Time running out to settle Spring grade dispute

Student says e-mail gave professor no right to drop grade 5 points

RITCHIE

A UCF student who says his professor unfairly lowered his grade for an e-mail he sent is fighting for the grades. His classmates may be running out of time on his grade appeal.

Legal studies major Jared Andersen took American Government (POS 2041) last spring as an online class. Throughout the semester, he sent numerous e-mails to his professor, but the questions in the quizzes were flawed for him and his classmates.

Andersen says he pointed out the confusing questions to the instructor, political science professor Annabelle Conroy, and says he saw her grade modified. He says she also said she would contact the publishers of the textbook from which the questions were taken.

However, Andersen says the questions continued to be confusing and that he continued sending Conroy e-mails.

The end of the semester, Andersen says, he e-mailed his classmates through his e-community account and asked whether they saw as unfair with the quizzes and grades as he saw.

"Does anyone else feel that Dr. Conroy's grades are flawed?" he asked his classmates via e-mail. "I don't know if I'm overreacting, I would appreciate if anyone would share thoughts on the class."

One of those students forwarded the e-mail to Conroy, who, Andersen says, took five points off his final grade due to inappropriate conduct, which turned his B+ (87 points) into a B- (82 points).

Summary of grade dispute

- Student sends e-mail to classmates expressing dissatisfaction with quiz content and professor.
- Professor lowers student's grade for an e-mail.
- Students share thoughts with professor.

Department head: student lacks basis for appeal.

"I'm sure there's some basis for appeal," Conroy said.

Student says e-mail gave professor no right to drop grade 5 points

MATT MORDORIO

Director of orientation sets high standards

Ritchie instrumental to program's growth, success

WASHINGTON D.C. -- Before the open doors of the Pegasus Ballroom, a half hour earlier with students and parents in line, Director of Orientation Joe Ritchie stands at the front of a table topped with guest packages and food.

He's at the heart of a steady stream of prospective students and parents moving through double doors and into the theater filled with people. In their eyes, a battle wages between confusion and wonderment.

Ritchie hands out a package to a pair of waiting hands, then catches up another but moves down the seemingly endless line of people. It's a ritual he's undergone many times before, and yet, Ritchie still wears a smile when he greets the next face.

"I think I'm most proud of the standard of excellence that I've set for orientation and for the team itself," Ritchie said."I think what I've brought to it is a certain level of integrity, of excellence. We are definitely known as the most respectful rep within the National Orientation Directors Association.

Ritchie backs up his claims with recommendations received from parents and students on evaluation packets sent to the orientation program, and Ritchie said UCF orientation enjoys a high reputation within the National Orientation Directors Association.

Team raises $500 for breast cancer studies for Florida Hospital

ANDREW VAN MART

UCF student shines in cyber game contest

ERIE SULLIVAN

Now that the frenzy surrounding the World Cup is over, it might be a good time to look into another growing international sport: cyber game gaming.

The World Cyber Games is essentially the World Cup of computer and video gaming. Starting with 12 countries and 6,000 participants in 2000, the competition has grown to 67 countries and 12.5 million participants from around the world.

"Many people are getting into it, more companies are getting involved, and more money is being put into it, so we getting bigger and bigger," UCF student Cezar Siddiqui, one of the U.S.'s up-and-coming stars in the World Cyber Games.

The UCF Rugby Team works hard each weekend to raise money for itself and breast cancer research. The team is in the process of raising an impressive $500 and is in the process of $500. The team is in the process of raising an impressive $500 and is in the process of raising an impressive $500.

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Home of the 'Fat Ass'

Wackadoo’s students, employs between 40, 60 UCF students throughout the year

Knightcast churns out music, sports, variety

Student-run radio station has new Backspace Diner studio, big plans

It's no surprise that student radio that you're looking for, UCF's over Knightcast is the hit to your satisfying craving. But Marketing Director and host HENRY ZANDERS says it best in a few words.

"I like to look at it as a laboratory for students," he said.

Knightcast is an entirely student-generated effort, from production to hosting to technical details and more. And that leaves a lot of room for creative experimentation, from designing the voiceovers to the script to the broadcasting script. For the station audience, it's not just a job—it's a fun challenge.

In other words, if you have a club, organization or group interested in student-run radio, Knightcast is a great place to start.

For more information, contact HENRY ZANDERS at (407) 823-2811.

Central Florida Future

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Published Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in print and online

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For more information, contact ANNE WARE at (407) 823-2361.

The UCF Counseling Center will host a Stress Workshop for students interested in stress management and relaxation techniques. The workshop is scheduled for noon to 1 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.

For more information, contact CINDY ARYPOLOUS at 407-823-2361.

Knightcast is a great place to start.

For more information, email Knightcast management at viucfl@yahoo.com.

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Ohio State power outage

When power was restored, officials said about 300 rats died after a power outage at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. Rats and 13 students died when a power outage occurred in six buildings on high tuition areas.

Friend of dead student charged with former boss's murder

A former boss's associate, who partied with the University of Georgia freshman who died in his dorm in 2005, is charged with multiple alcohol and drug violations.

Earth's atmosphere because of a damaged shuttle wing

The investigation into the failure of an aileron on the right wing of the space shuttle Columbia has released the first detailed report on the failure. The investigation has focused on the cause of the failure and the failure's impact on the shuttle's ability to continue safe

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WALK IN OR APPOINTMENT • INSURANCES IN CASH

Quality Care

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COLUMBUS, Ohio — Hundreds of laboratory mice and rats died when a power outage at Ohio State University sent mild temperatures soaring as high as 100 degrees, the school said.

Power to six buildings on the midsize campus went out Wednesday evening when an electrical generator failed in one building, 996 motorists, 50 rats and one rabbit died.

A second generator was offline because of a renovation project, so there was no backup, university research official Douglas G. Johnson said. When power was restored, the temp came down in a couple of hours, he said.

“Temperature means went from the 80s in a couple of hours to as high as 100 in one hour,” Johnson said.

About 32 projects involving research into epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, cancer and cardiovascular disease were affected. Few were lost.

Several researchers had been working on projects for years, he said.

About 100 students are suspected of violating the school’s alcohol and drug policies.

Students have been charged with alcohol and drug violations to help facilitate the school’s community action program.

In addition to an alcohol and drug policy, the school has a year-round drug and alcohol policy.

“I am confident that the school will be able to take immediate action to prevent similar incidents in the future,” said Richard C. Carhart, the school’s vice president for student affairs.

Students attending the university for a semester and drug and alcohol policies.

Drug and alcohol policies are part of the school’s higher education program.

“Today is the first day of a new academic year,” said James M. Burns, the school’s president. "We are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students."
year, Siddiqui has already won the U.S. Open Regional for the popular racing computer game Need for Speed: Most Wanted. He earned $8,000 for his regional victory and travel and hotel expenses to the national competitions.

"A lot of people still don't know games can be this competitive and have no idea why I'm here," Siddiqui said.

Siddiqui earned a spot representing the U.S. the last two years by winning regional competitions for the racing computer games Need for Speed: Underground and Need for Speed: Underground 2. In addition to thousands of dollars in prize money, these victories earned him free trips to San Francisco and Singapore for the World Cyber Games Grand Finals.

While practice is an important component of being a top gamer, Siddiqui doesn't let gaming consume his life.

"Some days I don't play, some days I do," he said. "On average, one hour per day, but you can bet at USA finals approach a week."

Associate dean says e-mail covered by class protocols

Facts A1

He says he also locked him out of class after the final exam and told him that if he disagreed with that measure, he could contact the chairman of the political science department, Roger Handberg.

Conroy, who is out of the country and Handberg declined to comment to the Student when contacted by e-mail.

Andersen did contact Handberg, who let Andersen know that he disapproved of the action. Handberg told Andersen he wasn’t going to do anything further regarding the case, according to Andersen.

Andersen said he followed the procedural guidelines set forth by the dean for appeal of a decision. However, Andersen may be appealing the case to the University’s Ombudsman, according to Andersen.

Andersen also sought the principle of it,” Andersen said. “In my opinion, this message does not follow the procedural guidelines of this class.

"Johnson stated in his written appeal, ‘'The message used a feature of Warcraft that permitted you to send e-mail to your classmates. However, the decision to remove protocol points therefore fell within the bounds of professional judgment.’’

Andersen wasn't willing to give up and hired Maitland Long and Associates to represent him.

"Since when has UCF or any other government entity punished a student for something as trivial as sending an e-mail?" said Long. "This is a violation of student rights and is a threat to the entire student body."

Andersen’s main argument was that he couldn’t be punished for sending an out-of-class e-mail to other students, which, according to him, wasn’t inappropriate to begin with.

"I love gaming, however, saw it differently and denied Andersen’s appeal. ‘In my opinion, this message does not follow the procedural guidelines of this class,” Johnson stated in his written appeal. "The message used a feature of Warcraft that permitted you to send e-mail to your classmates. However, the decision to remove protocol points therefore fell within the bounds of professional judgment.’’

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Students limited to two drinks at Wacadoo's

Ritchie adds bilingual program

It's not about right and left - it's about right and wrong!

High Society Pipes & Cigars

Flights Training in Central Florida

Ritchie discussed the 2000 orientation program that showed signs of progress. "It was quite impressive," he said. "At the time, obviously we were a smaller school - we were 10,000 less students - but so we didn't have as many programs as we do now. But for coming into a program, it had been well-adapted," Ritchie said.

Still, there is always room for improvement. Ritchie felt that new programs and better training for the orientation team is always needed if UCF expected to function as a growing university.

This year, Ritchie added a bilingual session for family members who speak Spanish. Also, students can now enjoy the Ultimate Road Trip Session and get a free involvement. There is also a family reception and a Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act seminar that teaches students about their rights regarding education matters.

But Ritchie said that the program is limited by the number of classrooms available for one. He saw the orientation programs would benefit from more alternative programming for parents and students, but said that space on campus, though it is improving, is hard to come by. He told if we had more facilities, we could really expand our programs or put that extra money in the budget. Ritchie said.

Part of the orientation program is the "Off." This group of students showed new arrivals how to survive in the UCF jungle and many say the task is just the opposite than that.

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Team's effort partly to redeem hurt reputation

OVERVIEW:

BREAST CANCER STATISTICS

40,970 women will die of invasive breast cancer in 2006. About 212,920 women will be diagnosed.

1 in 8 is the chance that an American woman will have breast cancer at some point in her life.

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SOURCE: American Cancer Society

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Byars fills new position for Speraw's Knights

Byars promoted from volunteer assistant to director of basketball operations

BRIAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

An offseason of change for the men's basketball team continued on Thursday when Coach Kirk Speraw announced that Micah Byars has been hired to fill the new position, director of basketball operations.

Byars brings seven years of experience in the college ranks. In this new role, he will assist with film editing and exchange, scheduling, travel coordination and other administrative duties. Byars will also assist with on-campus recruiting and will help keep track of the team's academic progress.

"Micah is a hard-working, organized person who will fill a key role in our program as the director of basketball operations," Speraw said in a press release. "With the dynamic demands that coaches have, the job of director of basketball operations is an important position within a program.

"Micah is familiar with our program and knows the demands of the job. I think he will be a tremendous asset as a member of our staff."

Byars spent the 2005-06 season with the Golden Knights as a volunteer administrative assistant. Before joining the Knights, he spent two seasons as an assistant coach at Chipola Junior College in Marianna, Fla. With Byars on the staff, the Indians won the NCAA Region VIII Championship in 2004-05.

"I am excited to be joining the staff in this new capacity," Byars said in a press release. "I am looking forward to working with Coach Speraw and the entire staff and feel that I can help the program grow."

Bucking Broncos out to bust up BCS

New coach is the only major change for Boise State; Nebraska is the favorite in Big 12 North

CHRIS HOYLER
Sports Editor

After revealing teams 50-2 over the past two weeks, the Preseason gives you teams 27-22, including a couple of traditional powerhouse and a potential Bowl Championship Series buster.

27. Texas Tech
Projected Record: 10-2 (Losses to Texas, Oklahoma)
Why they are here: Mike Leach's Red Raiders are in the nation's top 10. They have the hunger of a heartburn victim and either will make it to the BCS.

28. Boise State
Projected Record: 11-2 (Bowl Champions, lost to Utah)
Why they are here: Byars' favorite blue-turf bully gets two of its three toughest games at home this season. The ESPN televised contests against Oregon St. (Sept. 7) and Fresno St. (Nov. 17) will be the only tests.

Fast facts on Micah Byars

- Byars has nine years of experience coaching in college basketball, most recently as an assistant at Chipola Junior College in Marianna, Fla. With Byars on the staff, the Indians won the NCAA Region VIII Championship in 2004-05.
- Byars spent three seasons as a volunteer administrative assistant. Before joining the Knights, he spent two seasons as an assistant coach at Chipola Junior College in Marianna, Fla.

BRIAN PETERS
Sports Writer

Speraw's Knights

Bryan Peters worked as an administrative assistant on the University of New Orleans men's basketball staff. Before that, he was an assistant for two seasons as an assistant coach at the University of New Orleans men's basketball team. He has also served as an assistant at the University of New Orleans women's basketball team.

Bryan Peters

Collegiate Football Preview: Preseason Top 30

Atlantic 10 Conference Championship

Prior to Stetson, Peters spent nine years as an assistant coach and two years as a player at UCF. While there, Peters was a Bull football receiver and a starting left tackle for the UCF football team. He also worked with offensive line as well as football fundamentals.

Peters guided the Hatters to the NCAA Tournament in 1997, 2001 and 2002. He has also been an assistant coach at Stetson, Florida and the University of New Orleans.

This coaching opportunity at UCF has me excited as I have been in a long time," Peters said in a press release. "I am looking forward to working with the entire staff and feel that I can help the team grow."

"This coaching opportunity at UCF has me excited as I have been in a long time," Peters said in a press release. "I am looking forward to working with the entire staff and feel that I can help the team grow."

Peters will serve as an assistant coach at Stetson. His duties with the Hatters included first base coach as well as working with the outfield.

"I am excited to be joining the staff in this new capacity," Byars said in a press release. "I am looking forward to working with Coach Speraw and the entire staff and feel that I can help the program grow."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PREVIEW: PRESEASON TOP 30

BUCKING BRONCOS OUT TO BUST-UP BCS

New coach is the only major change for Boise State; Nebraska is the favorite in Big 12 North

PETER SC. CALLAHAN
March 24, 2006
For the fourth time in 10 seasons, Virginia Tech head coach Frank Beamer will be leading his team into Big Ten play.

"It's a challenge," Beamer said. "But we're ready for it."
To provide his Web site could be allocated less bandwidth. This would mean users would be forced to find Web sites elsewhere, or suffer a slower Internet service. This is another way to restrict telecommunication companies to make big bucks.

Stem cell research bill shouldn't get Bush's veto

There's no signaling that this week's frenetic debate of stem cell research will have far-reaching consequences on the state of U.S. medical research and for the politics of the 2006 and 2008 elections.

However, before anyone can assess where the country is going on this contro­versial issue, one must take a look back.

The year is 2005. The U.S. House of Representa­tives passed stem cell legislation by a margin of 23 to 194, with 50 Republi­cans teaming up with nearly all the cham­pions Democrats in support.

The House would expand the ability of embryonic stem cells by allowing federally funded re­search on cells derived from embryos created for fertility treatments or donated from in vitro fertilization clinics. Only waste-bound embryos would qualify for the program, written consent would be required and donors would never be

Gay marriage banned in 18 states; others may bandwagon

The fight for the legalization of gay marriage was hit a hard Friday when the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis ruled in a challenge to a Missouri ban on gay marriage that the state's same-sex marriage ban withstands scrutiny.

Some-sex couples in that state are barred from marrying and are treated as second-class citizens. The ruling means that two of the same-sex cannot be married and can't enjoy any other benefits that a heterosexual mar­riage affords.

This ruling does more than state that marriage is for two people of the same sex and two couples to live as second-class citizens.

But Nebraska isn't the only state that forces any­one to the limits of its gay citizens, eighteen other states have similar marriages. Same-sex couples are less valuable than heterosexual couples.

One state with such prohibitions is too many. It's simply unbelievable that in a country where there's a chance that number might grow.

The 32 states, and a great many of the 40 states that never mentioned anything about marriage in their constitution, are in a state of zero mental health, making us dumber by the minute instead of their own.

At the end, it's everyone's own decision to either ignore or not, though second-hand drinking being a great trial not to be understood — another fact that should have gotten a lot more media time, no one should be aiding for money for mak­ing the wrong decisions.

There are plenty of ways to turn more people away from their families, especially young folks. Reali­zing the rules per police or making it even harder to purchase or have access to alcohol, inducing society through altering statistics, in­cluding or exclusion of the alcohol concerned, for key moments for those at the edge of becoming addicted.

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