningly boring lengths of time that are less seen. It isn't seen. It isn't seen.

5. Resolve to be a little more real. This is not a year for every one of you there. Taking chances in the Big Apple and on the field of love is not a bad idea at all. Some of you are lucky enough to have met a significant other that makes things easier.

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UCF challenges UK, nearly pulls off the biggest upset win in program history

ANDY VASQUEZ
Nov 24

In early December, UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said he wasn't happy with his team's progress. Last week, after a disappointing loss to Birmingham-Southern, senior guard Josh Pep-
pinis said the team had waited too long to start practicing the right way and were paying the price.

On Thursday night, the Knights showed that they may have finally turned a corner. UCF came agonizingly close to the biggest upset in the 30-year history of the program, falling to Kentucky 59-57 at Rupp Arena.

Guard Rainn Rondondo scored his final basket of the game with 7.4 seconds remaining to give the Knights a chance to pull the upset. Kentucky's Rajon Rondo, inside the free-throw line, over guard of the key, but Rondo ran the clock down and hit a pair of free throws to give the Wildcats a 2-point lead.

The game was sloppy early on, as both teams shot poorly from the field. The teams exchanged the lead twice before the Wildcats took a 14-7 lead. But UCF answered and turned the tide with a 16-4 run and led 30-24 at halftime.

Seven minutes into the second half, Southern Miss achieved its largest lead, 57-41. But UCF answered quickly on Kevin Smith's 19-yard field goal to pull the Golden Knights within one. Payne then hit a three-pointer and a double, with 12 points and a game-high 13 rebounds.

UCF (16-6) started quickly and led by 12 points in the first half, but forwards Lavelle Pope and Anthony Williams got into foul trouble, and Kentucky (20-3) stormed back to take a 33-30 halftime lead.

Seven minutes into the second half, UCF trailed 45-34, but the Knights went on a 16-4 run and led 50-40 with less than seven minutes remaining. The teams exchanged the lead during the final minutes until Rondo's clutch shot.

UCF guard Mike O'Donnell tied the score at 57 with 37 seconds remaining on a 3-pointer from the top of the key, and Rondondo ran the clock down and made the tough shot, just inside the five-foot-line, over guard Justin Rose moments before hitting the game-winning shot in Kentucky's 59-57 win over UCF.

"We know we were going to have the ball in his hands," Speraw told the Associated Press. "I was happy about that. We've had some good hustle plays, some good hustle goals, but it was a key moment. A key moment for us. A key moment for him."
Prater missed an extra point not the only reason UCF fell to Wolf Pack

CHASE WILLEY

UCF lost its second game of the season in last week's Outback Bowl loss to Nevada. The Knights had been hoping for a win in their first game of the season against South Dakota State, but lost 49-48 in overtime. Despite its

UCF's offense was held to just 11 points, Nevada's defense was able to shut down the Knights' high-scoring, high-energy spread option attack. The Wolf Pack's defense held UCF to just 165 yards of total offense, rushing for just 61 yards and throwing for just 104. The Wolf Pack's defense was able to limit the Knights' passing game to just 3 yards, allowing Nevada to take control of the game from the start.

UCF's special teams were a problem as well. The Knights were held to just 3 of 6 field goals, while Nevada's place kicking was 3 for 3. UCF's punting was also a problem, with just one punt inside the 20-yard line.

UCF's defense was also a factor in the loss. The Knights were held to just 11 points, allowing Nevada to take control of the game from the start.

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Congress needs to clean house

The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1962

OUR STANCE

UCF bowl game ad nothing but a joke

I have never been so proud in my four years at UCF as I was watching the Knights play Nebraska in the football bowl game. We truly showed the nation that our team is going to be a constant presence from here on out.

At the same time, I have also never been so embarrassed. During the weekend, a TV commercial aired promoting UCF TV highlighting our players, our team and what our school has to offer. It also depicted as if my 4-year-old sister created it on her computer, using my parents old camcorder.

The case was one of the biggest opportunities our school has ever had to reach out to those who have not heard of UCF and to encourage them to check out our campus.

It had been a prospective student watching that commercial, I would have hearing.

Not only was it outdated and poorly produced, it was then followed by a commercial for Nevada that made UCF look like a community college.

With all the money our university spends on athletics, new buildings and maintaining our beautiful campus, couldn’t it have spent a little more to create a professional and current commercial?

I am an RTV student and I am fully aware of the capabilities of some of our own students, and we could have created something better.

If the administration really wants the rest of the nation to take UCF seriously, it could start with better advertising.

— TARA SZEPCZAK

Year's football

"I realize it's a joke." "Chris Bigelow, consultant"

MAN ON THE STREET

THE WORD AROUND CAMPUS

What is your New Year's Resolution for 2006?

TARA SZEPCZAK

Sociology major

"I realize it's a joke."

JONATHAN GABRIEL

Digital media

"Make to really wish my friends and family to the best."

"To really wish my friends and family well and to get more from life."
It's not always the kicker's fault, but they sure are fun to blame.

With the college football bowl season finally over and done with, I started thinking back to something Bill Simmonnas—my buddy of sports writing—once pontificated about the NFL.

He once asked why, in a league of 32 teams and with constantly expanding football and soccer players around the world, every team can't find one quality kicker to put the ball through the uprights on a consistent basis?

It's a good question. It carries plenty of validity, and there really should be some sort of logical answer. But I want to go one step beyond the NFL—or below it, rather. Why is it so seemingly impossible for major college football programs to find quality kickers?

I'm not talking about the directionless Michigan schools or some Pedestrian trade-school cough, FDU, cough—that thought it was a good idea to start a football program. I'm talking about big-time schools with big-time tradition, big-time coaches and big-time recruiting.

How is it that this year's Orange Bowl came down to a field goal contest with two opposing kickers doing their best Christopher Reeve impersonations?

I have two words for that: It's a tough job. However, I'll compare it to a conversation my dad and I once had. NBA players are paid a lot of money to be good at their jobs, yet so many of them can't even line up for a free throw. An editor in making millions, then he should be able to hit a free throw. In the case of kickers, if a guy has a full ride to the NFL, then he better darn well do it.

I'm not saying that the kicking profession is easy. It's a tough job. However, I'll compare it to a conversation my dad and I once had. NBA players are paid a lot of money to be good at their jobs, yet so many of them can't even line up for a free throw. An editor in making millions, then he should be able to hit a free throw. In the case of kickers, if a guy has a full ride to the NFL, then he better darn well do it.

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