On the mend

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Think tank

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Central Florida Future

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FEBRUARY 21, 2007

Volume 44

Issue 4

Central Florida Future

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2007

PAGE 1

UCF up a tier in college ranking

Acceptance ratio, SAT scores improve

LEAH BRIAND

Academic writer

UCF has said goodbye to the bottom 20 percent of national universities and hello to the third tier, in this year’s U.S. News and World Report's annual college rankings. Last year, UCF ranked within the fourth tier of the report. This year, UCF has improved in multiple areas, such as in the acceptance ratio of students, SAT scores, graduation rates and freshmen retention rates.

“We are pleased that the report has recognized the quality of our students and faculty by ranking UCF among its best colleges,” President Terry Hickey said.

Hitting the stands on Aug. 20, American colleges and universities 2007 scores 621 American universities, 15 public and 96 private, based on up to 15 variables of academic quality.

“UCF is the result of hard work by faculty, students, and staff — the text bore witness to the research done by students and the faculty experience in teaching,” said President Terry Hickey.

The report breaks the universities into four tiers. The top two tiers

Physics on the silver screen

RICHARD BEAUDIN

Academic writer

A UCF professor is giving science a new face. Dr. Ioannis Efthimiou, professor of physical science, is putting the laws and the relevant formulas. Students who have taken traditional physical science classes that use textbooks find them more difficult and less interesting in comparison to Efthimiou's classes.

"Physical science classes are huge and dull, so that thins the students' interest," said Efthimiou.

But he said that many of his students in his regular physical science class are interested in the classes, because they believed the course was

SGA aids fraternity recruitment

KATHERINE BOLLA

Contributing writer

The Interfraternity Council is not alone in its goal to present a positive Greek image through recruitment, which begins tonight.

The Student Government Association allocated $625.00 to the Greek Council this year to help host a recruitment workshop, among other projects, said SGA Speaker of the Senate Anthony Furubach, in an email interview.

"This is one of the things SGA does for the students to help them get their activity and service fees dollars back," Furubach said.

According to the bill provided by the SGA office, the money was contributed to help make up for the lack of recruitment funds the IFC had experienced in past years, and to help rebuild positive relationships with student agencies.

In recent years, there has been a decline in recruitment numbers. In 2005, 57 potential members signed up to rush. By 2007, that number had dropped to 36, according to IFC Fraternity Recruitment Statistics provided by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

This drop in numbers is a result of negative publicity, a lack of funding, and a destroyed image of the UCF Fraternity scene said Andrew Evelyn, vice president of IFC.

Please see STUDENT page A6

Please see CLASS page A6

Please see RECRUITMENT page A6

Please see TIER page A6
Faculty art show opens Thursday

JENNIFER HEIBURG

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Mark & James makes the ‘A-List’

MIDDLE STRANGL

With more than 78,000 votes in the eight-week contest, Mark & James, a band originating from UCF, won Central Florida’s "Best of the A-List" competition. Out of more than 130 bands, they never fell below the No. 1 spot during the competition.

Founded in 2004, Mark Russell and James Friedmann met in an on-campus shelter during hurricane season. Their real-life story mimics that of a fairy tale, starting with the band to recently signing with management group Wright Entertainment, which also manages Justin Timberlake, Janet Jackson and the Backstreet Boys.

"Fans don’t pay attention to numbers and statistics," said Johnny Wright, Wright Entertainment Group president, in a press release. "They pay attention to good music and charisma."

Mark & James harmonious sound can be attributed to the overall well being of the group after weeding out other band members.

Mark & James is made up of four UCF students: vocalist/guitarist Friedman, vocalist/keybordist Glenn Santamaria and bassist Jordan Major. Drummer Preston Davis, a sophomore at Daytona Beach Community College, rounds out this favorite band.

"It's really not right to call it the best local band," said manager Jessica Andrews, "It's so subjective. How do you know what's the best? There were so many different genres represented in the nominations."

"Favorite local band [is] name the 10," she said.

Russell notes a few factors that made Mark & James stand out from others at the competition.

"There were a lot of good bands throughout the competition, and I think that we have a sound that appeals to the masses and public," Russell said. "It didn't really matter how good you were with the instruments. I think the key is just working well with the people you play with. It goes back to the chemistry we have."

The head Mark & James, originating from UCF, recently won Central Florida's "Best of the A-List" competition sponsored by WESH/WC-18.

MOON MAN

The band Mark & James, originating from UCF, recently won Central Florida's "Best of the A-List" competition sponsored by WESH/WC-18.

"We're in really good hands," Russell said. "If you want to be the best you've got to associate with the best. Or at least be managed by the best."

To listen to Mark & James, visit www.myspace.com/markandjames.

Spot

Having trouble getting back to work?

We can help you get back into the routine. Come visit the Project Spot and see what you can do with your imagination and our design programs (Mac or PC). Our on-staff graduate assistant can help you with everything from photo editing to graphic design.

Photoshop
Illustrator
InDesign
Dreamweaver
Fireworks
Flash

Project Spot

Formerly the Student Copy Center.
Located in the John T. Washington Center across from Chick Fil-A.
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Recruitment starts today

**NIGEL HEWITT**

"It's ironic how you hear about Pi Kappa Phi being shut down for four years because they had a formal when they were on probation, and then the following year they are back in business," said Dr. Jack McGuire, associate dean of the College of Science and psychology professor at UCF.

Additionally, every classroom is equipped with a SMART Podium, a first Cam, and presentation equipment, as has become the standard setup in recent UCF classrooms. UCF's Psychology Department Chair, John Helmer, said the new building will allow the faculty to teach in the realm of research and external funding, and this new building reflects that commitment. "It's not as large," Helmer said. "There are shared laboratory spaces as well as individual labs in the clinical, industrial, organizational and human factors research suite in the building," McGuire said.

In previous years, the decentralization Psychology Department's research labs were primarily located in Howard Phillips Hall. "There is much better facility than what we had before in terms of the organization of research space," Depoy said. "There just simply wasn't enough research space before." Now with this new building, the entire department has access to more labs than ever before, and they are all situated conveniently in one place. This building will also shorten travel time between classes for psychology majors.

Recruitment kicks off Monday, and students interested can register to at least hear what fraternities and sororities have to offer. "This year, 800 women came out to register, and 54 percent of the new member rates what a person doesn't want to find," Civiletti said. "It's a great networking opportunity. We're always here to help people who are in the process of recruitment, according to Civiletti who is the department's research chair." This year, 30 percent of the students received their first-choice bid, which is a great accomplishment, said Civiletti Helmer, senior obstetrician and gynecologist of Federation Recruitment.

"Keep an open mind because you really do end up where you are going to end up," Civiletti Helmer said. "Even though the pressure is long and strong, it is completely worthwhile in the end."

The Greek community at UCF is about 10,000 members, which is 70 percent of the total student body. "It's a great networking opportunity. For any GPA, it's a high goal but in the long run, it will probably be worth it because of the amount of time and hours they really push you," Civiletti said. "Information about recruitment, visit the Office of Parent and Student Life Web site, www.greeklife.ucf.edu.

"In the first years, students have to adapt to the environment," said Civiletti Helmer, the building's banquet chair. In the past two or three years, there have been more external funding than in years. "There is a lot of light and openness," said Helmer. "The department has been making strides for years, and faculty and students are aware of the possibilities that the new building provides. The Psychology Department is one of largest, if not the largest, department on campus with over 2,500 undergraduate majors and five different grade programs," McGuire said. Additionally, this new building offers students more learning opportunities. "The faculty and students should enjoy and make productive use of this space for many years to come," he said.

With the start of classes, students take advantage of the new building and the new Greek Life facilities. The building's banquet chair thinks it's going to "be in production by the end of next month. A community-wide open house will open soon, as well.\n
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**For more information about recruitment, visit www.sororityrecruiting.ucf.edu.**
Class looks at ghosts, magic

The course then uses a wide variety of topics, including ghosts, magic, and the afterlife. The physical laws of physics are either proven or disproved, and the students have to have an open mind and be ready to tackle these topics.

Efthimiou's overall goal is to educate his students, thus giving them a chance to learn physics in a fun and engaging way.

He believes that physics is not just about numbers and equations; it's also about exploring the mysteries of the universe, from the smallest particles to the largest galaxies.
Defensive Line:
Head coach George O’Leary said that the line was the most improved area of the defense in spring practice.

The front four are led by senior Legacy Doubles, who had a team-high seven sacks last season. That type of pressure is something the Knights need more of this season. They collected 25 sacks last year, tied for 60th in the nation. Doubles solidified himself in this team’s top pass rusher when he had 3 1/2 sacks against East Carolina on Nov. 4.

“Instinctively, he’s just a great competitor,” said O’Leary. “He’s in that neighborhood of the greats that we’ve had here at UCF. I’m looking forward to his showing this fall. He has to keep improving.”

UCF’s Projected Defensive Lineup
As the Knights prepare for their season opening game Saturday versus North Carolina State, here is a look at the proposed starting lineup for the defense.

39 LEGACY DOUBLES
Defensive end
6-3, 235 lbs.
2006-2007: Started all 10 games at defensive end.

50 BOYELL JORDON
Defensive tackle
6-3, 315 lbs.
2006-2007: Started all 10 games at defensive tackle.

21 KEITH SHOLOGAN
Defensive tackle
6-1, 315 lbs.

49 BRUCE MILLER
Defensive end
6-2, 250 lbs.
2006-2007: Started eight games at defensive end.

BRIAN MORRIS
Staff Writer
Hogue is now leader of young linebacking corps

Senior defensive tackle Keith Shogren has the most game experience on the line with 21 starts in three seasons. He has missed a game in his career. He also led the line with 40 tackles last season, a career high.

Sophomore Terrill Johnson is expected to be the man in the starting strongside tackle. He lost 30 pounds during the offseason, but at 6-foot-hours tall, 355 pounds, Johnson will still be depended on to be a mismatch force up the middle.

Interceptions are not a crucial part of a lineman's game, but sophomore Travis Timmons stands out at the position, with 10 total in three seasons. He is expected to be a starter this fall.

Three upperclassmen were slated to start on the defensive line at the beginning of the season, but one of them is already out. Junior Cory Hogue will fill the vacancy Richards has left.

Burnett's tackles went up...
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Hosted by your South Florida law schools at Florida International University, University of Miami, Nova Southeastern University and St. Thomas University in conjunction with a guest from the Law School Admission Council.

Stop by the Central Florida Future tabi outside of the Student Union this Wednesday, Aug. 29 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for your chance to win a pair of tickets to Carlos Mencia.

[Image or text not visible]

Soccer off to slow start
Both soccer teams end preseason winless; Tennis announces fall slate

Women's Soccer record tie, loss in preseason, start season Friday
The UCF Women's Soccer team tied Northern Illinois 1-1 Thursday and then lost its final exhibition match to South Florida 3-1 Saturday. Junior Danielle dos Santos scored the lone goal for the Knights in the 6th minute against N1U answered in the 38th minute, with a goal from Thaa Johnson.

USF got goals from Paulina McDonald in the 96th minutes, Kasie Thomas in the 60th minute and Lindsay Brewer in the 86th minute. Autumn Breeveld had two assists.

The Knights have their first regular-season match Friday against Minnesota at 3:00 p.m. in the Lady Vol Classic.

Men's Tennis to compete in six tournaments in fall schedule
The UCF Men's Tennis team will participate in six tournaments this fall to prepare for the start of its season on Jan. 18. The Knights will start off by heading to Winter Park for the Rollins C.A. Varsity Invitational on Sept. 27 before playing in the Palo Ralph Lauren All-American in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

UCF will be in Bradenton from Oct. 6-7 for the IMG Bollettieri Florida, Miami, North Carolina and Illinois, which finished second in NCAA Championship last year, will all participate in the tournament.

Several Knights will head to Lexington, Ky., for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Southeast Regional on Oct. 19-21.

The Knights return home to host the UCF Fall Invitational from Oct. 26-28. The tournament will feature Florida Atlantic, North Florida and Florida Gulf Coast.

The last event of the fall schedule will be the ITA Fall Intramural held in Tallahassee from Nov. 2-4.

Men's Soccer has last exhibition rained out, season starts Friday
After falling 2-0 to St. Leo in its first exhibition match on Aug. 18, the UCF Men's Soccer team had its last exhibition match, Friday night against Jacksonville, canceled due to inclement weather.

UCF will begin its regular season with a match against USF in Tampa at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

[Image or text not visible]
Tigers thrash Yankees in 16-0 victory, worst in N.Y. road history

Justin Verlander shut down the Yankee offense on Monday, and Mike Mussina may have found a place on the bench.

Verlander shut down the New York Yankees with his best stuff down throwing a no-hitter while Detroit roughed up Mussina and a couple of relievers for its highest-scoring game this season. For the Yankees, it was the worst one-sided road shutout loss in franchise history, topping a 15-0 defeat at the Chicago White Sox on July 15, 1961 according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

"We're playing with a sense of urgency right now because our fate is in our own hands," Verlander said. "We need to knock out and have fun and play like we did for most of the first half of the season.

The Tigers took three of four from the Yankees and won a series for the first time since sweeping Minnesota from July 22-26. They won back-to-back games for just the third time since having baseball's best record on July 21.

"If you don't get any confidence from taking three out of four against the Yankees, you probably don't have a pulse," said Brandon Inge, who had three hits and a walk.

"Everything is so tight that whenever you get right now is going to win this thing," Tigers first baseman Sean Casey said.

Detroit turned a rout into a louver with a six-run seventh inning and giving up six runs, nine hits and a walk.

"Give me a day to digest it, and I'll be able to answer some more questions," Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

But the first time in Mussina's 17 seasons, he has allowed at least six earned runs in three straight starts and lasted three innings or fewer in back-to-back outings. Mussina has allowed 19 earned runs in 9 2/3 innings — an ERA of 22.19 — in his last three starts and his season ERA has gone from 4.50 to 5.55.

"I can't believe in three starts that I forgot how to pitch after 17 years," he said. "I just hope he has confidence enough in me to keep sending me out there and let me figure this out.

"But at the same time, we've got to win ballgames and I'll understand if he thinks that we need to do something else."

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-Mike Mussina
Ranking doesn’t reflect real quality

The rankings are used to rank countries in the world and colleges in the U.S.

UCF moved from a fourth-tier school ranked 14th to 9th in the country. By making some colleges on campus more attractive, the damage to his reputation might suffice. The amount of students that don’t graduate because they hate the school but choose not to. It may not be financially resources, graduation rate and ranking criteria that cosmetics, financial resources, graduation rate and ranking criteria that are being used too loosely by U.S. News and World Report.

The faculty and staff are trying to use it as a positive thing, but it’s really neither negative nor positive it’s just static.

To get a good score, a university must meet all in peer assessment, recognition, faculty composition, financial resources, financial resources, graduation rate and ranking criteria that are being used too loosely by U.S. News and World Report.

Peer assessment, recognition, faculty composition make sense in the ranking formula, but to measure them with respect to the rest is diminishing the importance of many subjective, qualitative aspects.

We don’t hear much about it. These are just a few of the comments that counselling services and career services members have to say. Some have discovered a new way to treat a dog’s disease that is linked to proteins. They’ve asked me to help the U.S. help, U.S. help, U.S. help. We never mentioned the fact that the state of Florida and the Asian communities so we will be able to build up that program.

You’re shocked, I know. She took her daughter to the best high school in the world, and she’s doing the right thing. This is what you get when you get your degree at the top and25 percent of the country, to a third-tier country being discussed is the bottom 25 percent of the country, to a third-tier country being discussed is the bottom 25 percent.
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