Starting strong
UCF starts conference play on top with a 51-42 win over USM — see Sports, A7

Central Florida Future

The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

President Bush, summing up meetings with Israel, said a peace accord will require “painful in the Mideast for eight days. Nation & World, secretary to prison, state officials said appointed in 2006. The head of Florida’s prison system james mcdonough to leave white house takes action

Democrats in Congress on Wednesday unveiled an $84 billion economic stimulus bill that they said would create or save millions of jobs and help bolster the economy. The bill, known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, would provide $787 billion in direct payments to individuals and businesses and $57 billion in grants for infrastructure projects, education and health care.

After securing its 22nd donor yesterday, the UCF College of Medicine is past the halfway point of its $40 million fundraising goal for student scholarships for its first class of medical students. “Rather amazing,” said julia pet-armacost, associate dean for planning and knowledge management for the UCF College of Medicine. “One medical community continues to be very supportive.”

The College of Medicine is currently working to earn preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. The decision should be made within the next month. The scholarship drive is the result of the college’s goal to have a medical school giving each of the 40 receiving medical schools for $40,000 per year. Half the money will go toward tuition and living expenses. “We haven’t opened our doors yet and we have more than half of the scholarships,” Pet-armacost said. After six months, 22 out of 40 of the scholarships have been funded. Pet-armacost thinks the anticipated enrollment of 40 students is possible, but they will need to raise more money to ensure that they can afford to pay the scholarships.

There have been two previous scholarships for students of color, with the first being $3,000 and the second being $1,000. 

Experts say HPV infections are rising

Health experts warn that a common sexually transmitted virus linked to most cases of cervical cancer. The virus Human Papillomavirus, or HPV, has many different strains, each affecting the female genitalia. In many cases, HPV is not serious, but a few types have been linked to cause cancer in women. Men and women who are younger than 20 years of age and have had more than one sexual partner are more at risk for contracting HPV, according to Karen Tykeson, coordinating editor of clinical programs at the UCF Student Health Services Center. HPV is a common virus, and most types are harmless, do not cause any symptoms and go away on their own. According to Tykeson, there are hundreds of different types of HPV with probably more than 20 different types that affect the female genitalia. A vaccine that was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2006, protects against the four major strains of HPV. These four types were selected for Gardasil because, “These four types were selected for Gardasil because, “"We haven’t even opened our doors yet and we have more than half of the scholarships," Pet-armacost said. After six months, 22 out of 40 of the scholarships have been funded. Pet-armacost thinks the anticipated enrollment of 40 students is possible, but they will need to raise more money to ensure that they can afford to pay the scholarships. 

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Looking for the KNIGHTLYFE

Students launch popular Web site

PATRICIA WISSEL

Juniors Carey Sobes and Corey Levy's Web site all began with an idea for a coupon book. The idea evolved into a Web site which is now called KnightLyfe.com.

"I wouldn't mind being a Google man," Levy, the 20-year-old UCF entrepreneur said of the success Web­tuous Larry Page and Sergey Brin had after founding Google, Inc. Levy's business partner and friend, Carey Sobes, 20, chuckled because he knows he would not mind following in their footsteps either.

Their dreams are not too far off though, Levy and Sobes launched KnightLyfe.com in January 2007 and developed a new version of the site today.

The idea for the Web site developed out of Levy's idea to start a coupon book. At the time, he and Sobes worked as daylifers. The duo took their love of the nightlife and the company started at only one bar and Sobes are hoping to know it changes.

"A 20 percent chance of strong thunderstorms is possible in the area Saturday and Sunday," said Meteorologist Greg Territo of the UCF weather station. "Violators may be subject to prosecution and/or University sanctions."

"We work nonstop," Levy said. "It's as if we have never slept. We work so much and we have a lot of fun."

"We are committed to making a relationship with the student body and we will be showing our support to the students," Levy said.

"It's not just about making money, it's about being a Google man," Levy said. "We want people to be able to go to the site and have fun.

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Smoke, fog blinds drivers, causes 70-car crash

Associated Press

POLK CITY — About 70 vehicles crashed Wednesday on a highway blanketed by fog and smoke from a brush fire in central Florida, and local officials said four people were killed and 36 were injured in the tangled, fiery wrecks.

A stretch of nearly 15 miles of Interstate 4 between Tampa and Orlando was closed by several accidents, including the 70-vehicle pileup. Aerial footage showed the soggy mix of fog and smoke covering the landscape for miles and giving the sky an eerie golden color in the morning.

The poor visibility hampered rescue efforts, forcing officials to walk along the closed stretch of I-4 checking individual vehicles for injuries, Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Larry Coggins said. The conditions later cleared up, showing charred trucks and crumpled cars pinned underneath some tractor trailers.

The names of the victims have not been released, but all died at the scene. Coggins confirmed that 36 people were injured, five of them seriously.

The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the crash and the role of smoke from the fire that started as a controlled burn and grew out of control.

The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the crash and the role of smoke from the fire that started as a controlled burn and grew out of control. Division of Forestry spokeswoman Chris Kintner said.

She said forestry workers notified the highway patrol that smoke from the blaze could mix with fog.

There is no estimate on when I-4, the main east-west artery for central Florida, will reopen.

Coggins said a contributing factor of the crashes was the fog, but downplayed the smoke from the fire. He said troopers patrolled the area earlier Wednesday morning and smoke was not an issue.

Since Tuesday, firefighters have battled controlled burn that grew out of their grasp and charred 400 acres. The fire, which is burning roughly half a mile from the highway, is 90 percent contained, Division of Forestry spokesman Chris Kintner said.

Judd said Wednesday morning he was "exceptionally concerned" about the decision to start a fire during dry conditions and days after a freeze likely added more tinder. State officials are still investigating how the fire got out of control.

Policy and rescue workers on the scene at a multi-vehicle collision on I-4 near Lakeland that left four people dead and closed a nearly 15-mile stretch of the highway in Central Florida early Wednesday. Officials said the accident killed at least four people and closed a nearly 15-mile stretch of the highway in Central Florida.
employees know he would have zero tolerance for any- thing that could be construed as corruption. 

McDonough told The Associated Press in June that he had been talking to the FBI about the possibility that he would still be able to work for the agency even if he were labeled a corrupt government employee, a certain insula- tion and a loose system of controls that existed at top levels of the agency that he would use.

But he was at odds with them from the beginning. Last year, he demanded that the FBI set tougher controls on its health-care fraud program, and the agency resisted not only because agents were on the fence about accepting it, but because it would make agents more effective in the field. 

He was always careful to say that he had no specific plan to end the time and the record-keeping orders — though the agents were not always clear on the reasons they were given. There were more such orders, and there was more resistance.

The criminal activity of some employees, he said, was hurting agents and the FBI's ability to do its job. He also said that he was working with the government and law enforcement agencies to improve their effectiveness.

In the 1990s, Bush was a senator from Maine and a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, which had jurisdiction over the FBI. During his time in the Senate, he worked on legislation that would strengthen the FBI's role in counterintelligence and cybercrime investigations.

But he was also known for his support of the FBI's role in domestic intelligence gathering, particularly in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks. In 2001, he co-sponsored the USA Patriot Act, which expanded the FBI's powers to conduct surveillance and gather evidence without a warrant in some cases.

Bush's tenure as director of the FBI was marked by his efforts to modernize the agency and improve its response to new threats, such as cybercrime and terrorism. He also oversaw the FBI's investigation of the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Despite his efforts to improve the FBI, Bush faced challenges during his tenure, including the 2004 Waco standoff with the Branch Davidians and the 2005 Katrina disaster. 

In the end, Bush stepped down from his position as FBI director in 2005, after serving less than three years in the role. He was succeeded by Robert Mueller, who would later become director of the FBI.

Throughout his career, Bush has been praised for his intelligence and strategic thinking, and he is considered one of the most successful FBI directors in the agency's history.
Snow conditions lure, trap outdoor thrill seekers

From George Merritt

DENVER — Powerful snow storms in the West have delivered the perfect conditions for skiers and snowboarders to hit the slopes,

Interstate 70 in the Gore Range last week.

On Monday, six snowmobilers from New Mexico were rescued after being trapped for three days in a blizzard in the remote southern Colorado wilderness. That search continued for two New Mexico residents missing since Saturday at the nearby Wolf Creek Ski Area.

Albers said his rescue crew was searching for foot tracks in a whiteout when another call came in for two skiers swept up in an avalanche.

Everyone survived, he said. "We know the avalanche danger is going to be extreme," Albers said. "We can do it, but we just have to get them out.

The season has seen record snowfall, including at the relatively new Dry Creek.

California's Sierra Nevada received 8 feet of snow in the recent storms. In Washington, Snoqualmie Pass — the main route through the Cascade Mountain Range — saw its downhill skiing season open more than 40 feet of snow. Colorado Avalanche Center in Aspen and Steamboat recorded 12 feet, more than 9 feet.

"Everyone wears a powder day," said Nick Bohnenkamp, spokesman for Colorado Ski Country USA, a tourist promotion.

"The way it has been snowing, it has been a powder day almost every day."

But the danger created by blankets of fresh snow can be as spectacular as its promise of powder. It has killed New Year's Eve in an avalanche. It's just that balance between the huge systems that come, that is so heavily at times it has killed people who die in the avalanche that kills them," said troopers have conducted several avalanche rescues in the past few days. 'They do it because 'I'm not going to get caught again,' because we can't stop the slide or stop the avalanche," he said. "If people were smart about it, they would put money away instead."

The snow has come down so heavily at times it has delayed rescues from search for missing people.

Colorado's Colorado County Sheriff's Office was not able to say how many deaths have occurred in the avalanche so far, but they are aware of one avalanche that killed New Year's Eve in an avalanche. It's not that simple, said troopers have conducted several avalanche rescues in the past few days. 'They do it because 'I'm not going to get caught again,' because we can't stop the slide or stop the avalanche," he said. "If people were smart about it, they would put money away instead."

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In Oregon, a snowboarder was killed at Colorado's Purgatory Resort after skiing off a cliff in a sudden snowstorm that buried him near Mount Hood National Forest. The snow has come down so heavily at times it has delayed rescues from search for missing people.

In Washington, a skier was buried by falling snow while skiing in the high avalanche risk area. The snow has come down so heavily at times it has delayed rescues from search for missing people.

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College focused on hiring faculty

"I am thrilled we have reached this milestone," Dean of the College of Medicine Dr. Deborah German said in a press release, "I am thankful for those leaders who have stepped forward and invested in the health of our community. I am proud of our faculty and their commitment to our students, residents and community." She noted that the Burnett College of Medicine cannot become a full-fledged medical school without medical students, and the college has been working on expanding its recruitment and hiring efforts.

"Recruitment and hiring is done through a rigorous process," Pet-Armacost said. "This includes a preliminary site visit from the LCME, followed by a full accreditation visit. In addition, we have been reaching out to local physicians and serving as medical advisors to our students, to 60, then 80, then 100 positions.

"We are excited about this," said Pet-Armacost. "We are working with that," she added. "We're completely focused on hiring faculty. We have received appointments as volunteer faculty. This includes local physicians and researchers that will help teach and mentor the students. Additionally, the faculty in the Burnett College of Medical Sciences and their College of Medicine.

MED SCHOOL DONORS

The Burnett College of Medicine Capital Project includes a fundraising effort that will raise funds for scholarships, faculty, and to support the college's mission. The college has received a pre-application site visit from the LCME in December. The facility planning and finance committee has approved the plan, which will now go before the Board of Trustees.

"We're excited about this," said Pet-Armacost. "We're looking at everything from academics to if there's been any conduct issues, how many people are in your chapter — these sorts of things.

Armacost said that the college has been focused on expanding its recruitment and hiring efforts, and that the college has been working with local physicians and researchers to help teach and mentor the students. Additionally, the faculty in the Burnett College of Medical Sciences and their College of Medicine.

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ONE DOWN, 15 TO GO

Knights win C-USA opener with plenty of defense

“Good looks were hard to come by, but our defense for 40 minutes was the best we’ve played this year.”

NATIONAL SPORTS WRAP

BASEBALL

HAWAII COACH LEAVES ISLAND TO FILL HEAD SAD POSITION

 sends his best wishes to the Maui and Molokai communities..."I have been very impressed by the dedication of the basketball players," said the coach.

Fedder, Henrie are named Top Sun Belt Par

HUNTSVILLE, Alabama — Roger Fedder and Tianna Henrie were named Sun Belt Par for the past three seasons.

TENNIS

FEDDER, HENRIE ARE NAMED TOP SUN BELT PAR

HUNTSVILLE, Alabama — Roger Fedder and Tianna Henrie were named Sun Belt Par for the past three seasons.

GOLDEN EAGLES "WALK THE LINE" AS UCF SEALS HOME WIN

UCF guard Jermaine Taylor tries to drive past Southern Miss guard R.L. Horton during the first half. The Knights went on a 23-7 run that gave them an 83-79 lead with 11 minutes left but the Rebels had a 1-11 record this season.

HAWAII COACH LEAVES ISLAND TO FILL HEAD SAD POSITION

They were also impressed by Jones' "I am so proud to be a part of an athletic department and work with an athletic administration that shares such a lofty vision of what the UCF Women's Volleyball program can become."

Volleyball lures new coach from Southern Cal

Volleyball lures new coach from Southern Cal

Volleyball lures new coach from Southern Cal
ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The modern challenges of global warming and population growth are carving up with the world's most famous sled dog race.

Calling it a warming climate and sprouting development, wildlife officials on Wednesday announced permanent logistical changes that have had "leaves of the forest".

The Iditarod, the last great race in Willow, is facing down the stretch. Unlike the Iditarod in past years, what was once a race involving thousands of mushers on the trail is now a smaller, more controlled event.

"It's about the changing climate and the changing landscape," said Doug Cleaves, the Iditarod's director.

Cleaves said the annual race, which began in 1973 to commemorate the Alaskan Airlines flight that delivered lifesaving diphtheria serum to Nome, has become the norm for a race.

"It's about the changing climate and the changing landscape," said Doug Cleaves, the Iditarod's director.

"The Iditarod is a little more aggressive prowess, Noel said that as an offensive force."

"This is a big confidence boost," he said. "... To go on road trips and to have a little more aggressive aggression."
LOS ANGELES — Hedo Turkoglu had his own personal cheering section Wednesday night at Staples Center. He put on quite a show for the fans from his native Turkey.

Turkoglu scored 13 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter and added three rebounds and five assists in the period, leading the Orlando Magic to a 123-116 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers.

Rashard Lewis scored 20 points, Dwight Howard had 17 points and 17 rebounds and Jamaal Tinsley added 14 points and nine assists for the Magic (22-43), who went on the road for an NBA-leading fifth time — only those road victories when they had last lost.

Turkoglu finished with seven rebounds and seven assists to go with his 26 points, which matched a season-high.

"I'm going to try and say that lives in the Los Angeles area. "We had the momentum going as a team. It was a little too high," Turkoglu said of the contingent from Turkey that was part of the crowd.

"I had a good game, too. It was a good present for them. I'm going to try and say that lives in the Los Angeles area."

"I thought our team fought our way back in the game," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "We had the momentum going as a team. It was a big moment for us." Regarding Turkoglu, Van Gundy said: "He's got hot, man. We took Dwight out of the game, Rashard kind of cooled down."

Lewis made a 3-pointer for Orlando's first points in more than five minutes, giving the Magic a four-point lead, and Nelson's 3-pointer with 1:17 to go made it 105-100. A fastbreak by Mobley and a free throw by Maggette cut Orlando's lead to 99-98 with 4:15 remaining. Los Angeles had two chances to take its first lead, but Mobley missed a jumper and Maggette committed a turnover.

"That was a big play," Maggette said of the pass he threw over Brevin Knight's head. "We had the momentum going as a team. It was a big moment for us."

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The Last year's film selection got some thumbs up and some thumbs down.

WILLIAM GOSS
Staff Writer

Out of roughly 350 films I saw this year and about 50 others I missed, the titles listed below were the ones that lingered the longest and meant the most, both in the past few days and for many years to come.

The Best

1. Once (on DVD)
Most any other year, I find myself making the distinction between my favorite film of the year and the best one.

2. No Country for Old Men (back in theaters Jan. 18)
With the greatest of ease, the Coen brothers translated Cormac McCarthy's mythic modern Western to the screen, and in the process, they made a film that doubles as both a corky, kickass crime thriller and a lingering lament for the ways of the world.

3. There Will Be Blood (will open locally Jan. 18)
Writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson manages to make not only a film that's nothing like anything he's done before, but one that arguably makes the most of cinema as a medium. It's a staggering accomplishment, thanks in no small part to Daniel Day-Lewis, who hurtles it out of the park as the misanthropic oil man out for all he can get, from the film's first wordless stretch to its final frenzied confrontation.

4. Knocked Up (on DVD)
More prominent critics than I have already deemed Judd Apatow's comedy to be this generation's The Graduate, and they're not wrong. It's both timely and timeless in its humor and values, with strong performances all around (God bless Leslie Mann). Come to think of it, this isn't our generation's The Graduate; this is our generation.

5. The Bourne Ultimatum (on DVD)
Paul Greengrass took both the Bourne series and the action genre to new visceral heights with this kick-ass capper.

6. Before The Devil Knows You're Dead (on DVD April 15)
Sidney Lumet made a won­drous comeback with this mean morality tale, in which happiness and greed inadvertently send an entire family on one hell of a downward spiral.

Philip Seymour Hoffman gives arguably the best of his three performances this year, and Ethan Hawke reminds us why we keep him around after all.

7. Zodiac (on DVD)
Director David Fincher's obsessive film about obsession wasn't to everyone's liking, but it's more chilling as a procedural in which many drive.

WILLIAM GOSS

WILLIAM GOSS
Wild Hogs was year’s worst

by a need to know (can’t) simply Google their case and catch the hideball. It’s never that simple, a fact of which far too many consumers seem to be well aware.

8. The Mix (on DVD March 25) Who knew that Frank Darabont (The Shawshank Redemption, The Green Mile) had a grizz and gripping gift for translating the horror epic like this in him. In 1987, he wrote, directed, and acted in the low-budget flick The Chapel, if going all the way with a multicolored palette. This is no minor accomplishment. 

9. Hot Fuzz (on DVD Feb. 12) The history of the police sub-genre is that of slaps and stupendous impromptu situations, usually due to the ever-widening gap between a co-ed and a Cop. As the latest in the line of 'So Fuzz,' this is a deftly written and acted send-up.

10. The Daytrotter Limited (on DVD Jan. 26) Van Anderson’s latest effort is by no means a perfect film, but it’s certainly a warm and welcome return to the film that has brought him so many others (certainly, the man can still arrange a swell soundtrack.)

Honorable Mentions

Gore Verbinski (Kingdom of Persia: The Sandstorm) had a grizz and gripping gift for translating the horror epic like this in him. In 1987, he wrote, directed, and acted in the low-budget flick The Chapel, if going all the way with a multicolored palette. This is no minor accomplishment.

5. Bowling for Columbine (on DVD Feb. 19) Just thinking of the film that has brought him so many others (certainly, the man can still arrange a swell soundtrack.)

The Worst

There really isn’t much about the following films that can’t sum up how in total. There are the duds that

- 1. Wild Hogs
- 2. Leicester Forest
- 3. Delta Force
- 4. Epic Movie

For more information, check out www.wildhogs.com.
Don’t bother with these two-star duds; rent instead.

WILLIAM GOSS

The Bucket List
DIRECTOR: Rob Reiner
STARS: Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman

How ironic it is that artificial sweeteners seem to promote the growth of cancer when the very opposite principle seems to apply to every frame of the perpetually trite, life-affirming lesson of the week in which dying multimillionaire Jack Nicholson spars his successes with fellow terminal patient Morgan Freeman.

Both find themselves gravely under their fair share of green screen as these old coots skydive, race classic cars and jet across the world to monuments hither and yon, and - in which very opposite principle seems to apply to every frame of the perpetually trite, life-affirming lesson of the week in which dying multimillionaire Jack Nicholson spars his successes with fellow terminal patient Morgan Freeman.

What a pity that Nicholson and Freeman do get such a steady rapport going, as it overflows with material successfully within their age. Open in theaters everywhere.

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly
DIRECTOR: Julian Schnabel
STARS: Mathieu Amalric, Marie-Joëlle Coox, Marion Cotillard, naadh De Banke

Meanwhile, heavily, a truly inspiring story in which Jean-Dominique Bauby (Mathieu Amalric), who had a stroke at the age of 43, remains in full mental awareness but is able to communicate only with his left eyelid. Bauby manages to finish his entire memoir of the same name. Open in theaters everywhere.

In the wake of Tyler Perry’s success with his shot at the screen similarly modest writer David E. Talbert finds himself helming his first film. The morally ambivalent Ice Cube (left) and Tracy Morgan find themselves taking off as director Kent Williams and others hostage when the Baltimore church they attempt to rob finds itself filled with parishioners — and missing its money.

As always, Morgan gets a few laugh from his delivery alone while Williams manages a chuckle or two. But with nowhere else to go, the Stockhol slamstick scene becomes more miscast and predictable than ever. To his credit, at least Talbert never resorts to having us suffer the likes of Perry’s ever-shrill gospel mama, Madea.

Opens in theaters everywhere today.

Also playing…

In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale
DIRECTOR: Uwe Boll
STARS: James Strohm, Leslie Sobolik, Ron Perlman, John Rhys-Davies

Notorious schlock-meleter Uwe Boll (House of the Dead, Alone in the Dark, BloodRayne) has once again roped a bunch of better-than-this caliber into one of his latest video-game adaptations, the result of which seems to be some sort of surely half-baked historical epic that — surprise, surprise — has good unreserved for critics.

Opens in theaters everywhere today.

Universal classics

The AMC Universal Classics continues its recent revival of classic films with this week’s showings of Clockwork Orange and Touch of Evil. For more information, call 407-839-3900.

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