## ACTOR AND FORMER MR. UNIVERSE LOU FERRIGNO TO SPEAK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Gainesville, Fla. - The original "Hulk" on the 1970's television show and the only man in history to capture the title of Mr. Universe two consecutive years, Lou Ferrigno, will speak at the University of Florida on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the J.Wayne Reitz Union's Grand Ballroom. Ferrigno is brought to UF by ACCENT Speakers' Bureau and the DisAbility Student Assembly. Admission is free and open to the public.

Lou Ferrigno set the Guiness Book record for being the youngest Mr. Universe when he won the title at 21. Then a documentary following Ferrigno's path to the Mr. Universe title was made and he turned to acting. He starred in the hit show "The Incredible Hulk" and continues to pursue theatre and television today co-starring on the sitcom "King of Queens."

Ferrigno is eighty percent deaf and will discuss how he believes his disability has been more of an asset to him than a detriment. He says, "If I hadn't lost my hearing, I wouldn't be where I am now. It forced me to maximize my potential."

ACCENT Speaker's Bureau has been bringing prominent speakers to the University of Florida since the early 1960s. Ferrigno will be the first speaker of the Fall 2004 semester. Please visit our new website (effective after August 23) at <a href="https://www.sg.ufl.edu/accent">www.sg.ufl.edu/accent</a> for more information. Also note ACCENT's new **press only** phone extension at (352) 392-1665 ext. 411.

The DisAbility Student Assembly is in its fifth year of incarnation. Ferrigno will be the keynote speaker for DSA's welcome assembly.

For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact (352) 392- 1665 x 302 or 392- 2567 (TDD). E-mail accommodate@sg.ufl.edu or contact the Florida Relay System at 1-800-955-8771 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Real Time Transcription will be provided.

For more information, please contact ACCENT at (352) 392-1665 ext. 306.