Student rules get revisions

MATTHEW MORRISON

The UCF Golden Rule, the handbook governing all students, has undergone a major revision for the 2007 school year, changing not only the policies of UCF but also the scope of the policy-makers.

One year ago, Assistant Director of the Office of Student Conduct, said that changes are common to the Golden Rule, which is revised every year.

These changes are, in part, made most popular by the Golden Rule Review Committee to which many important UCF students who apply and are accepted annually to serve on the committee.

The students meet ongoing throughout the course of the year, Kuntunen said, "and they have proposes that are submitted to them by faculty, staff and students, and so then they vote on these." One of the major changes to the Golden Rule this year affects the committee itself. The committee's membership increased to seven members—from six in the year prior, said Nick Oleka, a coordinator in the Office of Student Conduct.

Three of the students are selected by the vice-president of Student Development and Enrollment Services. The other four are chosen by the student body president.

"For the most part, it is given the student body the advantage of having a majority of the selected student body president's own appointees, which gives students the ultimate voice," Student Government Association President Mark White wrote in an email interview.

Anyone within the UCF community can propose changes and additions to the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule Review Committee then reviews and discusses the proposals, sometimes bringing in people who could be affected by such a change in order to gain more perspectives.

"They're the writing body in order to vote to either accept it or deny the proposed rules," said Donelan.

Volunteers free, make T-shirts to support global effort

LAHORE, Pakistan

This past spring, UCF students took action to raise public awareness of the genocide occurring in Darfur by holding a weeklong event called Project Darfur, but their efforts did not stop there.

Six months after those students who were involved in Project Darfur are still active on campus, spreading word about the killing and displacement of millions of people in the Darfur region of Sudan, Africa.

Their first major event took place last week in support of the Global Day for Darfur Sept. 17. Some students participated in a weeklong fast, much like Jay McGinn of the pro-Darfur demonstrator who fasted for over a month in front of the White House due to his strong feelings for the Darfur conflict to be resolved.

In addition to fasting, students also organized a T-shirt sale that was set up in the grass outside the UCF Bookstore where students could come to find out information about Darfur, get blue hats with the words "Save Darfur," on them and make their own T-shirts.

The T-shirts were so large that students had to move the stations in front of the Student Union to successfully manage the amount of people showing interest.

"Just having that exposure at the Student Union was our choice to kind of get the word out and people responded immediately," Donelan said. She said the main effect she hoped the station would have was to raise awareness.

Partnership with NASA brings money, prestige to UCF

LISA WELD

Recent developments in the partnership between UCF and NASA have brought increased attention to not only the university's space research program, but to many other UCF departments as well.

Alumnae and student researchers have found supporters and alternative funding sources by affiliating themselves to this increasingly successful venture, which has gained more attention since the 1990s.

"UCF alumni William Parson, who graduated with a master's in engineering management, was recently named the director of the Kennedy Space Center, effective Jan. 1," Parson said. A diversity force at NASA since 1995, Parson held the position of manager of the Space Shuttle Program during the Discovery STS-14 mission.

UCF's Research Park is also growing, housing a spot among the top 10 parks in the nation. "We bumped Berkeley to number 11," said Humberto Campins, a professor of planetary science and head of the Space Science and Group at UCF. With NASA's help, Campins has created the Sprit, an infrared space telescope comparable to the Hubble space telescope, but using infrared light instead.

According to Campins, NASA's relationship with UCF has created more university resources for research, in turn creating more opportunities for students and faculty.

"The UCF funding has made the university more competitive in presenting proposals for NASA," Campins said. In 2001, NASA named UCF the lead college in its latest technology development program, the Spacecraft Research and Technology Program. UCF researchers and faculty involved in the program are working to reduce the cost of space travel and provide new technologies.

According to UCF's Center for Space Research, the university's Florida Solar Energy Center,
The 4th Annual Cyber Security Awareness Event will be held today in the Pegasus Room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year, in conjunction with the UCF Technology SharePoint, Newsroom is designed to raise awareness of identity theft, network security and computer security.

For more information, contact Chris Vashkovich at (407) 823-9606.

Study abroad
Career Services & Experiential Learning will have a session on study abroad and international careers today at 11 a.m. in the Career Resource Center, Building 75 Room 201.

This 90-minute session is designed to show how students are successfully matched with faculty to gain first-hand internationals experience or study abroad experience.

For more information, contact Bill Blank at (407) 823-9611.

Art gallery
Walter Gaudnek, an Art Association member, will hold a lecture today at 3 p.m. in the Visual Arts Building, Room 110.

Gaudnek will stand in front of his work and speak about his inspiration behind his painting exhibitions.

For more information, contact Janet Killebrew at (407) 823-9634.

Government careers
Career Services & Experiential Learning will host a session on government and non-profit careers today at 3 p.m. in the Career Resource Center, Building 75 Room 101.

This 90-minute session is designed to show how to find careers in government and non-profit agencies.

For more information, contact Bill Blank at (407) 823-9611.

Latin American Festival
Professor, writer and scholar Gustavo Perez Firmat will speak today in the Progress Energy Room in the Student Union.

This lecture is open to everyone and is a part of the Latin American Cultural Festival.

For more information, contact Isidro Maneiro at (407) 823-9627.

Video game tournament
Custom Tattoo will host a video and board games free tournament today from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Union.

The event will include both video and board games.

Video games include: Halo 2, Dead to Rights: Reckoning, and Medal of Honor: Rising Sun.

For more information, contact Sabrina Glass at (407) 823-9627.
Juntunen said that sections may be revised to fix errors in grammar and alter the numbering within sections. However, some sections are changed to reflect new additions and new policies. "There could be changes to the Golden Rule throughout the course of the year that aren't necessarily reflected in the hard copy or the Web site version, and there's a disclaimer on the first page of the Golden Rule for that," Juntunen said.

A letter to all UCF students predicting the Golden Rule states that any changes to the Golden rule will be announced through the student newspaper, online or other communication means. Students wishing to be a part of the Golden Rule Review Committee need only to fill out an application announced in a mass e-mail to UCF students.

"Other requirements include the ability to work well with others, sensitivity and respect for others, openness to differences and willingness to take part in assessment projects," according to the mass e-mail.

Nick Oleksy wrote in an e-mail that all students submitted applications, three of which were selected by the vice president of student development to be on the Golden Rule Review Committee. White said in his e-mail that he, like past presidents, chose his four committee members from his own cabinet.

"I chose three people from my cabinet and one member of the student senate that represented a wide range of backgrounds, and who I trusted to be intelligent and make reasonable decisions," White wrote. "I have not had the opportunity to examine every single change to the Golden Rule." White wrote, "but the changes I have seen all seem to be reasonable. I will be reviewing the recent changes to make sure that they are fair and just, but fully trust my representatives."

Rules reviewed

Year 2006

Rules were said to be fair and just, but I fully believe the Golden Rule is one of the most important parts of our university's mission.

Among the eight new privileges granted to student organizations registered by the UCF community including the director of Health Services, the Counseling Center director and the director of Housing and Residence Life.

Cpl. Roop of UCF Police said that UCF had a crisis committee before the 2006-2007 school year.

"It's been working. It's not perfect, but it's working. I want to see it continue," Roop said.

The committee reviews the cases of students who are identified to be at risk by professors, UCF officials and other students. Roop said that at-risk behavior can involve several kinds of problems from alcohol and drug abuse to depression. According to the Golden Rule, students whose behavior is deemed to be dangerous to the community including their own, may be involuntarily withdrawn from the community.

Musician Nick Oleksy is one of the new members selected by the vice president of student development to be on the Golden Rule Review Committee.

"I have not had the opportunity to examine every single change to the Golden Rule," White wrote. "but the changes I have seen all seem to be reasonable. I will be reviewing the recent changes to make sure that they are fair and just, but fully trust my representatives."
ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The funding for the added security between Nov. and December, when the conflict is at its height, benefits the local residents, Benoit said. Extra plywood is available by giving a phone call to the Campus Police Department, located at 220 Grant St., just a few blocks from campus. The additional security measures will help to ensure the safety of students and the university community.

Franklin & Marshall College beefing up security after student’s shooting death in Lancaster PA.

Franklin & Marshall College is beefing up security after a student was shot and killed on campus. The school is working with local police to beef up security measures. The school is working with local police to beef up security measures.

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Shooting leads to changes

"Mario's ~
so that they are recognizable," she recited.

"Two..." Mario shouted. "Two nights ago."

"The service was held at
dark outside of the UCF Police Department. The flag flew at
half-staff and motorcycles were lined up near the wreath
and podium.

"Two years ago, we had an
event with the canine unit. It was during the day, and he
worked on nights," Furnas said.

"It was a hot day, but he had
trained his uniform, and he
looked sharp. He did those
tings because he had pride."

For one, UCF police no
longer wear plainclothes at
taking parties.

"Everything wears uniforms
so that they are recognizable," said Corporal James Roop of
the UCF police.

Space research benefits UCF

students and researchers are
dunting into the possibility of
alternat fuel sources.

"Thanks to a UCF innova-
tion, NASA and the National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration can now view
weather activity and tropical activity
James Harvey, associate
professor of optics, and two
graduate students helped
develop a solar X-ray telescope
to put aboard a GOES-N satel-
tie, designed to monitor weather activity.

"It was a very gratifying
project to be involved with
because it was a major pro-
gram involving two federal
agencies and two large aero-
space companies, yet my gradu-
ate students and I made a very
significant technical con-
tribution to the design and
analysis of a real space-based
imaging instrument," Harvey
said.

Harry and Assistant Pro-
fessor Richard Eastes of the
Florida Space Institute are
recipients of a recent grant
from NASA.

If their ultraviolet imaging
spectrometer is successful, the
project will become part of the
2022 Radiation Belt Storm
Probes mission.

"All of their research is
designed to directly further
satellite and weather technolo-

gies, "Being here has allowed me
to work with the optical design
team," Eastes said.

As a faculty member, he said
that he had more possibilities
in his work with and NASA and
UCF worked closely with the
Center for Research and Education In
Optics and Lasers.

Further NASA connections
with UCF can be found within
the history of this university.

If UCF founded the Florida
Space Institute, both, in turn, established the Florida Space
Grant Consortium in 1989.

These institutions are dedi-
cated to space research and
undergraduate and graduate
scholarships.

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New rules allow liquids back on planes

...good, it will make life easier for travelers. "How can lipsticks or mascaras pile up at the check point?" ... the House Homeland Security Committee, Bharat Chaudhry said the new rules were designed for "reason­able safety." Testing before the House Homeland Security Committee, Bharat Chaudhry said the new rules would work in place for at least six weeks, but he declined to say whether they would continue as long as six months. ... terms of weight, volume and contents. By 8 a.m., a trash bin at a checkpoint in Atlanta was three feet deep with water bottles and 16-ounce containers of toiletries, including shaving gel and hand sanitizer. ... It was a relief to know that I didn't have to get here this morning and worry about everything. It saved me a little time," she said.

DO YOUR FAVOR. MOOCH OFF US FOR ONCE.
WITH C-USA UP NEXT, KNIGHTS MAKE A STATEMENT

Thomas' goal in 77th minute lifts UCF over UCSB, 2-1

The women's soccer team made a statement Sunday when they beat University of California, Santa Barbara, 2-1.

They would like everybody to know that they are now playing with great intensity.

"We finished with an amazing crack from 30 yards out," coach Amanda Cromwell said. "The team responded with feeling motivated and intensity." The amazing crack came off the foot of freshman Becca Thomas with just 13 minutes left in regulation.

"Coach says to get in the gaps," Thomas said. "So I got into the gap and intercepted the ball. Stopped the defense was playing too loose so I took a shot." After the ball rocketed into the net the team went wild and there was a collective sigh of relief of breaking the two-game losing streak that had recently befell them.

UCF got behind early in the last two losses to Florida State and Kansas and had a difficult time scoring to bring them back in the game. However, when Chandi Hickford scored to put UCSB up 1-0 there was no feeling of "here we go again" on the UCF sidelines.

"Right after the kickoff we got down there and got the corner kick," Cromwell said. 30 seconds after to be exact. Just 30 seconds after the goal scored by Hickford, freshman Sarah de Leon scored the equalizer.

De Leon booted the ball from 20 yards out, scoring her first goal of the season. UCF had 16 shots and had a difficult time scoring to get back in the game and responded with tying the game.

UCF faces a scoreless draw and now 2-6-7 in C-USA play. The Golden Knights are still without a Conference USA victory.

The amazing crack from Tulsa's Matt Thomas found the back of the net in the sixth minute. The score remained even at 1-0 until the 29th minute when Del Conte scored on a shot to the right side of the net from 18 yards out. Del Conte's goal lifted the Knights and gave them a 1-0 lead over the Golden Knights.

UCF made a 1-0 lead happen after the Knights had led for the entire game. The Knights have yet to score in regulation and now 2-6-7 in Conference USA play.

Rice DB Dale Lloyd dies after workout

Coach calls loss 'devastating' as autopsy pending

HOUSTON — The Rice University football team was going through work—some light running in the later stages—when 22-year-old Dale Lloyd suddenly collapsed on the field.

Lloyd, a freshman on his way in a redshirt season, told his trainers he didn't feel right. He was conscious for the ambulance ride to the hospital. That was about 1 p.m. Sunday.

Less than 6 hours later, he was dead.

On Monday, grief-stricken Rice players and coaches were left to deal with his death, and were still waiting for answers.

"I just can't describe what we're feeling right now and the shock," Rice athletic director Chris Del Conte said Monday. "It will take a long time to digest. The coaches are crushed. This is a tough time for all of us.

The EP-year-old Lloyd collapsed on a day in which the temperatures in Houston had hit a high of 88. Life died about 9 p.m. Monday, according to officials. An autopsy was pending.

"No one knows what happened," Del Conte said. "We are a mystery." Although Lloyd didn't complain of anything specific, he told trainers several times he didn't feel right. Coaches met with the team Monday afternoon to talk about Lloyd's death.

"The Rice Owl family has suffered a devastating loss," Rice coach Todd Graham said in a statement. "This was a tremendous person with the heart of a champion."

Lloyd played in Rice's season opener against Tennessee but hadn't played in the last three games. The freshman fullback was in the last game against UCF, who played football and basketball at Houston's Lamar High School.

"He was a tremendous student who happened to play football," Del Conte said. "He was a great kid. He really did just sit up the room."

Rice football players decided to face Army on Monday. Del Conte hasn't made a decision on the status of the game.

This isn't the first time Del Conte has had to help a team deal with tragedy. Before he was hired.

Rice in June, he worked as an associate athletic director at the University of Arizona, where two athletes died suddenly.

Women's basketball star Shawnta Devia collapsed and died in the McAllester Center last September because of a pulmonary embolism.

In 2004, Arizona football player Micah Frakes collapsed and died during a voluntary summer workout due to an enlarged heart.

"It's just devastation. It's one of those things where you don't know what to do..." Del Conte said. "It's just something where experience helps. It's just devastating. It's one of those things where you don't know what to do..."

Last summer, Missouri football player Cory Kennedy, a 20-year-old defensive tackle, died of a viral infection after collapsing during a practice without symptoms.

A month later, San Francisco 49ers defensive end Shawnta Devia collapsed and died in the McAllester Center last September because of a pulmonary embolism.

In 2004, Arizona football player Micah Frakes collapsed and died during a voluntary summer workout due to an enlarged heart.

"It's just devastations. It's one of those things where you don't know what to do..." Del Conte said. "It's just something where experience helps. It's just devastating. It's one of those things where you don't know what to do..."

Men's soccer drops C-USA opener to Tulsa

Goal in 84th minute by Burkholder gives Golden Hurricane a 2-1 win; UCF now 2-6

Entering their first Conference USA match of the season, the UCF men's soccer team (3-3-3 overall and 0-1-1 in Conference play) had high hopes of making a name for themselves early.

Unfortunately, Conference rival Tulsa (5-0-4-1-4) had other plans, as a late goal by Logan Umeh sealed the Golden Hurricane's win over the Golden Knights Sunday on Knight's 2-1.

"They played hurt," head coach Brent Erwin said. "We had some very good performances from people. There's a lot of good to take from it, but we need to do what's necessary to close it out and win."

Another opted early when a shot from Tulsa's Matt Thomas found the back of the net in the 6th minute. Jace Pelarigo was awarded with the assist.

The Knights managed to answer back, tying the score at one with a goal in the 32nd minute. Sophomore Zak Briggs hit sophomore Ryan Brownfield with a shot to the back of the net from 10 yards out.

The score remained even at one entering halftime.

Both Tulsa and UCF played tight, scrappy soccer until a goal in the 56th minute would give the Golden Hurricane the advantage and the 2-1 win over the Knights.

"For 60 minutes we played very well and controlled the game," Erwin said. "For 20 minutes we played well enough. And then for that one minute we did things that were not characteristic of us."
Chris Simms took his first step in his journey to be one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL when he was drafted by the Buccaneers on the first round of the 2003 NFL Draft. Simms was a gifted athlete with a strong arm and excellent footwork, but he had a lot of work to do to become a starting quarterback in the NFL. The Buccaneers were confident in his abilities, and they knew that he had the potential to be a franchise quarterback in the league. Simms worked hard in training camp and throughout the season, and he quickly earned the starting job. Simms was a leader on the field, and he was known for his strong work ethic and his dedication to his craft. He quickly established himself as one of the top young quarterbacks in the league, and he helped lead the Buccaneers to a Super Bowl appearance in 2003.

Simms was a key part of the Buccaneers' offense, and he was known for his ability to make big plays when it mattered most. He was a threat to run with the ball, and he was a reliable passer who could make accurate throws under pressure. Simms was a leader on the field, and he was known for his ability to rally his teammates in the huddle. He was a tough competitor who was willing to do whatever it took to win. Simms was a beloved member of the Buccaneers, and he was known for his strong work ethic and his dedication to his craft. He quickly established himself as one of the top young quarterbacks in the league, and he helped lead the Buccaneers to a Super Bowl appearance in 2003.

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**Simms' career not in jeopardy; FSU defender suffers knee injury**

Clayton said anyone who knows Simms knows that's the type of individual he is.

"No matter how hurt he is, he's going to want to play," Clayton said. "Sometimes that can work in your best interests.

Tannor coach Mack Brown related a story about Simms facing Nebraska in 2002, when the former Longhorns quarterback had an ugly looking dislocated finger on his throwing hand.

Simms went to the sideline, had it popped into place and finished with 497 yards passing, still a Texas regular season record.

"He wasn't going to let us pull him out of the game," said Brown. "Please call timeout so they can pop it back in." He didn't want to miss a play, said Brown. His toughness, he said, has never been a question.

Florida State knows another defensive starter to injury

TALLAHASSEE - Florida State freshman linebacker Marcus Ball will miss the rest of the season after a ligament in his left knee gave out during last weekend's game against Rice.

Ball hurt his knee while on kickoff coverage in the third quarter in an Atlantic Coast Conference game on Saturday, where FSU won 24-7 over Rice.

Earlier in the game, Ball intercepted a pass and returned it 54-yards for the Seminoles, who did not practice on Monday.

The freshman had made an instant impact for FSU, as a single on the team's third down defensive packages, and also anchoring the Seminoles punt coverage.

He also played on both kickoff coverage and punt return.

Ball, the younger brother of Georgia Tech starting quarterback Reggie Ball, is tied for fifth in tackles with 31, while also recording two pass breakups.

The 19th ranked Seminoles (3-2, 1-1 ACC) have a bye this Saturday before traveling to face North Carolina State (2-2, 1-0) in an ACC game Thursday Oct. 5.

The game will be nationally televised by ESPn.

**UCF faces four 2006 postseason teams**

UCF will face two more road games before the beginning of the spring semester, traveling to Marshall on Jan. 31 and then to East Carolina on Jan. 31.

The home schedule will kick off Jan. 12 when UCF hosts FAU.

UCF will play home-and-home series with the opposing teams that make up the Eastern Division of C-USA Football Memphis, Marshall, East Carolina, UAB and Southern Miss.

They will also host Houston and Rice along with defending conference champion Tulsa.

Their toughest road stretch begins Jan. 26, when they head to El Paso, Texas, to take on Southern Methodist.

They will play Tulane in New Orleans two nights later and end the stretch with a Feb. 3 game at Dallas against SMU.

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Clinton takes a stand on Fox News, Bush

If you're a Bush supporter, how do you explain the Clinton/Bush campaign perpetual debate over the country's future? Where the cost of living, the war on terrorism, the war on drugs, and the war on crime are concerned, it's an easy subject to debate. The cost of combatting terrorism, the cost of drug enforcement, and the cost of crime prevention are the subject of this debate.

The Transportation Security Administration was set up to protect against weapons of mass destruction. However, the Bush Administration has failed to address the issue of terrorism. The Transportation Security Administration is responsible for ensuring the safety of our nation's transportation system. They are responsible for enforcing laws and regulations that ensure the safety of our transportation system. They are responsible for ensuring that our transportation system is secure and that we have the means to protect it.

But who could have known that the rise of terrorism in America would be so devastating? The Transportation Security Administration was set up to protect against weapons of mass destruction. However, the Bush Administration has failed to address the issue of terrorism. The Transportation Security Administration is responsible for ensuring the safety of our nation's transportation system. They are responsible for enforcing laws and regulations that ensure the safety of our transportation system. They are responsible for ensuring that our transportation system is secure and that we have the means to protect it.

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NISSAN TIRE CENTER,

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iTunes To Sell You Your Home Videos For $1.99 Each

CUPERTINO, CA—Apple Computer, producer of the successful iPod MP3 player, is now offering consumers limited rights to buy their own home movies from the media store iTunes for $1.99 each.

"Ladies and gentlemen, the future of home-video viewing is now," Apple CEO Steve Jobs said at a media event Tuesday morning. "As soon as you record that precious footage of your daughter's first steps, you'll be able to buy it right back from iTunes and download it directly to your computer and video iPod."

Jobs emphasized that the videos will be presented unedited and in their original form, save for a small Apple logo in the lower right-hand corner of the image to protect the company's copyrighted materials from Internet piracy.

"No more searching through your movies folder for that footage of your 50th wedding anniversary. Now all you need is a 768Kbps broadband connection and your credit card, and every timeless personal memory you've ever shot will be yours to use," Jobs said. "We've even included instructions on how to download your home videos to your cell phone, so you can share the moment with your friends and family right away."

Nation In Love With Girl From Record Store

ATHENS, GA—Captivated by her adorability and off-the-chart hipness, the U.S. populace sheepishly admitted a deep infatuation with 22-year-old Danielle Metzler, that amazing girl with the multi-colored hair who works at Slipped Discs in Athens.

"God, she is so fucking unbelievably cute," Sam Kiefer of Euclid, OH, said Monday. "The last time she was wearing these super-tight silver pants and this rhinestone-studded New York Dolls half-shirt, and I was just like, 'Wow.'"

Metzler was first spotted at Slipped Discs, an independently owned store stocked with a wide selection of indie rock, hip-hop, electronica, and otherwise hard-to-find music, in September 1999. Ever since, the nation has had a major crush on the girl.

"[Metzler] works at the coolest record store in Athens, and she's totally up on all the latest stuff," said Ryan Griggs, 48, a television repairman from Salem, OR. "You have no idea how many people go in there every day and buy some obscure Go-Betweens B-sides collection or the latest Stephin Merritt side project just to try to impress her."

Griggs recently purchased Toby Dammit's vinyl-only Gopher Edits EP—a highly successful move which prompted Metzler to ask about the record.

"I couldn't believe it," Griggs said. "For 45 glorious seconds, it was just me and her talking about bands like Tipsy and Jazzanova."

Residents of the Florida panhandle admitted that their own attempts to impress Metzler were less successful.

So she says, 'Yeah, but if you're not going to get them all, the DJ Krush is really the one to go with.' I was like, oh, great. But then she gave me this really big smile, and it was all worth it."

Upon discovering they were not the only ones with a long-standing crush on Metzler, residents of the Midwest came forward with their own tales.

Vehement Anti-Cell-Phone Guy Finally Caves

ANN ARBOR, MI—After calling the device "the item single-handedly responsible for the erosion of our nation's social and cultural foundation" for close to a decade, Jason Whiting gave in to social pressures this weekend and bought a cell phone.

The 34-year-old purchased the Motorola 8750 at the Maple Village Shopping Center.

"I got the simplest, most basic calling plan," Whiting said. "I sure as hell wasn't going to get one of those phones that takes pictures. To tell you the truth, I'm not even planning on giving out the number."

Whiting said he was reluctant to accept the "encroachment of technology" into his personal life, and explained that he "does not plan on becoming one of those people with cell phones."

"This is for emergencies only," he said. "In case my car stalls on the freeway and I need to call for help, or in the event that I absolutely must get in touch with someone."

Above: Cell-phone owner Jason Whiting.
Project Manager Leaves Suicide 
PowerPoint Presentation

PORTLAND, OR—Project manager Ron Butler left behind a 48-slide PowerPoint presentation explaining his tragic decision to commit suicide, coworkers reported Tuesday.

"When I first heard that Ron had swallowed an entire bottle of sleeping pills, I was shocked," said Hector Benitez, Butler's friend and coworker at Williams-Kennedy Marketing Consultants. "But after the team went through Ron's final PowerPoint presentation, I had a solid working knowledge of the pain he was feeling, his attempts to cope, and the reasons for his ultimate decision."

"I just wish he would've shot me an email asking for help," Benitez added.

Butler broke his presentation into four categories: Assessment Of Current Situation, Apologies & Farewells, Will & Funeral Arrangements, and Final Thoughts.

According to Williams-Kennedy president Bradford Williams, finalgoodbye.ppt was "clear, concise, and persuasive."

"After everyone left the room, I sat down and went through Ron's final presentation in slide-sorter view," Williams said. "Man, I gotta tell you, it blew me away. That presentation really utilized the full multimedia capabilities of Microsoft's PowerPoint application."

"We're really gonna miss Ron around here," Williams added.

In the presentation's first section, a three-dimensional bar graph illustrated the growth of Butler's sorrow during the two years since his wife and only child died in a car accident.

"We all got Ron's message loud and clear when that JPEG of his wife wipe-transverted to a photo of her tombstone," coworker Anne Thibideau said. The first section closed with a review of key objectives and critical success factors. The two-column text display was enlivened by colorful background wallpaper and clip-art question marks depicting Ron's confusion over his choice.

The second portion of the presentation comprised an ordered list of goodbyes to colleagues and apologies to friends.

"The colors in Apologies & Farewells..."
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Above: Whiting chats on his new phone at a local Mace's Big Boy.

one but am away from home.”

Whiting first used the phone Sunday night to check movie times for March Of The Penguins.

“In fact, I use it so little that, when I went to the theater, I forgot to turn off the ringer,” Whiting said. “When it started ringing, right away I said, ‘Who’s the jerk with the cell phone?’ and I didn’t realize it was me. Silence it to say, I felt very guilty.”

“It was my girlfriend, though, so I had to take it,” he added.

Whiting blamed the incident on the fact that he had changed his ring tone several times that morning, from “Mozart 40” to “Espionage,” and then finally to “Sumba.”

Anticipating what he called the inevitable “I told you so” speeches from friends and relatives, Whiting insists that his feelings about the cell phone’s negative implications for society remain unchanged.

“Cell phones are a part of a terrible trend toward alienation and the breakdown of civil discourse,” he said. “It’s a fact I made clear when I called in to the NPR talk show I was listening to in the car.”

Whiting nonetheless decries the overuse of cell phones while driving. “There’s nothing more annoying—and alarming—than seeing some maniac in an SUV with one hand on the steering wheel while chatting on his cell,” Whiting said. “That’s why I went out this afternoon and bought a hands-free headset. I think it’s called Blue-something. It’s pretty cool.”

“I knew this was coming,” said Whiting’s longtime friend James Patterson, who has known Whiting since his days as a college-radio DJ. “He used to rail against digital music, saying the ‘purity’ of vinyl could never be reproduced. But once he bought the Velvet Underground box set for ‘compleatism,’ it wasn’t long before he sold all his LPs on eBay.”

Whiting said owning a cell phone doesn’t mean that his attitudes about “unnecessary market-driven consumerist gadgetry” have changed.

“I am never getting an MP3 player, no matter what,” Whiting said. “Although my girlfriend might buy me one for Christmas this year.”

According to the Radio Shack employee who sold Whiting his phone, Whiting returned yesterday to trade his phone in for an upgrade.

Whiting of the upgrade: “Cell phones are thinly disguised control devices thrust upon the masses as a pseudo-necessity. But if I’m going to wear a government tracking collar, I might as well be able to play some games on it.”

.VisualBasic

right at your fingertips.”

“Apple has always been about access,” said MacAddict editor Ian Smythe. “Thanks to this revolutionary new software, all your clips—from your son’s birthday, to your father’s dying message—are available to you, your loved ones, and the 20 million iTunes users, who will be able to view them on up to five different computers.”

Apple currently owns an average of 20 gigabytes of digital footage per American family, and it has also acquired an enormous library of the tens of millions of analog-format home movies dating from the early decades of the 20th century through 2001.

“Now more disappointment for Cynthia Hamill of Hartford, Connecticut when she realizes she can’t find that tape of herself singing ‘Sweet Caroline’ in the bath as an 8-year-old,” Jobs said. “For only a couple of bucks, that cherished moment can again be hers.”

Early reaction to the home-video downloads has been positive. “$1.99 seems reasonable to be able to relive my high-school graduation anytime I want,” said Patrick Boyd of Pensacola, FL. “My parents don’t understand the technology, but I can help them get it running whenever they want to watch it.”

“It’s just a matter of convenience,” Manchester, OH, resident Samantha Davidoff said. “Why should I sift through dozens of unlabeled DV tapes in my closet to find that submission tape I made for Extreme Makeover when I can just do a search on iTunes? Repurchasing my own stuff has never been this intuitive.”

However, some early users report running into technical glitches with the software.

“I was really looking forward to watching my son’s Easter greeting from Iraq,” Eugene, OR, resident Luka Bartoli said. “But the image froze and an alert came up saying it was temporarily unavailable due to low bandwidth. I miss my boy so much.”

Some users say they have had trouble with the automated process by which previews are chosen for their new footage.

“We were all excited to watch [daughter] Tabitha’s birth when we got home from the hospital, but we could only view a 30-second clip before we had to buy it.”

$1.99 seems reasonable to be able to relive my high-school graduation anytime I want.”

Harvey Gaddis of Tulsa, OK, said, “All we could see in the preview were some of the initial contractions.”

Phobias say the pricing can be restrictive and is not always timely.

“I wanted to show my boyfriend a video I made for his birthday of me dancing in my underwear to our favorite song,” Jessica Dupree of Manchester, NH, said. “But his credit card was declined. I guess he’ll just have to get it from someone at work.”

Despite these limitations, observers predict consumers will have little choice once they realize how vast and comprehensive the collection is. Many amateur filmmakers are already making a strong showing in the iTunes videos charts.

Eliza Quintana of Montclair, New Jersey, went online to purchase her daughter’s fourth birthday party to find that it had reached number 5 on the top video downloads.

Said Quintana: “I guess I’m not the only one who thinks she’s the most adorable little girl in the world!”

Anticipating what he called the inevitable “I told you so” speeches from friends and relatives, Whiting insists that his feelings about the cell phone’s negative implications for society remain unchanged.

Above: Jobs shows off the new software with a clip from the Patterson-Jones wedding that he downloaded live.
BRING MORE HIP HOP INTO YOUR WORLD.

Get your favorite Paul Wall videos, live concerts, exclusive music and more on America's best wireless entertainment network. Amp'd Mobile. More mobile then you're used to.
We Can Put A Man On The Moon, But We Can’t Make Killer Robot Police?

Every time I watch the news, I see another story about all the wonderful things NASA is doing in outer space. I know, I know, it’s all supposed to be very impressive and exciting. But to be honest, it just bores my blood. I mean, the federal government can put a man on the moon, but it can’t build a killer robot police force to keep the cars from roaring down my street at 45 miles per hour? What kind of priorities do we have in this country?

Just the other day, there was a big article in the Danville Tribune-Gleamers. It was about the growing truancy problem among our town’s youths. And then I read in USA Today how the government is spending $40 billion on outer-space surveillance satellites. Couldn’t they put some of that satellite money to better use by constructing space-based laser cannons in geocentric orbit above Danville High to make sure our schoolchildren aren’t skipping class?

And for a fraction of what NASA spends on all that Mars rover monkey business, I could have a radio-wave-controlled stun gun that would finally stop those kids from stealing all the fruit off my Paula Red apple tree.

It is painfully obvious that the government has the money and resources to build a high-energy force field around every single American, yet it doesn’t. I mean, when I’m out grocery shopping, it’s darn near impossible to keep my belongings secure. Are a few measly cameras in the corners of the Foodland really going to deter a thief? What about my handbag? The pictures in my wallet of little Kevin and Annie are irreplaceable! (I’m only going to be a grandmother once, you know! Unless, of course, the government finally gets on the ball with those cryogenic counterfeiter robots.)

And that Hubble telescope, there’s a real beaut. Who needs to know if there’s life out in space trillions of light years away? Anyway, as long as the space-men don’t come running through my yard right after it rains, leaving inch-deep footprints in my lawn like the Jimenez boys do, I don’t care who they are! If only NASA had aimed that telescope at Danville instead of Pluto, you can bet my new azalea bushes wouldn’t have been destroyed.

It’s shameful the way our downtown has been allowed to degenerate, with soda-pop cans and candy-bar wrappers strewn on the sidewalks everywhere. Just thinking about all the millions spent on that Mir station gets me in a dither when I look around Danville and see trash everywhere, with no retractable vacuum-dome to suck it up.

And it sure would cut down on those ill-mannered smokers who light up right next to “No Smoking” signs if their cigarettes were knocked from their hands by hovering cybernetic space bees. I hope asthma, you know!

If I can’t demand killer robot police, then the least I can expect is a laser-powered servo-motorized patrol-bot for my garage. How else will I know if it’s a robber or just a raccoon rustling around out there late at night? I understand that in Sweden, every citizen is guaranteed a patrol-bot. But here in the world’s richest nation, we go without! The sheer wastefulness of our government makes me sick!

According to millions of Americans, unlike many of the other clerks at Slipped Discs, Metzler never asks if you need help finding anything. Even if you make it obvious that you are struggling to find a particular record, she will remain by the front counter, talking and laughing with a select crowd of visitors.
COMMUNITY VOICES

I Don't Wonder What Jesse Camp Is Up To These Days

Hey, know who I haven’t been thinking about lately? That guy Jesse Camp who I never used to watch on MTV.

I don’t fondly remember him winning MTV’s “I Wanna Be A VJ” competition back in 1998. It wasn’t kind of cool that he came out of nowhere to beat out 4,000 other more qualified hopefuls for the job. I really wasn’t rooting for him to succeed from the beginning, and it’s not too bad that his star has faded.

Not looking back on Jesse Camp’s time in the spotlight, I’m certainly not going to speculate about what’s become of him today. I genuinely didn’t think that there were big things ahead for him. And I don’t remember hearing that he got a record deal or something—or maybe it was that I didn’t hear that he decided to take up acting.

Come not to think of it, this really isn’t an interesting question. And you know what? I didn’t ever hear that he had a cameo in some Britney Spears movie.

I don’t wonder how old Jesse Camp is now, either—25, or 30? Boy, that doesn’t make you think.

I don’t hope he’s gotten his life together and maybe started a family. Then again, I ignore the possibility that he’s hooked on drugs and booze. With the way some people respond to fame, I certainly don’t care to take the time to doubt it.

When you don’t think about it, it’s not kind of sad certain celebrities fade into obscurity. I guess it’s just not an unfortunate byproduct of our media-saturated culture that the media knocks stars like him down just seconds after they make them. In this case, one simply doesn’t wonder.

If you ask me, it’s not about time that celebrities like Jesse Camp get the respect they don’t deserve. Because, really, in their own small way, Jesse Camp and people like him don’t contribute to our cultural landscape. Sure, there are shows like The Surreal Life, which I admit I have not been sucked into watching on numerous occasions, but that only covers a handful of the former stars who I can’t help not wondering about.

Man. Not thinking about all these people who were once in the limelight really doesn’t make me think about my own life. What if I don’t contribute anything of value to my culture, too? Will people still not think about me long after I’m dead?

Then again, who am I not to say. It’s like I can control it.

I don’t think that’s what it comes down to, and that’s the reason why I can really not relate to guys like Jesse Camp. And I guess that’s why I’m so uninterested in what his life is like now.

You know what programming executives should really not consider? Making a whole bunch more of those “where are they now?”-type shows to keep us up to date on our old nonfavorites. Because, hey, who doesn’t want to know what happened to the red-haired kid from The Adventures Of Pete And Pete?

Me. And I bet you anything the rest of America doesn’t, too. @

trip to Slippen Discs is “exhilarating.”

“I wanted to get the first Modern Lowes album, but I didn’t want her to know I didn’t already own it,” said Jody Osbourne of San Diego. “To cover up, I told her some big, long story about how my friend is such a jerk because he borrowed it a long time ago and never gave it back. When I was done with this four-minute spiel, she just said, ‘I hate Jonathan Richman.’ I wanted to curl up in a ball and die.”

While it’s unknown whether Metzler has a boyfriend, the American people have always assumed she does.

“Whenever I see her out at a show, she’s always surrounded by this pack of slim-hipped, good-looking hipster guys,” said Jesse Avery of Roseville, MI. “She’s never hanging on any one in particular, but one of them has got to be her boyfriend.”

The nation has no plans to try to advance its relationship with Metzler beyond that of customer and clerk, saying it prefers to worship her from afar.

“She’s way out of my league, and even if I could get her to like me—which I couldn’t—it would only cause problems,” said Earl Shaw, 36, a Gulfport, MS, actuary. “When a girl has so many guys fawning over her, she’s bound to want her way with everything.”

Continued Shaw: “That is, unless she was sick of all the rock ’n’ roll assholes she dates and was ready for someone who doesn’t fit into that mold. Maybe she is. Maybe she’s looking for someone a little smarter than those guys—someone like me.”

Shaw added that maybe he could even learn to play bass guitar.

Informed of the nation’s crush, Metzler shrugged her shoulders. “That’s cool,” she said, “but lately I’ve been more into British guys.” She then returned to sorting CDs.

AMERICAN VOICES

The In-Flight Cell-Phone Ban

The FCC is currently reviewing its ban on the use of cell phones during flights, but many passengers say they like the restriction. What do you think?

“If they lift the ban on cell-phone use, they better lift the ban on passengers beating the shit out of each other, too.”

Carla Sparks
Chef

“I don’t know. Last year, the airlines lifted the ban on seat-kicking and look what happened.”

Brenda Ellie-Lee
Salesperson

“What an ideal marriage of the Wright Brothers and Alexander Graham Bell. And Raffa. And Pavlov. And Mengele.”

Tyler Wilson
Systems Analyst

But...but...what about the disastrous effect cell phones could have on aircraft navigational systems?! Nooo!”

Gordon Rani
Repairman

“Now the only thing left is to fill the cabin with ankle-deep brackish ice water, and air travel will be about perfect.”

Joe Callister
Gizmod

INFOGRAPHIC

Smithsonian’s Hip-Hop Collection

The Smithsonian Institution announced that it will be starting a collection dedicated to hip-hop music, which will include the following features and artifacts:

- Grandmaster Flash’s turntables, no matter how often he asks for them back
- Nine-room wing displaying bullets removed from two decades of rappers
- Collection of neck clocks donated by international cities in which Flava Flav has performed
- Gallery titled “From Heavy D to Fat Joe: A Celebration Of Hip-Hop’s Most Corpulent Stars”
- Xzibit: The Xzibit
- Viewing room for Big Daddy Kane’s 1991 instructional video, “Pimpin’ Made Easy”
- Funky Medina, stored in climate-controlled room
- Special “Pioneers Of Rap” section featuring Blondie, Aerosmith and the Beastie Boys

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