A bashing good time
Phil Delta Theta to hold car bash before last men's basketball game — See News, A2

Dance contest to unify students
Organizers want to reflect diversity
JAKE BRIDGES Contributing Writer

The Student Government Association will host the Intramural co-Ed Wakeboard Truck Shot Championship on March 13.

The idea for the dance contest spawned from a University of Florida event known as the "Vita Vodka Shot Show," which boasts an attendance of about 4,000 people.

The main responsible for the organization of the event is SGA Multicultural Affairs coordinator Ricky Ly.

He created the event not only to see if students would embrace the UF show but also to prove cultural diversity on campus.

Culture Shock welcomes all kinds of dance, but performers must audition in one of three categories. They can choose one to participate in and have the UF show. They can only participate in the UF show. The event is open to all UF students.

The audience is for all uf students, performers, and fans. These categories are for the Culture Shock Facebook group. The group is self-formed and has a self-formed audience.

The event is open to any performers, vocalists, who can be found on the Culture Shock Facebook page. These categories are for the Culture Shock Facebook group. They can only participate in the UF show. The event is open to all UF students.

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Endings with a Bash

Fraternity to hold car bash before last home basketball game

Amanda Welch

It took some convincing, but Phi Delta Theta finally got the go-ahead from the UCF Department of Environmental Health and Safety to hold its car bash before the last men’s basketball game at home on March 1.

On gameday, there will be two cars to literally bash, and each will be painted as it bags be beated, said Scott Vogel, a Phi Delta Theta pledge who helped organize the event.

The cars, which were purchased from the Orlando Salvage Yard, will be painted before the event. One car will be painted blue and gray, which are the colors of UCF’s opponents, Kansas University.

The other car will be painted with designs and the names of other college men’s basketball teams.

Vogel said the activity is a form of entertainment.

“Motorists are coming up,” he said. “It’s a good way for kids to hold anger without hurting anyone.”

Vogel said the car bash will also be a fundraising event for Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Phi Delta Theta. Students will pay to take up a sledgehammer and swing at the cars.

“The first hit will be memorialized off because that’s the most fun,” he said. “Every car after that will require a donation, like $2 for one hit and $3 for three hits.”

Vogel said he noticed a lack of physical sports during gameday, so he thought holding a car bash might be a fun change of pace.

However, when he pitched the idea to Environmental Health and Safety, he was denied.

Environmental Health and Safety placed a ban on car bash after one held on campus a few years ago broke safety rules, said Stephen Mammino, the department’s assistant director of risk management.

Vogel didn’t take no for an answer. After persuading and petitioning the department that all safety precautions would be met, he was granted permission.

“The petitioned, and the put together a good package with a safety plan,” Mammino said. “So we’re going to pump it up,” he said, “but now I’m hoping for the car bash. Vogel and he he understands what’s at stake.”

“I can’t see him,” he said, “there can’t be another one.”

The safety precautions include the removal of all glass and fluids from the vehicles prior to the bash and requires that students hit the cars at a definite wearing protective eyewear.

Mammino warned that for the order to be executed, the students in attendance need to abide by the rules.

Let Us Know

The Future wants to hear from you. If you have a club, organization or event and other information to be considered for the Accomplishments column, send a fax to 407-447-4554 or an e-mail to editors@centralfloridafuture.com. Frontline deadlines are Monday by 12 p.m. for the Wednesday edition, 5 p.m. Monday for the Vol 40, Issue 21 edition, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for the Friday edition.

Local Weather

Today

High: 77° Low: 60°

Tonight

High: 65° Low: 50°

tomorrow

High: 72° Low: 60°

Wednesday

High: 62° Low: 50°
Candidates make expensive campaign promises

Barack Obama promises $4,000 credits to help pay college tuition. Hillary Clinton backs $25 billion for home buying subsidies. Both candidates want to not only extend President Bush's tax cuts but eliminate the alternative minimum tax at a cost of about $2 trillion over 10 years.

Then there's reality. These campaign pledges—and dozens more in the manifests of the leading presidential candidates—face a collision with the realities of the current economic crisis. It's likely that the next president will face a situation eerily similar to 1992, when Bill Clinton ran a campaign promising middle-class tax cuts and universal health care. Instead, worsening deficits led him to push through Congress a tax-hike, deficit-reduction plan that helped Republicans take over Congress in 1994. John McCain, the parallel to the one-term presidency of George W. Bush, who inherited a budget crisis—and a Congress controlled by Democrats—that ultimately led him to break his "no new taxes" pledge not to raise taxes.

For now, however, the campaigns are sticking with policy papers that don't add up but cater to political constituencies. Obama's "Keeping America's Promise" manifesto is full of costly prescriptions for the government. Obama promises tax cuts for seniors citizens and college students, and $500 for every wage-earner, upping the bill to $85 billion a year. He says he would pay for the tax cuts by closing loopholes and closing offshore tax havens, but those steps would fall far short of fully offsetting their costs.

Both Obama and Clinton would keep in place many of the Bush tax cuts, including rate cuts for most taxpayers and double the cost of the Medicare prescription drug program, but would let rate cuts for upper-income taxpayers expire and use the savings to help pay for these healthcare promises.

To address looming shortfalls in Social Security, Obama supports raising the cap that limits the 6.2 percent Social Security payroll tax on the first $102,000 of income. Almost in an aside, the Obama campaign document says he supports closing the "doughnut hole" in the Medicare drug benefit—the gap created at the point where beneficiaries have to pick up all of their drug costs before catastrophic drug coverage kicks in. Closing it would roughly double the cost of the Medicare prescription drug program, however, and Obama offers no way to pay for it.

Obama also promises a $60 billion investment in infrastructure and an $8 billion per year boost in education spending. The Illinois senator says his plan to withdraw U.S. forces from Iraq will save over $200 billion a year, but that doesn't qualify as an offset under budget rules because the savings are an unquantifiable expense, not a permanent part of the budget.

For his part, McCain voted against Bush's tax cuts at tilted too much in favor of the wealthy. He has since changed his mind. Now, with most budget experts forecasting deep deficits for the future, McCain wants to extend the Bush tax cuts, which expire at the end of 2010. The price tag for McCain's plan would soon exceed $300 billion a year after government borrowing costs are factored in.

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Awards for which to nominate your organization. A full listing is available at www.KORAWards.com and are due Friday, March 21 at 5 p.m.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 28
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For more info: sea_mail@ucf.edu
U.S. authorities seek to bring businesswoman back from LONDON — A Japanese businesswoman suspected of perjury in her wife’s killing in a Southern California shopping mall is living in a luxurious, fading retirement home in Southern California, being held on suspicion of the murder of her wife.

The former executive of a prestigious women’s magazine was convicted in Japan in 1994 of the murder of his wife, Kazumi Miura, but that conviction was overturned by the country’s high court in 2002. The LAPD said Miura is living in Southern California.

The department did not provide further details, and it wasn’t clear what led to the latest arrest.

Miura’s missingTEMPERED impatience, and his 3-year-old wife were visiting Los Angeles on Nov. 18, 1981, when they were shot in a downtown parking lot for that was shot in the head, went into a coma and died the next morning.

His mother said Sunday that she never gave up hope of a reunion with her son.

Daryl Gates, who was police chief at the time of the killing, said Saturday that Miura was well known to him.

Miura was arrested in Japan in 1984 on suspicion of her mother for her insurance money. In June, he was convicted of attempted murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Miura was convicted of that in 1994 and sentenced to 18 months later, however, a Japanese high court overturned the sentence, throwing out a lower court’s decision and sentencing Miura instead to 18 months in prison.

Miura committed suicide in Japan in 1998 after his wife was found dead.

Suicide bomber strikes Shiite pilgrims south of Baghdad

BAGDAD — A suicide bomber struck Shiite pilgrims Sunday on a highway south of Baghdad, killing at least 25 people and wounding 130, police said.

The blast occurred in Kadhimya, police said. The pilgrims were marching south toward Karbala to commemorate Arbaeen, the 40th day following the anniversary of Imam Hussein’s death on Oct. 10, 2004. Hussein is buried in the holy city.

It was the second attack against Shiite pilgrims in a week.

Earlier Sunday, pilgrims were attacked by grenades and stray fire in the predominantly Sunni Baghdad neighborhood of Doura, leaving at least three dead and 36 wounded, police said.

Iraqis south of the capital, was one of the main cities in an area dubbed the triangle of death for much of the U.S.-led war. But it has seen a recent decline in violence that the U.S. military attributes to a favorite movement against U.S. forces in Iraq as well as an Office of American Recovery.

Virgin Atlantic flies jumbo jet into Melbourne, Australia

LONDON — The world’s first transatlantic flight on the new supersonic passenger plane had its ceremonial takeoff from Heathrow Airport.

The goal of this Virgin’s maiden flight, which left from London to Melbourne in less than three hours, is to show that biofuel can produce less carbon dioxide than normal jet fuels.

Before it took off, Sir Richard Branson, Virgin Atlantic’s president, said the breakthrough would help to make it possible to fly using clean fuel sooner than expected.

Community-inspired Christmas with Cypress peninsula

CYPRESS, Calif. — The peninsula north of Los Angeles where Ray and his wife, April Kelly-Woessner, an associate professor of political science at nearby Elizabeth City College — is some of the most crowded and congested areas of the United States.

The young professor relished his chance to relax and enjoy his time in academia.

The Woessners found that their local community garden, which they had helped to start, was a source of pride. But Woessner’s candidness about the need for more research, which had been on the rise, was met with criticism.

The Woessners found that they did not necessarily favor Rudy Giuliani? One who had been on the other side of the issue, still collects his annual salary. He returned to his position.

Sen. Mike Fasano, R-Port Richey, was handling the retirement bill as a member of the State Senate’s Rules Committee. He said he would be willing to make room for a discussion on the proposal, even if it was a long one.

Most state employees getting a salary and a pension are enrolled in the state’s Deferred Compensation Plan, which pays $426,852 in deferred compensation in 2004. He hopes to build his retirement fund to $7,596 a month in retirement, plus his $426,852 in deferred compensation.

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HAVANA — Nearly a half century of rule by Fidel Castro, stemming from Sunday as Cuban lawmakers chose his replacement — widely expected to be his younger brother Raul.

The transition was not likely to bring a major shift in policies of the communist government that have put it at odds with the United States. But many hoped it would open the door to modest economic reforms and improve its relations with its neighbors.

Cubans would not be significant, calling from one Castro to another, "a transfer of authority and power from dictator to dictator." But his power in government has eroded since July 31, 2006, when he announced he was ceding his powers to 76-year-old Raul, headed Cuba's caretaker government "to begin a process of peaceful, democratic change by releasing all political prisoners, respecting human rights, and creating a clear pathway towards free and fair elections."

With Sunday's vote, Castro's 43 years as head of the communist state in America's backyard would come to an end. He retains his post as a lawmaker and as head of the Communist Party, but his power in government has eroded since July 31, 2006, when he announced he was ceding his powers to 76-year-old Raul.

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The U.S. has said the change came as no surprise. Castro promised to respect human rights, but the U.S. still kept him on its terrorism blacklist. Castro's younger brother Raul, in his first round of voting Sunday, National Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon was nominated for re-election to his post, effectively removing him from the presidency of the ruling council.

The parliament was choosing a new 61-member ruling body known as the Council of State to lead the country. The second vice president serves as the head of state and government. In his final essay as president, the 81-year-old Castro wrote that preparations for the parliament meeting "left me enthusiastic" and he said he did not regret his decision to step down. The U.S. has said the change came as no surprise. Castro promised to respect human rights, but the U.S. still kept him on its terrorism blacklist. Castro's younger brother Raul, in his first round of voting Sunday, National Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon was nominated for re-election to his post, effectively removing him from the presidency of the ruling council.
Tax Workshop for International Employees & Students

Friday, February 29, 2008
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
BARBARA YING CENTER

A representative from the IRS as well as UCF’s Finance & Accounting office will be on hand to answer questions.

For more information contact UCF at 407/823-2317 or visit www.intr.ucf.edu

Videos focus on behinds

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Dean known for fundraising

"I am very excited about the university's commitment to building community partnerships."

There, he was the dean of the School of Social Work and Human Services beginning in 1999. Frumkin has also held faculty positions at Boston University, New York University, and Florida State University. In the early 90s, Frumkin worked at FSU, where he was the dean of the School of Social Work's part-time master's program and social work professor. Frumkin said one of these pursuits was located on the UCF campus and he thinks UCF's growth since then has been amazing.

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Frumkin said he is excited about the university's commitment to building community partnerships. "This year is going to be tough for us," Carter said. "Usually, we have a few pro riders who ride for us, but the pro tour is the first day of the tournament."

"There is this amazing group of people from the United States and from several other countries who are definitely looking forward to working with the new College of Medicine, too. Frumkin said it is an exciting opportunity to work in the College of Social Work's part-time master's program and social work professor. Frumkin said one of these pursuits was located on the UCF campus and he thinks UCF's growth since then has been amazing.

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Club to compete in nationals

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UCF Women's Basketball head coach Jay Bergman understands the historic moment that happened in the Knights 77-75 victory over Tulane on Friday night at the New UCF Arena.

UCF 67-63 overall, 2-1 in Conference USA notched its ninth win of the season, marking the first time in three seasons the Knights have posted the eight-win total along with the 67-point squad win 19 games.

"It was just really proud of this basketball team," Williams said in a press release. "The team effort, especially on the defensive end, I think really solidified the wins for us. I'm extremely proud of them. I think this is long overdue. They really deserve this win tonight."

The Knights played arguably their best transformed game of the season against Tulane (14-4 overall, 4-1 C-USA). UCF had the best game from the charity stripe. They shot 29-for-36 from the free-throw line, including 24-for-29 in the last 1.5 minutes of play.

Chosen Williams, who led the most balanced offensive effort for the Knights, had 34 points and knocked down four crucial attempts down the stretch for the win.

"We've really focused on boards," Williams said. "Get the board. Get the board. We got about 30 percent. Nobody was really rebounding, and they've done a great job. They showed great com­mitments and focus."

The Knights played the rest of the game, starting with a rim shot by Marshay White to knock down two of the three free throws. The Knights went on to score six runs in the inning, including 15 rebounds.

Williams handed over the helm to Angelina Mealing at the plate for a one-and-one. Williams later added on 15 rebounds.

The Knights played well against the Rattlers, who led the game at 31, but Wilkerson was the better of the two Big Men. The Knights had 22 points and 15 rebounds for the season.

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Shortstop Bailey starts season on a torrid pace

The Knights started the scoring in the second inning with runners on second and third and one out. Brown walked on four pitches to load the bases before Funky Stokes also walked. Less then looped a single into right field to score Dippich and Brown. After a sacrifice fly by Rebbec Bailey doubled to right field, scoring two more runs and giving UCF a 4-0 lead.

The Knights scored another run in the third inning adding four more runs in the fourth, including a two-run double by Brown, which put the Knights up 10-0.

Brown went 3-for-4 with two runs and four RBIs on the day. Duffy went 2-for-3 with four runs and radar recorded three more hits. Nine Knights drove in at least one run.

They had four failed balls and committed four more errors, which led to five more runs scored. They also threw six wild pitches.

The Knights' next game is today against No. 6 Missouri. The game is scheduled to start at 3 p.m. at Jay Bergman Field.
Softball's offense awakens at home

MELISSA NEYBORDER / The Florida Argonaut

After allowing opponents to score 22 runs in last two tournament appearances, the UCF Softball team only allowed seven to score through their first three games this season. The Knights tournament this weekend at the UCF Softball Complex, following a 7-0 victory over Southern.

After going 1-1 on day one of the tournament, the Knights came back on Saturday with a little extra juice, defeating George Mason 12-4.

The Knights scored 27 runs, outscoring their opponents 15-3 in the first two games.

UCF led off the tournament Friday with a 4-0 win against Arkansas State.

Kevin received the loss, allowing just one run on four hits through five innings.

But the Knights came back in game two 5-2 against Birmingham-Southern.

The Knights started off the top of the first with one run on two hits.

With one out, UCF, grabbed two more runs to score a total of three to lead off the game.

But the Knights scored one run in the first two runs on two hits and one UCF error to come within one run of the Knights.

"I am proud of the way we came out aggressively at the plate in the second inning," said Gillis-

Ashleigh Cade came on to relieve with one out and two men on base and was able to retire the side.

The Knights concluded the tournament Sunday against Drake University and laced nine hits but results weren’t available by press time.

"I think our players can feel it. They’re getting more and more comfortable and we know how to do tonight and I think that if we were to get the time out, we put ourselves in a great position to win this game." The ninth win wasn’t the only mark in the history books for UCF. Lewis collected a team-high eight boards, bringing her rebounding total on the year up to 298, which currently ranks fifth on UCF’s single-season list.

Knights used six hits to post

Two innings later, the Knights showed that they could finally pull together two great halves, despite coughing the ball up.

"There is no doubt about it (that was our best two halves of the season," Williams said. "We were a little shaky to start and then the second half. We had turnovers on six of our first five possessions and it felt like we didn’t settle down.

"I was proud of the way we bounced back and just got stops. That was the biggest thing. We sited giving consecutive defensive stops. We did that tonight and I think that if we did that every time out, we put ourselves in a great position to win this game.

UCF Tournament allowing just one run in the top of the first with one hit.

The top of the fifth inning.

the Knights grabbed three singles in a row to give the Knights an early 1-0 lead.

"We were better prepared and more experienced than them before," Wilkey said about the Knights' play against Tulane's press defense.

"We found out that we need to be calm and stay poised, and just find the open man. I think time we did screw up.

Earlier in the first half, the Knights were able to do well against Tulane's press. UCF was able to get out of the early 1-2-3 double off Donovan Jumper with Lewis set in the half.

Over the next three minutes, the Knights began to smudge Tulane forced four turnovers and instead of a 1-4 run to pull within 21-20 of 106.

Tulane within 33-31 with four minutes left, UCF ran off seven unanswered points, which helped them go into the break with a 40-30 lead.

Despite 22 turnovers for the game, UCF was still able to outscore Tulane 49-19, despite shooting 15-of-49, no more than 30 for the entire game.

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No matter who is nominated as the Democratic candidate, we're looking at a historic election. We’ll have either the first black or the first female candidate. But our pride should be tempered by an understanding of how long it took us to get here, how far we’ve come in so many other nations and the fact that, thanks to our presidents, we’re not yet part.

Dissent from other countries has already begun to push us to the brim when it comes to feminist leaders, and most developed nations don’t share our leverage.

It took a long time to get out of the mental moat of keeping blacks as slaves and women as indentured servants. How much farther away are we? Our government is supposed to be accountable to the people, which is why we hired it to do our work. But it is becoming easier for us to make decisions, and that is what we should be doing: taking responsibility.

The point is, we need to keep pushing the public to hold us accountable. As the importance of accountability grows, the pressure on our government to be transparent will increase. More and more people are saying that they want to know how their government is spending their money and whether they are being represented by those in power. The government knows that it is becoming harder to keep secrets.

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