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## Police department considers move

Jennifer Spencer  
Contributing Writer

The University of West Florida Police Department may soon have a new home. University officials are currently discussing plans for the department to move from its historic spot near the Commons in Building 19 to a location closer to student residences.

The reason, said UWF Chief of Police Ronald Seacrist, is "to get away from the core of the campus and more in the vicinity of the residence halls, specifically John G. Martin Hall and Village West apartments."

The plans, however, have not yet been finalized.

"Now it's at the funding stage," Seacrist said.

He said the results will see if the plan can

move forward. He believes an existing building will be renovated if the plan gets the go-ahead.

"We'd prefer to have a new facility," he said, "But I don't believe the funding is there for that."

It is not yet known what organization or department would occupy Building 19 if the police department moves. Seacrist said he was first approached about the possible relocation when he was hired as chief about two years ago.

"I told them that it should be closer to the residence halls," he said.

Martin Hall resident Kelly O'Neal, an accounting major, does not.



Ron Seacrist

"I think that's unnecessary," said the 18-year-old freshman. "If they already have their building, leave it there. Our halls are crowded enough."

Fellow Martin Hall resident Xander Morris, also a freshman, said he feels differently.

"I don't think it would be such a bad thing," the 18-year-old said. "It might be a good thing. If anyone needs help, they'd be closer."

Morris also cited "people trying to get away with things" as a reason for the police to be close by. UWF is required to submit to the U.S. Department of Education reports that indicate the number of criminal offenses committed campus-wide and in residence halls. In 2000-02, the last years for

which statistics are available, campus crime occurred largely in the student housing complexes.

During that time, 19 of the 26 criminal offenses documented occurred in residence halls. In 2002, three out of four reported burglaries occurred in student housing, as did the one aggravated assault and two motor vehicle thefts.

However, Seacrist did not cite a higher incidence of criminal activity in the halls as the reason for the police department's possible move.

"Regardless of the level of crime, given the nature of a residential campus, I believe it is important that the police department be as close to the main residential areas as possible," he said.

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## UWF gears up for Festival on the Green

Brie Redfield  
Staff Writer

Festival on the Green is a two-day event taking place at the University of West Florida on Friday, April 2 and Saturday, April 3. The festival has brought as many as 15,000 attendees in the past. Northwest Florida and South Alabama community members are welcome to come and enjoy this highly celebrated event.

The festival is an art and crafts fair that is located throughout the beautiful greens on campus.

The Alumni Relations Department was the host of Festival on the Green from 1982-86.

They were successful during this time, but it was a lot of work for just one department. In 2001, the festival was reborn by the UWF LEAD program. It is now run by a cross-department core group of volunteers. This will be its fourth year.

Crafts, exhibits, shows, music and even food will be showcased on the library greens.

The crafts include ceramics, wood, fiber, jewelry, toys, clothing and more. More than 40 artists will be expected to reveal their works. Joyce Southard, the venue coordinator for the fair, said she enjoys being a part of annual event.

"It gives me a break from my routine, and I get to work with people in the community," Southard said.

There will be exhibits from NASA which include one-on-one encounters with astronauts, as well as exhibits by the HAAS Center,



Courtesy of www.uwf.edu

Artist Steve Shepard's work is displayed on the official Festival on the Green poster. The work was commissioned by the festival's steering committee.

the Small Business Development Center and the Institute for Human and Machine Cognition.

Joy Ward has been involved with the festival for four years now.

"I got involved with the festival because I liked the idea of inviting the public to come out and enjoy a spring-time event with us on our campus," Ward said.

She organizes every aspect of the Fine Arts Show venue and helps with publicity for the festival as well.

According to the UWF Festival on the Green's Web site, a small dog show will take place on April 3 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., which includes a square dance and an obstacle course, presented by the Five Flags Dog Training Club.

The Society for Creative

Anachronism & Empire of Chivalry and Steel will be performing sword fights and magic acts.

Throughout the event, music will be provided from a variety of musical acts. The UWF Gospel Choir and Jazz Band will perform as well as regional performers such as Dread Clampitt, Mithril and Touch of Gray.

All kinds of food will be served at the event such as oriental, seafood, Cajun, German, Caribbean and even Hawaiian shaved ice will be available.

During the fair, there will be no charge for baseball, volleyball and tennis games for that weekend.

For more information on the 2004 Festival on the Greens, visit [www.uwf.edu/festival/call\\_to\\_crafters.cfm](http://www.uwf.edu/festival/call_to_crafters.cfm).

## UWF celebrates Women's History Month

From Staff Reports

Women have fought for equal rights, demanded equal pay and slashed conventional stereotypes. Their voices resound in the daily impacts they make in the lives of their children, friends, families and complete strangers, and their resolve has had a profound effect on the shape of American society.

In honor of the contributions and sacrifices women have made, the University of West Florida will celebrate National Women's History Month throughout March. A variety of programs and events have been organized to recognize women and educate the community about the vital roles women of the past, present and future play in the United States.

The John C. Pace Jr. Symposium Series will kick off the University's celebration with a lecture by Evelyn Hu-DeHart, director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University. The event will take place on March 4 at 7 p.m. in the UWF Music Hall, Building 82, and is free and open to the public.

Hu-DeHart will discuss Asian-Americans and multicultural history. Chat Sue, chair of the Symposium Series Committee, said the speaker will discuss many contemporary issues.

"Evelyn will speak on her research into the ways in which Asian-American immigrants have fitted into their new 'homes' far away from the Asian continent to North, Central and South America," Sue said. "A much-in-demand speaker all over the United States and abroad, she touches on many hot-button issues that we hear about today, including the Asian model minority concept, affirmative action, and the influence of our changing demographic makeup on American culture."

Portraying historical women through biographies and costumed enactments, faculty, staff and students will participate in the Third Annual Women's History Program March 18 at 11:30 a.m. in the University Commons Conference Center. Informational booths will provide guests with an opportunity to learn more about women in history, and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The event is free and open to the public.

Dee Dee Ritchie and Cynthia Campfield, hosts of "Yadda Yadda Yadda," which airs on Blab television, will give a special presentation during the program.

Other women's history events that UWF will be the host of during the month include the Third Annual Women's Studies Conference and a concert by singer-songwriter Vienna Teng.

The conference will be held March 12 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the University Commons Conference Center and will include slide presentations, papers and performances related to women's studies.

Teng will perform March 17 from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in the UWF Music Hall. Admission is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Sue, who organized the concert, said Teng's music is for everyone.

"Vienna Teng's music is so well liked by many different people, regardless of their race or age," he said. "She has something universal to say about life, relationships and love, and her use of language shows her talent."

Teng's music has been likened to that of Sarah McLachlan and Tori Amos.

From her childhood neighbor's piano bench to the to the Late Show with David Letterman and the CBS Early Show, Teng's popularity has steadily grown as she has performed for audiences across the United States.

For tickets, call the UWF Ticket Center at 474-2405. For more information on the John C. Pace Symposium Series or Vienna Teng, contact Sue at 474-3177 or e-mail [csue@uwf.edu](mailto:csue@uwf.edu).

For more information on the Third Annual Women's History Program or Women's Studies Conference, contact the Women's Studies Program at 474-7290.



Courtesy of www.viennateng.com

Singer Vienna Teng will perform March 17 from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in the UWF Music Hall. Her music has been compared to Sarah McLachlan and Tori Amos.

## Congressman visits UWF campus

Andrew Kilgo  
Sports Editor

Early Monday morning, U. S. Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., paid a visit to the University of West Florida to talk to a combined group of three instructors' classes. He spoke about a typical day in his life as a congressman and the positive and negative aspects of his work.

"I wish that I had more time to spend on specific issues, but I have to be able to cover many issues on a given day," Miller said.

"Today I am able to do something that I really enjoy, and that is to take time out of the schedule and discuss with students the issues that involve them on a daily basis," Miller said.

Miller did not isolate the conversation to just student issues and a typical day of his. He opened the floor to any issue someone wanted to discuss. The congressman spoke about the local community and the impact of the Base Realignment and Closure, which deals with the closing of military bases around the country. Miller made specific reference to Whiting Field as a target of closing or dual military service integration.

Miller also discussed international hot button issues like the war on terrorism, the war in Iraq and the rebellion in Haiti. Miller also talked about his first day as a congressman when he was unable to start his job because the Anthrax scare hit Washington D.C. the same day.

Toward the end of the hour-long visit by Miller, two issues posed by students in attendance generated some



Photo by Lonnie Hawkins

Congressman Jeff Miller lectures during a visit to the UWF campus Monday.

passionate and informative debate. One dealt with House Resolution 25, which is a proposal to eliminate the income tax and replace it with a national retail tax.

Also, Miller dispelled two rumors that students were concerned about, which centered around internet

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