

Central Florida Future

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The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

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Summertime

A complete recap of the last three months of UCF Athletics — SEE SPORTS, A6



Combat comics
Comics sent to soldiers stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan — SEE VARIETY, A8



Education

BATTLE OF THE XX & XY

Sixteen years after Barbie dolls declared, "Math class is tough!" girls are proving that, at math, they are just as tough as boys. In the largest study of its kind, girls measured up to boys in math in every grade, from second through 11th. The research was released Thursday in the journal *Science*.



Science

SKIMMING OUT ENERGY



Pond scum. The thought typically evokes images that leave most people cringing, but it may one day occupy an important role in the nation's energy supply. Algae, thought of as pond scum by many people, is an intriguing biofuel prospect, some researchers and entrepreneurs say. Algae does not need arable land, grows quickly and according to experts has low impact on the environment.



Breaking news on your cell

Get UCF news sent to your cell phone. Just text the keyword **UCFNEWS** to 44636.

AROUND CAMPUS, A2

A GOOD RESUME IS THE PATHWAY TO FINDING A FULFILLING JOB IN LIFE

Learn to design a resume, cover letter and other business correspondence for the job you want at a session by Career Services. The session is today at 3 p.m. in the Career Service office. Call 407-823-2361 for more information.

LOCAL & STATE, A2

EMPLOYEES TOLD BY FEDERAL JUDGES THAT GUNS AT WORK ARE OK

Employees with concealed weapons permits can keep guns locked in their cars at work in Florida, but businesses are allowed to prohibit customers from bringing firearms on their property, a federal judge has ruled. The state law took effect on July 1.

NATION & WORLD, A4

MODERATE SIZED EARTHQUAKE SHAKES SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Despite shaking a large swath of Southern California, a magnitude-5.4 earthquake was not the "Big One" that scientists have long feared. Still, it rattled nerves, causing people to vow to step up emergency preparations.

INDEX	TODAY'S WEATHER
Around Campus 2	<p>SCATTERED T-STORM</p> <p>88° 76°</p> <p>HIGH LOW</p>
Weather 2	
Local & State 2	
Nation & World 4	
Sports 6	
Variety 8	
Opinions 11	
Classifieds 13	
Sudoku 13	
Crossword 13	



An Obama filer in the Democrats' tent blows in the breeze. Student Democrats and Republicans asked students to register to vote on Monday.

DECLARE YOURSELF

MARY CRISTOBAL
Contributing Writer

Republicans and Democrats gathered in front of the Student Union for a voters' registration drive on the last Monday of Summer B.

"We're nonpartisan when we're registering people to vote," said College Democrats Vice President Ben King. "Everyone without an Obama shirt on should be holding a clipboard."

Arielle Williams wore a shirt that read "vote" with an image of the Earth replacing the letter "o." Williams, a member of UCF Students for Obama and College Democrats, balanced a clip board with voters' registration applications and a Smoothie King cup as she asked passersby if they're registered to vote.

"I believe in voters' registration. I believe in rights. I just want to see you out there," Williams said.

Both parties' supporters had their blue-roofed event tent set up adjacent from the Student Union. The Obama supporters held posters that read, "Vote for Change," "Barack the Vote" and "Obama '08." The McCain supporters hung a poster that read, "Don't Tax Me, Bro"

FLORIDA VOTER REGISTRATION

YOU MUST:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be a legal resident of both Florida and of the county in which you seek to be registered.
- Be 18 years old (you may pre-register if you are 17).

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 29 days before any election

State Election Web site: election.dos.state.fl.us/
SOS Web site: www.dos.state.fl.us/

UCF Dems and Reps spoke with students about voting



— WWW.DECLAREYOURSELF.COM

with Obama's campaign symbol replacing the "O" in bro, and a McCain poster that was almost as big as their tent.

Vice President of College Republicans Josh Johnson stood behind his party's presumed candidate, while he stood behind the big McCain poster that provided shade from the scorching sun.

"Since they're having an event, which is voter's registration drive, it's always good to have both sides," Johnson said. "We originally didn't have anything planned until we found out they had something planned."

"We did the same thing. You have to have both sides. I

remember hearing people — students, parents and faculty members come up sometimes — ask us. I've known some of the Democrats I've talked to. They've asked them too, 'where is the other side?' People like to see both sides going out here ... It's about balance, really."

Senior and environmental engineering major Wyatt Champion registered with Williams.

"It was very convenient," said Champion when asked about what he thought of being approached with a voter's registration application. He also said he liked

PLEASE SEE **GROUPS** ON A5

UCF officer joins narcotics task force

MARK SCHAUB
Contributing Writer

A UCF police officer has been selected as an agent for the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation and will report for duty September 1.

MBI is a law enforcement task force comprised of 14 local, state and federal agencies, including the UCF Police Department. Its investigations are focused on narcotics, vice and organized crime. UCF Police Chief Richard Beary, responsible for adding his department to the collection of agencies, said it's an efficient way to expand their duties.

"The thought process with us joining [MBI] is it's a force-

multiplier for us," said Beary, who is also a part of the MBI governing board. "If I put one body in there, I get the collective work of dozens of agents in return."

Beary said the other critical reason for joining MBI is that, since he's been at UCF, every violent crime that's taken place on campus or on UCF property has been drug-related.

"So if we're going to deal with that issue, then the way to do it is through this task force concept where we can use that force-multiplier," Beary said.

The UCF officer will be a narcotics agent, said William Lutz, director of MBI. In fact,

PLEASE SEE **UCF** ON A5

Med school goes green

Strives for LEED silver certification

BRIANNE BARTA
Contributing Writer

UCF is joining the nation in an effort to go green by expecting the College of Medicine at Lake Nona to reach the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver certification standards.

Regardless of hefty budget cuts and a struggling economy, UCF President John Hitt announced last year that all new university construction will still strive to meet at least the LEED silver rating.

The LEED certification standards were developed by the United States Green Building Council in 1998. It is a rating system designed to award points for each construction or design element that meets the standards of LEED's environmentally friendly checklist of

prerequisites. Once the points are totaled, silver, gold or platinum certification can be awarded. If certified, the project will receive a LEED plaque signifying that it has met the nationally accepted criteria for sustainable buildings.

"From our department, we are very excited about these projects reaching LEED silver," said Dave Norvell, director of Sustainability and Energy Management. "These projects will use substantially less energy and water than their predecessors. They will also be cleaner, healthier buildings for the faculty, staff and students."

When complete, the College of Medicine will be equipped with a highly reflective roof that reduces heat and is more energy efficient. It will also have preferred parking for low-emitting, fuel-efficient vehicles. To ensure indoor air quality, low-emitting adhe-

PLEASE SEE **BUILDING** ON A2

UCF clinic assists in stroke therapy

DONALD THOMANN
Staff Writer

Imagine falling into unconsciousness without warning. Your body begins to seize violently. You can't feel it and you can't stop it, eventually regaining consciousness in a hospital bed surrounded by doctors and nurses. Remember nothing of the incident, you've literally lost the ability to communicate with those around you.

That is how Uriah Nelson, a recent stroke survivor in ongoing rehabilitative care, described his stroke.

Nelson is one of the three stroke survivors taking part in the intensive aphasia therapy program being offered through the UCF Communication Disorders Clinic. Aphasia is the loss of the ability to speak and understand spoken and written language, and it is a common after-effect of a stroke.

The therapy program is designed to re-teach stroke survivors how to speak and write. Through therapy work with trained clinicians and aspiring students, and through

SPEECH DISORDERS AND LANGUAGE DISORDERS

- SPEECH DISORDERS**
- Articulation disorders include difficulties producing sounds in syllables or saying words incorrectly.
 - Fluency disorders, the condition in which the flow of speech is interrupted by abnormal stoppages.
 - Resonance or voice disorders include problems with the pitch, volume, or quality of the voice.
- LANGUAGE DISORDERS**
- Receptive disorders refer to difficulties understanding or processing language.
 - Expressive disorders include difficulty putting words together, limited vocabulary.

— KIDSHEALTH.ORG

interaction with strangers in the community, these stroke patients are slowly regaining their communication skills.

Janet Whiteside is the clinical educator in the department and head of the therapy program. She said the community work is what really pushes the patients to succeed.

"What we do in the thera-

PLEASE SEE **PATIENTS** ON A5

Knightro competes in games

JONATHAN HOHENSEE
Staff Writer

UCF's own mascot Knightro was one of the nearly 30 mascots to compete at the 16th annual Celebrity Mascot Games that was held July 24 through July 26 at Stetson University and Amway Arena. About 7,500 mascot fans attended the event.

Other mascots from Florida that competed on the weekend-long event included Stanley C. Panther from the Florida Panthers, Klaw from the Orlando Predators, Sebastian from the University of Miami, Raymond from the Tampa Bay Rays and Albert and Alberta Alligator from the University of Florida. Stuff, the magical dragon who acts as the mascot for the Orlando Magic, hosted the event.



UCF mascot Knightro participates in the 16th annual Celebrity Mascot Games at Amway Arena July 24 through July 26. Nearly 30 mascots and 7,500 fans attended the event.

Featuring a wide range of mascots representing football, basketball, baseball and hockey teams from both collegiate and professional sports teams all across the country, the Celebrity Mascot Games has been a staple of entertainment for children and adults for over a

decade and a half in the Central Florida area.

Presented by the Central Florida Sports Commission, the Celebrity Mascot Games benefits New Hope for Kids, an Orlando-based charity organi-

PLEASE SEE **COSTUMES** ON A3