

# Eat Your Heart Out!

## (M)CAT got your test?

Forget about the new fall television series *ER* and *Chicago Hope*. The real medical drama is unfolding at the U. of California, Davis, where 57 future doctors are still recovering from the loss of their MCAT Scantron sheets.

Med school-bound students were informed in late May that the machine-scoreable section of the eight-hour exams they took in April — a prerequisite for entrance into medical school — had been lost.

"An in-depth investigation concluded that the answer sheets were lost at the ACT facility," says Davis testing site supervisor Tammy Hoyer. "It was their test, their error."

Officials responded by giving students three choices. Seventeen students chose to have the circled answers in their exam booklets — the booklets were not lost in the shuffle — count as overall test answers; three students took a refund; and 37 opted to retake the exam on any of the five scheduled testing days for free.

But for senior Sandy Zabaneh, with June finals and a summer job approaching, there wasn't time to prepare for the makeup exam. Some students claim to study four to five hours every day for several months to prepare for the test. "I felt screwed over," says Zabaneh, who retook the exam in August.

Zabaneh has formed a student coalition protesting ACT's handling of the case, and she is currently looking for a lawyer to represent the group. "ACT has been rude and not accommodating," Zabaneh says. "We're gonna sue for sure."

Ken McCaffrey, 21-year director of the MCAT program in Iowa City, says the investigation failed to determine where the tests were lost. But he says that one of the five packages delivered by Burlington Air Express arrived in Iowa City already open.

"Obviously, we came up empty, and we've got it behind us now," McCaffrey says.

Burlington's Sacramento manager Mitch Wilson says mishaps like packages opening happen occasionally. "That could have happened, but there was nothing odd on the computer manifest."

According to McCaffrey, this is the first time tests have been lost. "We can't guarantee this won't happen again," McCaffrey says, "but maybe we could get an earlier resolution next time."

If only it were this hard to become a doctor.

—Eric C. Rollins, *The California Aggie*, U. of California, Davis

**H**is name has been mentioned on several network halftime shows this season, and he has gotten national news coverage. But it's not for the Heisman watch.

U. of Florida senior Anthony Ingrassia has gotten more press as a restaurant critic than as the offensive tackle for one of the top-ranked college football teams in the nation.

Ingrassia's column, "Anthony Digests," started as a harmless review of local restaurants that was scheduled to appear weekly in the UF student newspaper, *The Independent Florida Alligator*. But the column was suspended due to possible violations of NCAA bylaws regarding endorsements by players. Ingrassia says the column started getting attention only after it was suspended. *USA Today* even mentioned the suspension.

"Once it got there," Ingrassia says, "the controversy just fueled it."

The NCAA ruled in October that Ingrassia could continue to write as long as he receives no funds from the paper or the restaurants he reviews.

What exactly does he write?

In the first column, he details his credentials: "Because I order most of the menu at each sitting, my coverage of a restaurant will reflect a lot."

And he tells of the family dinners he

enjoyed as a youngster in Watchung, N.J.: "I thought there were only three kids in my family until one day my 2-year-old sister popped up from behind a tray of lasagna."

UF teammate, center David Swain, watched Ingrassia tackle 13 bowls of pasta at a local all-you-can-eat spaghetti buffet.

"I ate five [bowls], and I thought I was going to throw up," Swain says. "People in the kitchen started coming out and looking at us. The waitress couldn't believe it. She started bringing him two bowls at a time."

Ingrassia also claims the unofficial Taco Bell national record for eating one of everything on the menu.

"[The column] started out as just a restaurant review. Now it seems like it's turning into a comedy column," Ingrassia says.

"I think you can't take things too seriously all the time. If you can keep a good balance between being loose and getting serious when you have to, that's a good quality of life."

Ingrassia says he keeps that attitude on the field, too.

"I'd say it goes back and forth," he says. "In the huddle, especially during a TV timeout, I think the line has a lot of fun.... But once you get to the line [of scrimmage], for those few seconds of the play, we become focused. I don't think I'm that nice a guy at that time."

Can he give any examples?

"Not that I can say," he says. "They're inside jokes."

■ Jim Peery, *The Independent Florida Alligator*, U. of Florida



U. of Florida students couldn't stomach column's suspension.

# Coed or Dead

**S**tudents at Middlebury College in Vermont are still talking about the Delta Kappa Epsilon 1994 homecoming party. They're saying it was the greatest party of the year. But DKE will never party again at Middlebury. Ever.

The fraternity fell victim to a Vermont Superior Court decision banning all single-sex social organizations from campus. In 1989, Middlebury mandated that no social group can discriminate in any way, gender included. DKE — an all-male fra-

ternity — had been battling the school since the policy was introduced.

Because the DKE members refused to enter the coeducational "social house" system — created to replace traditional fraternity and sorority systems — they have been living under risk of expulsion for what college officials say is "fraternal activity."

Rumors of secret, off-campus meetings have run rampant. But senior Nicholas Stacker says, "What we do now is nothing. I've heard lots of fanciful stories about us, but we have no interest in being expelled. We do not function underground."

A former DKE member claims the school waged "witch hunts" to find out who was a member, tapping phones and intercepting mail to find "outlaw" brothers. But Middlebury dean Don Wyatt says that isn't so. "We're not doing anything in the form of harassment," he insists.

David Mitchell, a current DKE member and a senior, calls the administration's actions "tyrannical" and "crazy." "We're just frustrated that we can't do things that other friends do," he says. "It might be construed as 'fraternal activity.'"

Senior Eric Schroeder, president of Delta Upsilon, thinks the school is stalling so there won't be a pledge class this year. Middlebury is strongly suggesting that the

house meet a 50-50 male-female ratio standard, while other social houses need only one-third membership of either sex. "We've submitted a proposal for reinstatement, but it doesn't look like they liked it too much," he says.

DU was suspended in 1993 for hazing, dorm damage and gender inequity. But, as stated in the DU proposal: Example and experience are life's greatest teachers.

"We're trying to get more women to join. If we don't, it could be the end of DU [at Middlebury]," says senior and DU member Nicole Wood.

The Middlebury social scene is taking on a new identity — to the relief of some and to the chagrin of others. "Any social option is a benefit to this campus, because the campus is limited," says senior Peter Greatrex, president of Omega Alpha.

Because Middlebury is isolated from larger cities, social houses are currently the main outlet for weekend entertainment for many of Middlebury's 2,000 students. But now DKE, once reputed to be the "most social" of these houses, isn't social at all.

At the former party house, the second floor has been converted into faculty offices, and it's dark inside every Saturday night when students pass by it on their way to the shiny, happy social houses.

The last of the mess from that final bash has been cleaned up, and at Middlebury College, DKE is dead. The party's over.

■ Ryan D'Agostino, *The Campus*, Middlebury College



Brian Perry, Middlebury College