Student group wants kosher meals

Group desires resolution for more options

JAKE BRIDGES
Contributing Writer

A proposed kosher meal plan hit a snag this week when the Jewish student group requesting it disagreed with the definitions of vegetarian and vegan options to the plan.

Kristina Tichy, president of the Jewish student organization Chabad, wrote a petition that garnered hundreds of signatures in favor of a kosher resolution.

"The amount of signatures that we got showed that there is really a demand," Tichy said.

She said she addressed the issue with John Martinez, who began constructing the resolution. According to Tichy, Martinez and fellow senator Aaron Smith drafted a resolution that included vegetarian and vegan plans without consulting Chabad.

"I don't have a problem with the vegetarian and vegan actually," Tichy said.

He said he only wanted what is best for Chabad and does not want the importance of kosher options to be diminished because it is lumped together with unkosher options.

"It doesn't do the issue justice to lump it into other things," Tichy said. "At this point, I just want to make sure things are done right.

Tichy said putting a resolution together with vegetarian and vegan options seems somewhat contradictory to what Chabad stands for. Keeping kosher doesn't necessarily mean excluding meat. It only calls for certain items, like other pigs, yams and a few others to be prepared in an acceptable way. Therefore, Tichy said, lumping kosher issues with vegetarian and vegan issues is "hard to follow as far as logic." It was not until the petition began getting the kosher meal plan that Chabad found out about the vegetarian and vegan options, Tichy said.

Saul said he did not receive word from Chabad.

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Local weather

**Today**
- Mostly sunny
- High: 73°
- Low: 56°

**Monday**
- Mostly sunny
- High: 73°
- Low: 56°

**Tuesday**
- High: 80°
- Low: 64°

**Wednesday**
- High: 80°
- Low: 64°

**Thursday**
- High: 84°
- Low: 65°

**Friday**
- High: 84°
- Low: 65°
Fidel Castro resigns from Cuban presidency

**TIMELINE OF FIDEL CASTRO'S LIFE**

- July 18, 1959: Castro is born in Biran, northeastern Cuba, the third of seven children.
- 1942: Castro helped a failed attempt to assassinate his own brother, Raul, under the leadership of their father, José.
- 1949: Castro is taken prisoner and later released.
- 1950: Castro graduates from University of Havana with a degree in law.
- 1954: Castro defeats Fulgencio Batista and sets up a communist government.
- 1976: Castro's health begins to decline, and he begins to delegate power to his brother, Raúl.
- 2016: Castro dies in Havana, leaving behind a legacy of both revolution and repression.

In a May 19, 1956 interview with the newspaper El Mundo, Castro said: "I am thinking that Carlos Lage, Pe·rez Roque, or another younger person -- with more enthusiasm than I am physically able to -- will become the new leader."

**Castro's rise to power**

- March 26, 1959: Castro is named the provisional president of Cuba by the National Assembly.
- April 1959: Castro becomes president of Cuba.
- 1961: Castro agrees to allow the United States to establish a base in Cuba.
- 1962: Castro nationalizes the U.S. owned oil company, Union Oil Company of Canada.
- 1963: Castro nationalizes the Cuban sugar industry.
- 1965: Castro nationalizes the Cuban tobacco industry.
- 1974: Castro nationalizes the Cuban telecommunications industry.
- 1980: Castro nationalizes the Cuban oil industry.
- 1989: Castro nationalizes the Cuban banking industry.
- 1991: Castro nationalizes the Cuban insurance industry.
- 1992: Castro nationalizes the Cuban telecommunications industry.
- 1993: Castro nationalizes the Cuban energy industry.
- 1994: Castro nationalizes the Cuban media industry.
- 1995: Castro nationalizes the Cuban manufacturing industry.
- 1996: Castro nationalizes the Cuban construction industry.
- 1997: Castro nationalizes the Cuban agriculture industry.
- 1998: Castro nationalizes the Cuban transportation industry.
- 2000: Castro nationalizes the Cuban mining industry.
- 2001: Castro nationalizes the Cuban fishing industry.
- 2002: Castro nationalizes the Cuban tourism industry.
- 2003: Castro nationalizes the Cuban tourism industry.
- 2004: Castro nationalizes the Cuban manufacturing industry.
- 2005: Castro nationalizes the Cuban energy industry.
- 2006: Castro nationalizes the Cuban banking industry.
- 2007: Castro nationalizes the Cuban insurance industry.
- 2008: Castro nationalizes the Cuban telecommunications industry.
- 2009: Castro nationalizes the Cuban energy industry.
- 2010: Castro nationalizes the Cuban manufacturing industry.
- 2011: Castro nationalizes the Cuban construction industry.
- 2012: Castro nationalizes the Cuban agriculture industry.
- 2013: Castro nationalizes the Cuban tourism industry.
- 2014: Castro nationalizes the Cuban transportation industry.
- 2015: Castro nationalizes the Cuban manufacturing industry.
- 2016: Castro nationalizes the Cuban energy industry.
- 2017: Castro nationalizes the Cuban banking industry.
- 2018: Castro nationalizes the Cuban insurance industry.
- 2019: Castro nationalizes the Cuban telecommunications industry.
- 2020: Castro nationalizes the Cuban energy industry.
- 2021: Castro nationalizes the Cuban manufacturing industry.
- 2022: Castro nationalizes the Cuban construction industry.
- 2023: Castro nationalizes the Cuban agriculture industry.
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- 2093: Castro nationalizes the Cuban agriculture industry.
- 2094: Castro nationalizes the Cuban tourism industry.
- 2095: Castro nationalizes the Cuban transportation industry.
- 2096: Castro nationalizes the Cuban manufacturing industry.
- 2097: Castro nationalizes the Cuban construction industry.
- 2098: Castro nationalizes the Cuban agriculture industry.
- 2099: Castro nationalizes the Cuban tourism industry.
- 2100: Castro nationalizes the Cuban transportation industry.

**Fidel Castro's legacy**

- Castro was a controversial figure who had a profound impact on the Cuban people and the global community.
- His policies, both successful and unsuccessful, have shaped the Cuban economy and society.
- Castro's death marks the end of an era for Cuba and the world.

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**For more information, visit: www.CentralFloridaFuture.com**

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takings a plea deal in a pizza delivery robbery.

Lionel Tate, 21, pleaded no contest Tuesday to a detonator for explosives.

A federal judge on Wednesday turned on appeal and Tate

Attorney warns evidence thrown out in explosive case

邯� “Tate,” who was a leader of a Ugandan-based rebel group, said the

President Bush urges action for Africa

The U.S. has spent $600 million on military operations in Darfur, including the training of the Sudanese National Police, according to the State Department. But as of last week, no one knew how much money had been spent. The U.S. government has been criticized for its response to the Darfur crisis, particularly with regard to the use of military force.

Some of the Rwandan genocide's perpetrators have gone free, thanks to

President Bush urges action for Africa

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Student group plans to mentor, sightsee in Italy

KEITH SPENCER/Courier

Many students will travel to locations around the globe to enjoy Spring Break, and one UCF group will be spending their vacation performing missionary work in Italy.

UCF members of Campus Crusade for Christ will devote their time from March 7-13 completing missionary work and touring Rome, Salerno and Florence. They will also be joined by the Campus Crusade for Christ chapter from Mississippi State University.

This is the second time UCF Campus Crusade for Christ has traveled to Italy to do missionary work.

A team of Americans works full time in Salerno. During their time overseas, which can range from one year to five years or more, they work on the campus of the University of Salerno, talking with students about their life and faith.

The missionary workers also serve as mentors for the Salerno students, and Campus Crusade for Christ members will be bringing these workers with their daily jobs and mentoring new students.

“We’re hoping this trip is a stepping stone for UCF students to see some of the world, and to see the way God is working in places of different parts of the world,” Campus Crusade for Christ leader Lindsey Sowers said.

“It’s also a time for these to grow in their own faith and relationship with God.” During their one day in Rome, the group will also have the opportunity to tour the ancient city. A trip to the Vatican is also a possibility.

“The group will be staying in a hotel called Yellow while in Rome. In Salerno, they will be lodging at the Lantern Lion’s, a hotel that is owned by an Italian family whom the group has come to know very well through years of working in the city. After they return home, the UCF students plan to visit Florence for more sightseeing.

“This will be an opportunity to promote humanitarian efforts,” Stowers said. “Campus Crusade for Christ is preparing to send 5,500 students to 40 countries during Spring Break; UCF is preparing to send 75 students to three countries.

“Having the chance to experience their culture and see how they live and work and study and interact and help, and helping the body of Christ do dangerous and difficult things is an incredible experience.”

Stowers said, “I think being on the mission field is a learning job, because I get to focus on relationships and it’s worked for me because I have been able to talk with and interact with people. I think it’s more for me to know that if you’re going to go on the mission field, you’ve got to have a lot of knowledge and people that, if I was sitting in another room, I wouldn’t be able to talk with.”

“As you go to know more and more people, you learn from their experiences and see where their lives have been. It’s opened my eyes to what’s going on in the world.”

Stowers said she got involved with Campus Crusade for Christ as a student six years ago after transferring to Eastern Michigan University as a sophomore. She said the members meet before joining the group to develop a purposeful job on the basis of which they get bound.

“I want to do everything I can to help the people of Italy. This trip helps you know more about the people where you’re going to, something that will bring you into a relationship with God.”

Stowers said she got to know a lot of people that, if she was sitting in another room, she wouldn’t be able to talk to, and she said that she was not experiencing that at the time.

“For younger, aspiring missionary workers, Stowers advises getting to know people and finding out who they are and what they believe in whatever country they are from, she said.

“I expect to meet students, maybe young people I’m thinking of going with them, and have a greater sense of what a Christian church is. Other students have told me that they’ve grown in so many ways, more comfortable talking to people, and it was kind of scary the first time, but they have grown up, ” said junior elementary education major Noah Seta.

Seta, who was involved with Campus Crusade for Christ as a student six years ago after transferring to Eastern Michigan University as a sophomore, said the group is preparing to send 75 students to three countries.

“I’m more prepared this time, more comfortably talking to students. This trip helps you grow in so many ways, because you are surrounded by different cultures and you don’t have to speak your language. But when you’re pulled out of your comfort zone, you realize how special Is this country and become part of this world and more excited about missionary work and meeting students and some of the students have formed friendships. The mission field is the next step in their missionary work is loving people and growing their love to God.”
**RAFA CAMARGO**  

**Student group plans mission trip to Costa Rica**

For Spring Break, several UCF students are planning a mission trip to help underprivileged children in Costa Rica.

This week-long trip was funded by donations to the Central Florida Wesley Founda- 

 Gran, a non-profit Christian organization in Central Florida, 

 with the help of a wide variety of 

 members.

"The group's primary focus is to build a relational 

 bridge with the children. The children will learn about 

 America, and the community will learn about ours."

Francesca Cortes and Yohana Sanchez, who were involved in the trip, described some of the activities they plan to do with the children.

"We are planning to teach them about American culture and try to make them feel at home. We will also do some crafts and games with them."

The trip is open to anyone who is interested, and it is free of charge. However, participants are expected to bring their own clothing and supplies.

"We are hoping to raise enough money to cover all the expenses. We are also looking for sponsors to help us."

The trip will take place from March 15 to 22 and will involve visiting local schools and orphanages. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn about the culture and customs of Costa Rica.

"We are excited to share this unique experience with the students and to make a positive impact on the lives of the children."
The Louisiana United Methodist Disaster Recovery Ministry was formed in response to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, but ASB has been working in New Orleans for the past five years.

Aside from the hurricane damage, the city suffers from extreme poverty. Before Hurricane Katrina, ASB traveled to New Orleans to work on various social issues, such as aiding underprivileged children, recovering alcoholics and poverty-stricken citizens.

Even three years later, there is still plenty of work to be done in New Orleans. The city is still in bad shape after Hurricane Katrina, and there was that feeling that "I want to go back to see what difference we have been able to make," Moscato said. "I could not forget about the place that had made so much to me."

If students are interested in participating in an Alternative Spring Break trip, they can e-mail ASB at vsoc-ASB@mail.ucf.edu or visit the Office of Student Involvement in Room 201 of the Student Union.

For more information on deadlines and upcoming events for the next year, visit the ASB Web site at www.asb.ucf.edu/ASB/.

The ASB team has participated in five trips, including two to New Orleans. Roughly 90 students go on the ASB trips. Locations are chosen by the cost and ease of working with certain companies. Students on the New Orleans trip will work alongside victims of Hurricane Katrina, while staying in places such as churches and donated rooms. They will be led by ASB trip leaders Dari Samuels and Scott de la Garza.

"Seeing the damage on a day trip to New Orleans inspired me to go down there," Samuels said. "I want to be able to help them out and show others what is really there and how much help they need."

The ASB team has been cleaning destroyed houses and helping down.

Get Ready for SPRING BREAK!

Beach-free Spring Break

2008 alternative to aid New Orleans

MELISSA CUNDY

While the average college student will spend Spring Break 2008 at the beach, 20 UCF students will travel to New Orleans to help Hurricane Katrina victims piece their lives back together through the Alternative Spring Break program.

Alternative Spring Break (ASB) began at UC in 2002 under the Housing and Residence Program. Every year, the program attracts additional exposure and as a result, in 2006 the program became completely student run.

"Alternative Spring Break combines the best aspects of the traditional Spring Break trip and the best aspects of civic engagement in order to create engaged students," said Riaan Mer- chant, current coordinator of Civic Engagement.

Merchant has participated in five trips, including two to New Orleans.

"When students go on the ASB trips, locations are chosen by the cost and ease of working with certain companies," Student on the New Orleans trip will work along- side victims of Hurricane Katrina, while staying in places such as churches and donated rooms. They will be led by ASB trip leaders Dari Samuels and Scott de la Garza.

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JEWISH DIETARY LAWS

GENERAL RULES

According to the details which are extensive, the laws of kosher food are based on the belief that certain foods can be eaten provided they are eaten in a specific manner and that certain foods must be avoided if they are not eaten in the proper manner.

1. Certain animals may not be killed at all. The animals included in this category are: beef, pork, and eggs from the rooster.
2. Of the animals that may be eaten, the meat of animals that are not kosher must be prepared in a specific manner.
3. All food must be cooked to the proper temperature before it is eaten.
4. Fish and shellfish are permitted and must be prepared in a specific manner.
5. Fruits and vegetables are permitted, but certain fruits are forbidden. All of the birds on the list are birds of prey or scavengers, thus the rabbis inferred that this was prohibited.

According to the original memoir, the concept of kosher food is prepared under the supervision of a kosher interpreter, which disallows the use of many of the cooking elements used in the preparation of standard meals. For example:

A. Kosher food must be prepared under the supervision of a kosher interpreter, which disallows the use of many of the cooking elements used in the preparation of standard meals. For example:

B. Kosher food must be prepared under the supervision of a kosher interpreter, which disallows the use of many of the cooking elements used in the preparation of standard meals. For example:

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Nonprofit for Kenya inspires students

Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

"It's the epitome of what a social worker is," Mundorf said.

"Not just an attorney," said attorney Michael Muser, who has been a part of the Outreach Kenya board since its inception.

"It's not just a business, it's a personal passion," said Swart, who has established and managed her own nonprofit.

"It's a way to give back," said Mundorf, who has worked tirelessly to raise funds for Outreach Kenya.

"It's about connecting with the people who need it," said Swart, who has spent countless hours volunteering at Outreach Kenya.

"It's about the impact people in other countries can make," said Mundorf, who has witnessed firsthand the effects of poverty on children.

"It's about the power of hope," said Swart, who has seen the difference that a small donation can make.

"It's about the importance of education," said Mundorf, who has seen the effects of poverty on children.

 "It's about the humbling experience of seeing what other people go through," said Swart, who has been inspired by the stories of Outreach Kenya.

 "It's about the need for education," said Mundorf, who has seen the effects of poverty on children.

 "It's about the need for awareness," said Swart, who has been inspired by the stories of Outreach Kenya.

 "It's about the need for action," said Mundorf, who has seen the effects of poverty on children.

 "It's about the need for understanding," said Swart, who has been inspired by the stories of Outreach Kenya.

 "It's about the need for compassion," said Mundorf, who has seen the effects of poverty on children.

 "It's about the need for support," said Swart, who has been inspired by the stories of Outreach Kenya.

 "It's about the need for help," said Mundorf, who has seen the effects of poverty on children.

 "It's about the need for love," said Swart, who has been inspired by the stories of Outreach Kenya.

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Knights return after two weeks away from home to face Pirates

BY PETER BREWER / STAFF WRITER

After playing its past two games on the road, the UCF Men’s Basketball team will tip-off in the New UCF Arena for the first time in two weeks tonight against East Carolina.

And the Knights’ G11 overall, 11-4 Conference U2P will be glad to play at home after their trial in Houston against Rice, where the court conditions left much to be desired.

UCF head coach Kirk Sperraz said that for the walk-through and prac- tice at Bellami Arena, Op- tical conditions were off, the doors were open and it was no hum that it felt like an "out."

"I was worried about Saturday," he said. "They were able to get the air condi- tioning on and everything was fine for us." Sperraz said during a radio interview Monday. "From a practice standpoint, it was tough. The Knights didn’t practice on Monday after arriving into Orland- o Sunday late at night. The slow week could give some much-needed rest to some tired and sore Knights.

"Dave Nod, Jermaine Tyler and Mike O’Doherty," he said, are averaging more than 12 minutes per game and are in the top 11 in C-USA minutes per game.

And Miller Battle, who Sperraz said was still hurting from his injured leg, managed to contrib- ute just 12 minutes last game against the Owls before being taken off.

"One key for UCF tonight will be to keep his big men out of foul trouble and find a more con- solidated way of play.

A rash of early fouls to the Knight’s interior players hurt them in their win over Rice, as Andre Thornton and Battle, neither of which is taller than 6-foot-6, had to play keys to get into foul trouble.

"We got a lot of foul trouble," Sperraz said. "Sometimes the whistles were blown, and you didn’t think there was any contact, and other times... we just misunderstood some people, and they did too much yelling, as well.

"Sometimes, our guys had a hard time seeing how physical you can play, and it really didn’t allow either team to get into a rhythm."

"In my opinion, a rhythm could be easier against Pirates, who can be of the worst offenses and"

UCF's offense to begin without best bat

BRAIN MURPHY

Still 11 days away from its first game of 2008, dissatisfied, one player believed it had already struck for the UCF Baseball team. During an intrasquad game on Feb. 11, a pitch from freshman Paul Cine turned hit junior Killo Vaquette on the right forearm.

"As soon as it hit me, I was on another hit pitch," Vaquette said, "It was a pitch that was low and outside, I just put it up there. I didn’t think it went in.

But in that instant, the player who the Knights in average, home run and last seven starts, in a game which will force him to miss at least five starts for the remainder of this season. UCF head coach Jay Bergman said Vaquette’s absence will have an impact on the Knights’ offense.

"It’s not a great season for a squad which finished last season with a disappointing .27- 33 record and ranked to the best third of Conference USA.

In those three categories last season, the Knights knew this good team handle adversity. Vaquette will be back soon enough and he’s not the only hitter on this team.

The best one out of that bunch is center fielder and All- Conference selection, Tyler Asston. As a three-year starter and one of only eight seniors on the team, he is one of the Knights’ leaders, but that’s where the pressure comes in.

"He seemed the lack of pressure," Asston looked to get on base makes him a very good hitter on this team.

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Softball outscored 9-1 in a pair of losses on Sunday

MELISSA HEYBOER

The Pirates (8-15, 2-8) could do nothing to nullify the damage the University of Connecticut did on the mound. The Knights (14-15, 4-6) nullified the Pirates with a 9-1 run in the first three days of the tournament.

The Pirates lost to the Wildcats 4-1, going just 0.2 innings while allowing two runs off three hits and two runs.

The Pirates lost to the Knights 5-0 at the plate with a home run, a double and a single.

Mike and they won't leave because UCF is a one-trick pony.

Meanwhile, Taylor has been getting open a lot. "That's how Jermaine is getting open a lot," Speraw said.

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last season, posting a .322 batting average, but was 19-for-20 in stolen bases. His speed, bursting skills and ability to move runners over are the biggest reasons why he will start this season batting second.

Sophomore Chris Duffy had a typical season for a freshman in 2007: He hit very well in the first handful of games before falling into a deep slump in which his average dipped below .200. Then, Duffy found his second wind and hit .366 in final 17 games, completing the year with a .283 average.

"If hit credit, he hit the walk, went down and came back up again," Bergman said about Duffy. "I think he's been thinking through it and now you have Duffy back up to bat. He has to be tested for, as far as the defense is concerned.' "

Duffy is the only Knight other than Vazquez who can consistently provide some big-time power. He finished second in C-USA with 46 runs scored second-most in C-USA and 27 stolen bases.

"If we don't play good defense, we are out of it," Bergman said.

The Knights' infield has a good amount of depth and versatility with the likes of sophomore Stephen Branca, sophomore Kyle Mills, junior Nick Chois and senior Erik Kallstrom. Kallstrom will start the season on suspension due to a violation of team rules. Bergman said Kallstrom will miss some early-season games. Once Kallstrom returns, he will be back at shortstop, and his experience makes him very valuable. Branca and Mills can play second base, third base or shortstop. Chois is mainly valued as a pinch-hitter or a player off the bench who can pinch run and hit a sacrifice bunt.

Besides defense, another critical area of improvement the Knights are focusing on is the ability to hit with runners in scoring position. Bergman said it's one of the greatest disappointments in his life to have had to deal with on his field, but that all of the players recognize they need to do something about it. "I think they are now prepared to put some work in and do something about it," Bergman said.

"It's a situation you never get any relief, so it's tough for a freshman to jump from high school."

Maturity shouldn't be a problem for the Knights this season. While all of them may not be starting right away, almost all of the team's eight returning starters in the field from last season are back for 2008.

"As a hitter, you never get any relief, so that's tough for a freshman to jump from high school."

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Kosher politics is an oxymoron

Tragedy should lead to action, not apathy

Bad beef. It's not what's for dinner.

The answer: Push it through the food chain. Movements and causes go in one side, and everything breaks down at the barrier coming out the other. But the call to action is the same: to the group calling for the kosher meal options, this is an opportunity to pressure the USDA to improve its regulations.

Kosher politics is an oxymoron.

In the wake of Thursday's shooting at Virginia Tech, it's important to remember the importance of campus security and the work that has been done. But what's truly the role of the political arena?

In the midst of the political season, it's easy to get lost in the shuffle of debates and elections. It's important to remember that every vote matters, and every issue is important.

The real concern among many is the lack of attention to the issues. It's not merely the abuse of the animal itself that's an issue; with USDA, it is allowing sick and injured animals to be slaughtered. The USDA should be held accountable to the public for the conditions in which these animals are raised.

As Americans from different walks of life work together to combat against animal abuse and the USDA, it's clear that this is not an isolated incident. The USDA's failure to take action against sick and injured animals is a serious problem that needs to be addressed.

In light of the shooting at Virginia Tech, it's clear that we must take action to improve our campus safety. We need to ensure that our schools and communities are safe places for all individuals to learn and grow.

The political arena is not the only place where change can happen. It's important for us to stay engaged and to continue to push for change in our communities.

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We need to take action now. We need to ensure that our schools and communities are safe places for all individuals to learn and grow.

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