Search nears end

OFFICIALS CHOOSE FOUR FINALISTS FOR PROVOST.

VOLUME 98 ISSUE 95

By STEPHANIE GARRY

Alligator Staff Writer smgarry@alligator.org

UF officials cast a wide net in the search for a second-in-command administrator Monday by recommending four finalists for provost to President Bernie Machen.

Though Machen asked for three names, the search committee Monday played it safe by voting 7 to 5 to include the last interviewee, Richard Hoffmann, on the short list.

These candidates are different enough that putting them all forward might make sense," member Angel Kwollek-Folland said.

are Pramod The finalists Khargonekar, the dean of UF's College of Engineering; George Atkinson, an adviser for the U.S. State Department; Mark Thiemens, dean at the University of California-San Diego; and Hoffmann, dean at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Fearing candidates might drop out because of counteroffers from their institutions, the committee wanted to keep a larger pool and quickly make recommendations.

Though the short list got a little longer, the finalists still were all men and from the sciences.

However, committee Chairman Doug Barrett said he was pleased with the four finalists' academic stature and diversity.

"The committee did a great job of casting a wide net," Barrett said, noting the initial pool of 12 candidates recommended by the search firm included four women and candidates from a variety of backgrounds.

The priority is to find a person who will be a good fit for UF and the president, said Patricia Telles-Irvin, committee member and vice president for student affairs.

"There has been a process, and I'm confident the right provost will be selected," she said.

Machen made diversity at UF a "core value," but in an e-mail he declined to comment on the diversity of the pool or whether he would invite all four candidates to campus.

Hoffmann was the last of six candidates to interview with the committee, emphasizing relations with students, his administrative experience and the special mission of a land-grant institution.



Emily Harris / Alligator Staff

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2005

Michael Smith carves a walking stick out of wood Monday afternoon while sitting on the Plaza of the Americas. Smith will exchange the stick, when completed, with other people on the barter system for different items.

STUDENT FINANCES

Federal funding cutoff no problem for Perkins Loans

By EMILY YEHLE

Alligator Writer eyehle@alligator.org

UF students face another financial aid shakeup after President Bush announced plans Monday to cut all federal funding to Perkins Loans.

The cut is the newest plan in a line of proposals to fix a \$4.3-billion Pell Grant deficit, including changing the federal financial aid formula and cutting down on government subsidies to private lenders.

But cutting Perkins Loans would be hurting a program that helps students pay for college when government loans, like Stafford, don't fill in all the gaps, said Ron Anderson, associate director for Student Financial Affairs.

"Proponents for the cut say that the (Perkins) program is superfluous," he

"But the fact of the matter is that Stafford Loan programs have a limited

amount they can allow students to borrow each year." However, Bush also plans to raise the limits

government loans from \$2,625 to \$3,500 for freshman and \$3,500 to \$4,500 for sophomores. Those caps have not been

on direct and subsidized

changed since 1986. The \$6 billion that would be saved by defunding the Perkins program, along with money saved by cutting government

subsidies to private student lenders, is to be used to increase the maximum Pell Grant from \$4,050 to \$4,550 over the next five years.

But Pell Grants will not benefit just because Perkins funding is cut, Anderson

"This is so early in the budget that just because it's proposed doesn't mean it's the bottom line," he said.

According to the latest data, more than 1,900 UF students were awarded Perkins Loans this year, and UF received \$328,000 from the federal government to help pay for them.

But the university spent much more than that to provide loans to students, Anderson said.

Unlike the Stafford Loan, Perkins is

self-revolving, meaning the university funds most of the loans itself, and students make payments directly to the school rather than being indebted to the government or private lenders.

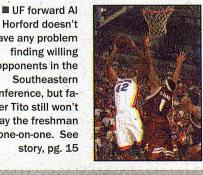
Since the university pays for most of the loans, Anderson said he was unsure how the federal cut would affect the Perkins program.

But cuts in government subsidies to private lenders would be preferable, he said. UF doesn't offer government-subsidized

"I think there are other ways monies can be recouped to increase the Pell Grant program while still sustaining Perkins,"

Information from the Associated Press was used in this report.

Horford doesn't have any problem finding willing opponents in the Southeastern Conference, but father Tito still won't play the freshman one-on-one. See story, pg. 15



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Students studying abroad on the Semester at Sea program have taken a detour to Hawaii, thanks to a 50-foot rogue wave. See story, pg. 4.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING Pimp My PC Reitz Union North Lawn 6 p.m. Speaker: J.L. King Reitz Union Ballroom 7 p.m. Speaker: Paul Findley CSE Building

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Progress Party is holding an information and discussion session today at 5:30 p.m. in Reitz Union Room 357. All students interested in slating for Student Senate with the Progress Party in the Spring are invited.

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GAINESVILLE CITY COMMISSION

Leaders discuss UF relations

Commissioners visit Athens, Ga.

By STEVE SPECHT

Alligator Writer sspecht@alligator.org

The City Commission wants to play with UF in the Gainesville sandbox.

"Great university cities have collaboration between city, campus and private sectors," Commissioner Warren Nielsen said.

Nielsen suspended a regular economic development meeting agenda Monday for a presentation on how to improve Gainesville based on the lead of other college towns.

The discussion was spurred by Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan and other commissioners' trip last week to Athens, Ga., dubbed an exemplary university city.

Hanrahan said people need to look to the future when improving Gainesville.

Gainesville.

"A lot of people have a hard time communicating with each oth-

er. There are factions... we've got to drop all that," Hanrahan said.

Florida Bridgewater-Alford, the UF community relations coordinator, supported creating stronger city-university ties.

"It's about time," she said. "We have the perfect administration who is behind the community 100 percent. [Nielsen] wants to make sure this is a great place."

Nielsen's vision for Gainesville is a bustling downtown area with wide sidewalks.

"People need a strong feeling of safety when they walk down the sidewalk," Nielsen said.

Nielsen also wants to have more places for celebrating Gainesville's arts and entertainment. He said for a city its size, Gainesville has the second-largest residential population of artists in the United States.

Nielsen gave the example of Yale University, which was dealing with enrollment problems because of early 1990s crime-ridden New Haven.

"Yale bought run-down properties and transformed them into retail and student areas," Nielsen said.

Yale invested \$2 billion in the city and purchased land on which retail centers that benefit the university have been built. Prostitution, drugs and drive-by shootings are no more.

Nielsen noted UF already began collaborating with the city when the decision to pay for RTS fees with student monies was made. UF students can ride for free by showing their Gator-1 card.

After the presentation, everyone was asked to give ideas on the issue.

Incentives for UF graduates were proposed so brainpower would stay in the community, as well as the discouraging of residents from gravitating exclusively to commercial centers such as Archer Road, as retail centers closer to campus cannot thrive.

Fair gives HIV tests

By ASHLEY JONES

Alligator Contributing Writer

The Black History Month committee provided free, anonymous HIV testing in the Reitz Union on Monday afternoon.

Jasmine Smith contacted Planned Parenthood to set up free testing as part of a health fair organized by the committee in conjunction with the Black Student Union.

Smith said the black community is most affected by this disease and needs to become more aware of the risks.

UF sophomore Erica Davis showed up with a friend to seize the apportunity for free testing

the opportunity for free testing.
"It doesn't hurt. It's just a cotton swab," Davis said. "We both always wanted to know and thought to take

both always wanted to know and thought to ta On advantage since it's free."

CampusUF sophomore Teresa Corretjer said she wished more people would take advantage.

"It's always good to know your status. When people ask me if I'm HIV positive, I say no, but I would like to say it with assurance," Corretjer said. "There's a large population of people on the set who are doing nothing and could come down and pass five minutes."

During the three-hour span in which Planned Parenthood outreach educator Matthew Brenner volunteered as a tester, approximately 10 people showed up.

"I would have liked to see more people, but if only one person came, we served our purpose," Brenner said.

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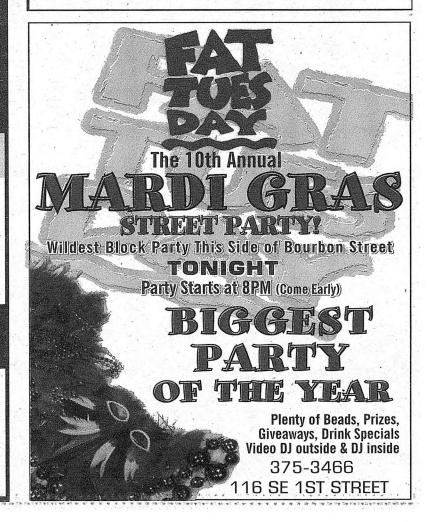
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SG parties reach double digits; candidates prepare

Impact goals get personal

By BRIDGET CAREY

Alligator Writer

The Impact Party's Dennis Ngin says that if elected Student Body president, he will give students something they can touch.

"I'm trying to look past the simple rhetoric," Ngin said of his personal presidential campaign goals, which focus on tangible improvements to student life. "I'm looking at things we can actually do."

Ngin, the current Student Body treasurer who ran with the Access Party last Spring, says his goals include finding ways to improve the Reitz Union Game Room, offering free movie rentals and creating another campus radio station.

Having executive candidates on the Impact Party ticket come up with personal goals — rather than having the party announce platforms as a whole — would

force Ngin's administration to accomplish more, he said.

He hasn't announced the VP and treasurer who will share his ticket, but SG lobbying co-

ordinator Robert Mack is expected to run for vice president.

"We can have a whole barrage of platforms," he said, adding that through his experience in SG, he believes more goals can be accomplished if Impact candidates take responsibility for delegating their personalized promises.

Ngin said he supports the online voting initiative, which if passed would allow students to vote for all future SG elections via the Internet using Gatorlink IDs.

Plans to lower tuition and slow tuition increases with "responsible financing," are goals Ngin researched as treasurer, he said.

His vision for the Game Room would "make it geared more toward the next generation of gaming," he said, adding that he looks to add personal computers. But a goal that Ngin says he

expects to "get a lot of angry phone calls" about is creating a forum on SG's Web page for students to exchange used textbooks "however they see fit."

Two new parties

The number of political parties registered for Student Government Spring elections reached double digits Monday.

The Support Party and the Block Party applied for the race, bringing the total number of parties either approved or nearing approval to 11.

Sen. Rebecca Guerra is listed as the party president of Support — a name introduced during the Phoenix Party nominating convention last week by lobbying director Robert Mack. Katie Coleman is listed as the party's treasurer. Guerra could not be reached for comment.

The Block Party, headed by Xavier Navarro, registered last week and plans to run a full executive ticket.

Navarro is running for Student Body president, Roy Arias will run for vice president, and Peter Flores for treasurer.

No senators have been chosen yet.

The Block Party plans to increase involvement by getting every student involved in at least one campus group. Flores said he would like all dorms to be air conditioned to improve campus life.

No party events are scheduled.

So far, Access, Block, Gator, Impact, Keg, Mad Hatters, Phoenix, Progress, Strike Force, Student Alliance and Support all have registered

While the Phoenix name remains registered, the party, which changed its name to Impact last week, will not run any candidates in the election.

- STEPHEN MAGRUDER

STUDENT LIFE

Semester at Sea students ride rogue wave to Hawaii

MAMONG THE 700 STUDENTS ON THE BOAT WAS A UF SOPHOMORE.

By LEAH COCHRAN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Students studying abroad on the Semester at Sea program have taken a detour to Hawaii, thanks to a wave.

A 50-foot rogue wave hit the ship holding nearly 700 college students, including UF sophomore Tana Bleser, Jan. 26. The wave disabled three of the 591-foot Motor Vessel Explorer's four engines and damaged its win-

dows and controls, and two crew members were injured, according to a release.

"A 50-foot wave crashed over the bow and shattered the window of the bridge where the captain steers the ship from, which is pretty important," Bleser said.

The ship was en route to Japan from Vancouver, Canada, when it encountered winds gusting up to 50 mph and 35-foot seas, about 650 miles south of Adak, Alaska.

Because Internet-based communication was down, most of Bleser's friends and family heard about it on the news first, including her mother, Sandra Bleser.

"I had gone to work and an early-morning

HIPP

newscast drew attention from my co-workers who told me," Sandra Bleser said. "Of course, I kept missing the newscasts on television, but I went online to get information right away."

Rogue waves are fairly common, said Ellen Martin, who teaches oceanography at UF.

"No one really knows how they form," Martin said. "One theory is that waves are created by two different weather fronts, and when they interact, they add together to form a big wave. It's like in a bathtub when you are sloshing the water and one crest hits the other, and together they are bigger."

After the wave hit, students had to rely on a few satellite phones others possessed to get in touch with their families.

"Tana called and just briefly said that she was fine and that she would be in touch as soon as she could," Sandra Bleser said.

The ship made it to Honolulu, Hawaii on Jan. 31 escorted by the U. S. Coast Guard with two working engines, one of which had to be restarted at sea. It will stay there for repairs.

restarted at sea. It will stay there for repairs.

When the storm hit the ship, Bleser was spending the night with a wheelchair-bound friend because of the weather, Bleser wrote in an e-mail sent to friends and family.

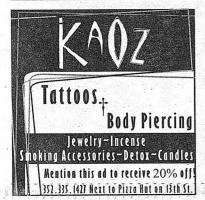
The captain and crew of the ship did a great job of keeping the students calm and informed, Bleser said.

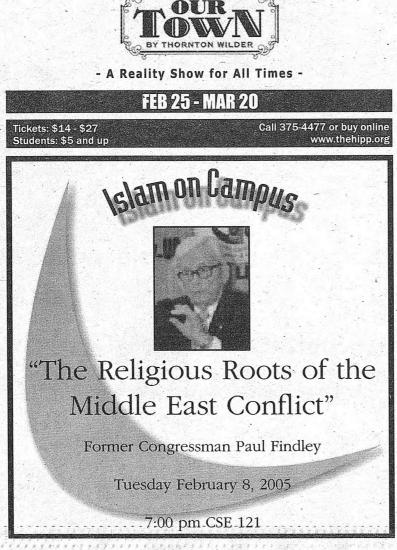


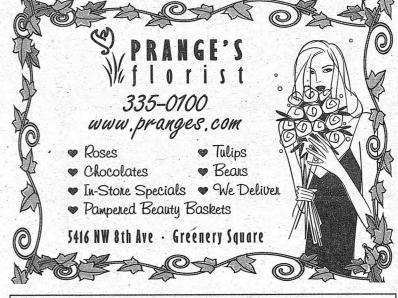
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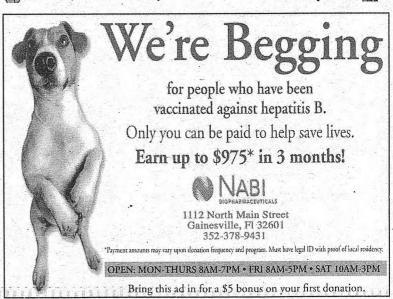
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STUDENT LIFE

Committee pushes for later hours

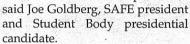
By BRIAN HAGEN
Alligator Writer
bhagen@alligator.org

Getting Gainesville bars'closing times changed to 3 a.m. crept another minute closer to reality as Student Government's Safety and Fair Entertainment Committee, or SAFE, discussed Monday night how to convince city government and residents that the city would be safer

SAFE will be assembling a mission statement, statistics and talking points Sunday at 5 p.m. in preparation for meetings next week with UF administration and

the Gainesville Public Safety Commission.

"We need to target the above-30 crowd, letting them know that we are responsible,"



According to SAFE's proposal, though no alcohol would be served during the extra hour, drunk driving, violence and crime would be lessened, and police would have smaller crowds to handle, Goldberg said.

The group also discussed starting and ending the Later Gator bus service an hour later to accommodate new bar hours.

When Goldberg and Chris Aimstead, SAFE law-enforcement director, initially made their proposal last month, Public Safety Committee members worried that drug abuse and raves that necessitated the current 2 a.m. bar closing time would re-emerge.

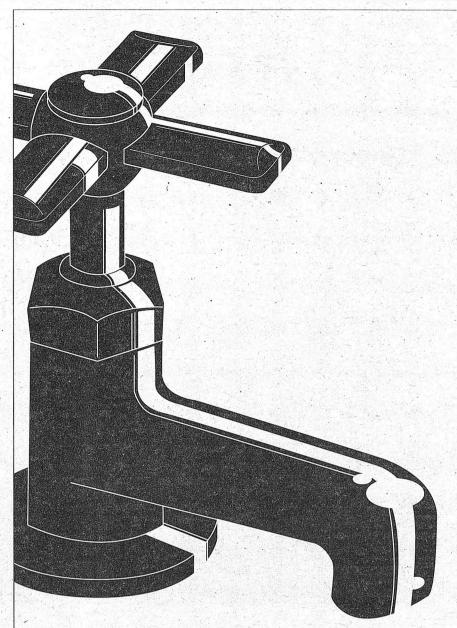
"Ecstasy and raves were a fad, and that's what we need to focus on," Goldberg said.

To promote responsibility, SAFE is proposing education of young drinkers through public service announcements and drink coasters with alcohol-awareness messages. Beer and liquor distributors also will be approached to participate.

"Bar owners and businesses aren't really policing their own selves," Aimstead said. "We need commitment from the bar owners to police their bars."

Gainesville Police and local bar and restaurant owners have yet to voice their opinions on the proposed time extension, Goldberg

SAFE's proposal will be presented for further discussion at the UF meeting Feb. 16 regarding alcohol policies as well as a Public Safety Committee meeting Feb. 17.



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Editorial

Budget blunder

Plan to reduce the deficit harms needed programs

ontinuing his trend of taking one step forward and then one step back, President Bush has outlined a budget designed to cut the deficit in half by 2009 — a plan that calls for cuts in funding for numerous domestic programs and ignores some pricey extras.

Bush's \$2.57-trillion budget for 2006 includes cuts to, or outright elimination of, about 150 programs, including reductions in 12 of 23 major government agencies.

Though the budget hardly is a "hoax on the American people," as House Minority Leader Rep. Nancy Pelosi described it, it's true the budget offers little consideration of the president's favored issues: privatization of Social Security, military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and the permanent establishment of his temporary tax cuts. Resolving these issues will not be cheap, and their exclusion leaves the validity of the entire budget in question.

Some aspects of the budget likely will have trouble finding support even among Republicans, especially the major cuts to the Department of Agriculture. Bush looks to save over \$8 million through these reductions, which include a 10-percent cut in discretionary spending, reductions in subsidies for farmers and a \$1.1-million cut in food-stamp payments.

Disturbingly, 48 of the 150 programs that are projected to receive cuts or outright elimination are in the Department of Education. Bush's claims that the current system is ineffective may be true, but decreasing funds is perhaps the worst possible way to correct this deficiency. In particular, the \$1.5-billion high school performance program is insultingly low — especially when it sits next to the proposed \$419 billion for Department of Defense spending.

Also receiving cuts are veterans and healthcare programs, including reductions to Medicaid, as well as other reductions and eliminations of healthcare programs for needy citizens.

Bush is counting on a strong and expanding economy to back up this budget, and he will need it if his plan is to be successful. In particular, the president's insistence on continuing his tax cuts must provide noticeable dividends if they are to be worthwhile — and if he is going to convince opponents that they aren't simply a way of pandering to his rich supporters. He says the cuts will stimulate the economy by causing citizens to spend more, but it remains to be seen if this boost will justify this allocation of funds that could have been used to lessen the degradation of domestic programs.

The success or failure of the budget also is contingent upon the support it receives from Congress. The plan will lose much of its effectiveness if Bush's proposed cuts don't make it through the Legislature — which easily could happen. Few of his cuts and eliminations from last year's budget were approved, causing a dearth in funds for the programs that were increased. In fact, many of the proposals in the budget are similar to proposals that Congress has denied in past years.

Taken as a whole, the cuts outlined in the budget present a stark contrast to the increased amounts that will be spent on programs with a higher profile but less effect on the standard of living of the average American. While the president's intent to stem the expansion of government spending is noble, decreasing funds to essential domestic programs is not the way to go about it.

If Bush wants a slimmer budget that everyone can get behind, he needs to divert money away from his pet projects and toward the less glamorous programs that need it the most.

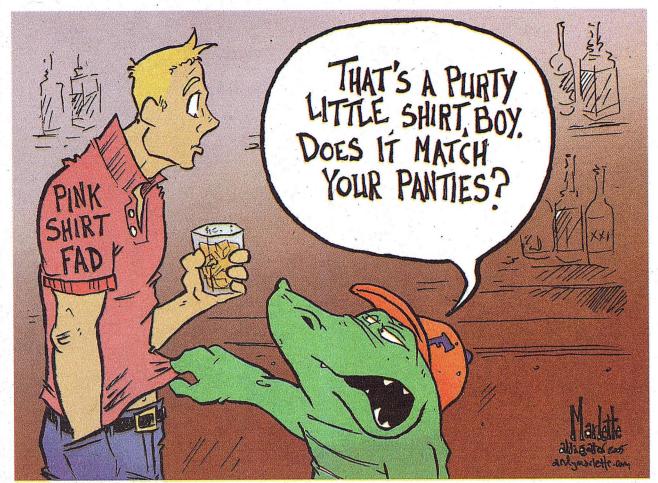


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Opinions

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Column

Social Security requires prompt action

between the young and the old. The political battle du jour concerns the future of Social Security, and the options are clear: Do nothing to save the failing program or make an attempt to restructure the system to which many Americans have contributed. The entitlements that worked for our grandparents will not work for our parents and will not exist for us. Social Security as it stands today will be long bankrupt when the time comes for our generation to retire. The President offers a solution to the problem, while the loyal opposition simply denies the existence of the impending Social Security crisis.

While the programs our grandparents and, in time, our parents, rely on for retirement supplements flounder financially, we must look ahead toward a future without Social Security. As we continue using outdated formulas and antiquated perceptions of retirement, we doom the system.

As the program stands, three workers support each beneficiary of Social Security. This system is unstable because of the low ratio of workers to beneficiaries and, as our parents age, the ratio only will decrease. I've already paid into the system, but, with each paycheck I receive, I realize I'll never see the money taken from my paycheck again. Social Security simply can't handle the aging of Americans.

Too often, I hear people say Social Security simply doesn't provide enough to pay the rent and the monthly grocery bill. While older Americans are given monthly supplements to their income, Social Security was never meant to be the sole source of income for any American. We all hope to spend our "golden years" living comfortably, but it is not the responsibility of the government to finance the needs for which we have failed to plan.

Social-welfare programs have long been a topic of fiery debate as Americans discuss the merits of government programs that provide for those who cannot provide for



Allison Cullin Strategery Sessions letters@alligator.org

themselves. We've forgotten that Social Security was designed to supplement retirement savings; it was not meant to be the sole component of a retirement nest egg.

While we will continue to debate the nature of government entitlements, the current battle is over the reform of a failing program. Democrats are in denial as to the sustainability of the system. The current age of retirement, the

shift in wages and the rise in life expectancy have left current Social Security guidelines in the past. We cannot continue to base current entitlements on standards and expectations. Without change, Social Security will be in the red in just 13 years.

Privatization may or may not be the answer to the Social Security dilemma. Ordinary Americans will be given the chance to define their financial futures as they invest in their own retirements. With the President's privatization plan, Americans easily can opt out of the personal savings accounts.

Our generation would be wise to look toward retirement expecting nothing from the government. Careful investment and steady savings will provide a more secure future than any promise that the Social Security Administration makes. Retirement saving is too important to trust to the federal government.

Without change, the viability of the Social Security system has an expiration date of 2018.

We now face the choice between ownership and denial. It's clear that the attempt being made by the Bush administration is a step in the right direction.

Allison Cullin is a political science and economics sophomore. Her column appears on Tuesday.

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of the Alligator.

Reader response

Today's question: Do you think President Bush's budget will be effective?

Monday's question: Were the Super Bowl's commercials as good as in past years?

24% YES 76% NO 38 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Guest Column

U.S. troops deserve recognition and respect

This is an open letter to the American troops:

There are no words that can describe the amount of respect, love and honor I hold for you. You have taken up the most courageous service possible, and your duty in protecting our homeland is cherished by all. My thoughts and prayers are with you always. I believe that you are true heroes, and your sacrifice does not go without immense appreciation. The task you take on now undoubtedly will leave you a special place in history, but news coverage often doesn't report about the positive contributions you are making.

During President Bush's State of the Union Address on Wednesday, he introduced Janet and William Norwood and talked about their son, Marine Corps Sgt. Byron Norwood of Pflugerville, Texas. Byron Norwood died during the assault on

David Ruiz Speaking Out Fallujah, Iraq. "Ladies and gentle-

men, with grateful hearts we honor freedom's defenders and our military families, represented here this evening by Sergeant Norwood's mom and dad, Janet and Bill Norwood," Bush said.

Safia Taleb al-Suhail, leader of the Iraqi Women's Political Council, displayed a peace sign as other guests applauded during the speech. The moment when Janet Norwood and al-Suhail embraced was extremely touching and almost brought me to tears. Even President Bush seemed to tear up. This is proof to me he doesn't take his duties lightly and has wonderful compas-

On Jan. 30, the Iraqi people demonstrated their commitment to democracy by holding the first free and fair election in generations. Now begins the process of organizing the

Transitional National Assembly, forming a government and drafting and ratifying a permanent constitution that will be the basis

of a fully democratic Iraq.

On Oct. 9, the Afghan people made history by holding their first direct presidential election with both men and women voting. They also adopted a constitution that protects the rights of all, while honoring their nation's most cherished traditions. The Afghan people have proven to the world there is a yearning among people everywhere for democracy and freedom.

Thanks to the American men and women in uniform, people around the world are experiencing what the United States was founded upon: freedom. Your service and commitment truly are an inspiration to all. May you be guided and protected by a power greater than ourselves.

David Ruiz is a political science senior.

Editor's note

It has come to our attention that a guest column by Erik Maza in yesterday's Alligator plagiarized from an article entitled "A child learns a harsh lesson in politics" by Julie Salamon from Saturday's edition of the New York Times.

Maza later admitted to using concepts and wording from the article. As he had written to us before without incident, we did not question the column's originality.

Had we known about the problem beforehand, we would not have printed the column.

SG INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR SG SPRING ELECTION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 6:00PM **ROOM 355 REITZ UNION**

Qualifying to run for a position in Student Government election:

FEBRUARY 11, Room 287 Reitz Union FEBRUARY 14, Room 287 Reitz Union

FEBRUARY 15, Room 123 Reitz Union (Bryan Lounge)

9:00AM - 5:00PM

STUDENT BODY ELECTIONS

March 15 & 16, 2005

(if a run-off is necessary) March 22 & 23, 2005





present



Janet Reno Former U.S. Attorney General

Wednesday, February 9th Stephen C. O'Connell Center 7:30pm, Doors open at 7pm FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

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Spring Break '05

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of an entire nation?
they already have.*

xTAX 2004

Last fall, over 800 students from 25 colleges and universities were given a difficult task: determine if Internet retail sales should be taxed. Their ideas were evaluated by a panel of PricewaterhouseCoopers professionals, who named the top team at each campus.

Join us in congratulating all the students who participated and the top team from the University of Florida: Stefanie Fiedler

Susan Petty Paras Patel

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Classifieds

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2005

ALLIGATOR www.alligator.org/class

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Live in Peace! Luxury 3BR & 4BR, includes: utilities, furniture, individual lease, W/D, extended cable. Starting at \$480/mo. Call The Landings at 336-3838. 4-20-71-2

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CAN'T FIND PARKING? BUS FULL?

Studios & 1/1s from \$459 at UF Pool *We Pay Most Utilities Pets OK Residents get FREE parking...guaranteed You can't live any closer! 372-7111

QUALITY YOU CAN AFFORD!

- Avail NOW or AUGUST!
- 1BR \$530/2BR \$580/3BR \$735
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1 & 2BR apts. convenient to shopping, bus line, and just a few miles from UF. Located off SW 20th Ave. \$410 - \$515, incl water, sewer, pest control & garbage. Sorry no pets allowed. Call 335-7066 335-7066. 4-20-71-2

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- Beautiful pools/courtyards! Walk to UF! Pets Welcome!
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Quality single family homes. Walk or bike to UF. www.ellieshouses.com 352-215-4991 or 352-215-4990 4-20-71-2

SUN ISLAND 1.1 from \$460.00 **★** 2.1 \$520.00 \$99 deposit for Grad students .999 SW 16th Ave phone # 376-6720 www.sunisland.info

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Luxury 2BR/2BA townhomes. W/D, private balconies. Open until 8pm and WEEKENDS Leasing for Fall 371-7777 4-20-71-2

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So Close to Campus Avail now, 2BR/1 & 2 BA apts \$400, \$450, \$695 Mitchell Realty 374-8579 x 1 4-20-70-2

1/2 PRICE APTS! Close to UF/Downtown. 2BR & 3BR starting @ \$525/mo Call 373-4423 or online at www.maximumre.com

Classifieds... Continued on next page.

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PET'S PARADISE, no app/pet fee. towniomes. 2BR, privacy fence, modern apiliances, ceiling fans, SW. Private owner, lease leave detailed message. \$375-525/ no 331-2099 2-17-30-2

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3BR across from UF
Avail Fall, From \$385 per BR.
Vaulted ceilings, laundry,
Breakfast bar, pets ok.
Open WEEKENDS 371-7777

WOOD FLOORS at UF

1&2 BRs avail Fall
Pets ok, some w/ W/D
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1-20-69-2

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Beautiful 2BR/2BA...all amenities

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2BR/1.5BA 5-10 min bike ride to med or UF. All new carpet, W/D, DW, stove. No smk, pets, 239-898-9317 1038 B off SW 6 St on 0th Ln. \$600/mo 3-7-38-2

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OOWNTOWN LOCATION! 3BR/2BA Wood floors, fireplace, living & dining rooms, Den, \$625/rent, 223 SW 4th Avenue Carl Turlington Real Estate, Inc. 372-9525 vww.TurlingtonRealEstate.com 2-11-24-2

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www.TurlngtonRealEstate.com 2-11-24-2

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 1BR
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 2BR
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Gore-Rabell Real Estate, Inc. 378-1387 www.gore-rabell.com I-20-68-2

1BR & 2BR BEAUTIFUL
NEW kitchen, tile, carpet, paint
2BR- over 1100 sq ft ●● \$650/ mo
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Close to UF, beautiful, quiet
High-speed wireless internet
\$300 off deposit ● 376-2507

1-20-63-2

1-20-63-2

** 3BR/4BR - LIKE A HOUSE **
Huge townhouse, fireplace,
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New carpet & tile, fitness & basketball
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3BR/2.5BA only \$850

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BR/2BA HOUSE. Close to UF & Santa Fe. File floors, Berber carpet, all appliances inclarivacy fenced-in yard. \$1050/mo. Call 215-3987 2-14-21-2

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Threesomes Welcome!

All the space you need only \$1050 Pool*Hot Tub* Tennis*Gym*PC Lab W/D*Cable with HBO*Extra Storage The perfect three-bedroom! 372-8100 4-20-60-2

Haile Plantation - Laurel Park. 3BR/2BA Beautiful home. Quiet-neighborhood. Great running trails. \$1200/mo Avail 3/1. Bruce 246-3690 2-25-26-2

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NOW PRE-LEASING
1BR \$699 - 2BR \$839 - 3BR \$999
\$99 dep. Full size W/D,
Direct Campus Access,
Pool, Fitness Center!
Open M-F 8:30 - 5:30, Sat 11-4
Pebble Creek Apts 376-9607
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Historic Apartments. Ceiling fans, hardwood floors, high ceilings, some wfireplaces. 1BR \$470 w/water & sewer. First, last, security. SE historic district. No dogs please. 378-3704 2-8-10-2

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New 1700 sq ft 3BR/2BA home Rent \$1250/mo or by indiv BR Avail 2/1 Call 283-6279 2-8-10-2

AVAIL AUG 1 4bed/2bath house, wood floors, dishwasher, fireplace, wash/dry, fenced yard, all beds large. 1375/m 830 NW 16 Ave. Call 339-2342 Other houses avail. 2-9-10-2

AVAIL AUG 1. 3bed/1bath very nice house wood floors, garage, very private backyard, wash/dry 924 NW 9th Ave. Call 339-2342 for directions 1075/m. Other houses avail. 2-9-10-2

I'LL PAY YOU \$1000

to rent my 1 BR apt. Located in Frederick Gardens apt. complex. Very close to UF. You pay \$300, I'll pay \$150 monthly, thru August. Call Chris 620-687-1224 2-10-10-2

ABRACADABRA! Sorento Pool Club Comm. 3BR/2 BA, 2 car garage. \$1,100/mo. Call 352-318-3721 or 332-0602 2-10-10-2

3 BR/2 BA HOUSE

close to UF/Shands. Available now. \$950/ mo 1st/last/sec.3309 NW 18th St 352-284-5119 2-10-10-2

DUCKPOND AREA Cute 3BR/1BA cent H/AC, fireplace, W/D hk-up, DW, tile & wood floors 731 NE 9th St \$850/mo 316-1637 2-25-20-2

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- Spacious studio, washer/dryer, Fenced yard, lawn svc, \$450/rent
- 3BR 2BA, terrazzo floors, washer/dryer, fenced yard, lawn svc, \$1000/rent
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Carl Turlington Real Estate, Inc. 372-9525 www.TurlingtonRealEstate.com 2-11-10-2

BIKE TO UFI 3BR 2BA, carport, Washer/dryer, porch, pets considered, Avail now! \$895/rent; 2222 SW 14th Street Carl Turlington Real Estate, Inc. 372-9525 www.TurlingtonRealEstate.com 2-11-10-2

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AVAIL AUG 1: 4bed/2bath house. Large house with large bedrooms, game room, wash/dry included, dishwasher, large living room. 2100 NW 8th Ct. Call for directions 339-2342 \$1325/m 2-9-8-2

AVAIL AUG 1: 4bed/2bath house, very private yard, fireplace, tile floors, wash/dryer included, dishwasher, \$1350/m 2606 NW 34 St. 339-2342 for directions 2-9-8-2

AVAIL AUG 1: 4bed/2bath house close to campus, wash/dryer, fireplace, wood floors, dishwasher, private back yard. \$1525/m 1105 NW 10th Ave. call 339-2342 Nice house. 2-9-8-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

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1,2 & 3BR with GATED ENTRY!
HUGE apts w/screened porches
FREE Alarm ★ FREE Tanning
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HISTORIC DUCKPOND NEIGHBORHOOD Charming studio. Privacy over detached garage. 1.8 mi from UF. \$450+/mo sec. dep. Small pets. Avail now. 371-7149 2-15-10-2

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2BR/2.5BA Townhouse, close to UF,
Student's dream. \$750/mo, low dep, W/D
incl. Call Phil at 352-235-0600 2-15-10-2

Avail. Aug 1: 4bed/2bath house. Ceramic tile floors, extra game room, fenced yard, pet ok, wash/dry provided, dishwasher. 1330 NW 39th St. 339-2342 for directions \$1275/mo 2-9-5-2

GREAT FOR STUDENTS! 3BR/2BA house, close to UF & Shands, on bus route, 1 car garage, tile fir, fireplace, 1450 sq ft, Avail now! \$975/mo, see dep. Call Casey to move in 352-514-2936 2-25-17-2

Beautiful historic home, wood floors, high ceilings, 3-4 BR/2BA, large fenced yard \$1400/mo. Downtown location near UF. Call Tom at 262-6423 2-16-10-2

Quiet & Clean! 2BR/1BA \$525, quiet neighborhood, 1000 sq ft, tile flrs, spacious living/dining rm, WD hook-ups, pvt patio in backyard, near UF, 1824 NW 10th St. 376-0080 2-9-5-2

House on Suwannee River w/ clear spring in backyard, Bell FL, 3BR/2.5BA, W/D hkups, scr porch, cent H/AC, quiet neighborhood, lg yard w/ trees, fenced. \$800/mo 376-0080 2-9-5-2

LARGE 2BR/2BA APT. Close to campus. Available Feb to Aug. \$550/mo. Call 386-871-7184 2-16-10-2

- 373-2505 1BR 207 NE Blvd \$470 ● 2BR ● 318 NE 2nd Ave \$600 ● 202 NW 12 Terr Cottage \$600 ● 3BR ● 1120 SW 1st Ave \$1100 ● 202 NW 12 Terr \$900 ● HOUSES ● 3BR ● 109 SW 24th St. \$1275
- 2250 W Univ Ave \$1500 1616 NW 31 PI 2BR \$700 ● P Mendoza Realty check for move in discounts 2-8-3-2

3BR/2BA, family room, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, screened porch, garage, 1.5 acres. Great country location. Min from Shands/VA/Vet School. 7810 SW 100th Pl. 352-284-5119 \$950 w/disc. 1st/last/sec. 2-10-5-2

WALK TO CAMPUS
Available now. 2BR/2BA apt off of NW 17th St. 3 blks from campus. W/D hookup, DW, All pets ok. \$500/mo. No dep. Call 352-219-5323 2-1,7-10-2

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AVAILABLE MAY! Downtown 1BR1BA, CH/AC, water included, \$415/rent, 411 SW 2nd Street #3 Carl Turlingotn Real Estate, Inc. 372-9525 www.TurlingtonRealEstate.com 2-11-5-2 2 For Rent unfurnished

WALK TO UF!

Studio apt 8 blocks to campus. Wood floors/ large windows. \$395/mo Call 352-284-9610 Avail @ immediately! 2-18-10-2

STUDIO APT 12 min to Shands/UF. For serious person. New const/appliances, W/D, sm pet ok. Near Lake Wauberg. \$400/mo. 352-215-0396. See to appreciate 2-14-5-2

AVAILABLE NOW
2BR/1BA HAILE HOUSE
2BR/1BA BRANDYWINE
Call 665-4106 Charlene 2-21-10-2

ONE BR APT FOR RENT Minutes to campus, private patio, walk-in closet, kitchen, bathroom, free parking \$350/ mo. Sublease until Aug. Call 407-496-9566

Very clean condo 2BR/2.5BA, 5 min to UF, 10 min to Shands, cent AC, DW, W/D, cable, internet, pool, \$800/mo 352-472-9778, 305-299-3485, sbayer@bellsouth.net 2-14-5-2

ROCKWOOD VILLAS

3BR/3 full baths. End unit, W/D, recently renovated. \$795/mo. Call 407-578-2721 2-14-5-2

2BR 1BA Apts, \$500-525/Mo 5 Blks to UF! 840 Sq. Ft.

829 SW 5th Avenue. St. Croix Apts Central H & Air, Inclds Wtr, Swg, Pst Ctrl, Garbage. Call Merrill Management Inc. 372-1494 2-11-4-2

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2BR 2BA in WOODSIDE VILLAS 7200 SW 8th Avenue \$620/Mo Pool, Clubhouse etc. Call Merrill Management Inc. 372-1494 2-11-4-2

2BR 1BA Apt. Terazzo Floors Window A/C, Nat Gas HT 2 Blks to UF. \$510/MO 1508 NW 4th Ave. Call Merrill Management Inc. 372-1494 2-11-4-2

1BR 1BA 1Blk to UFI 1236 SW 4th Avenue Carpet, Central H & Air. Laundry On site \$515/Mo Includes Utilities Call Merrill Management Inc. 372-1494 2-11-4-2

3 Subleases

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BEST DEAL IN GAINESVILLE \$350 for 1BR in a 2BR/2BA apt. Call 352-318-5438 2-22-30-3

Cheap & 2 min to UF. Avail Now. \$350/mo incl utils. Call 514-5733. 2-11-20-3

1BR/1BA. Large BR w/walk-in closet. Free parking across from UF. Rent incl water, sewer, garbage, pest control. \$450/mo. Lease until 7/05. Please call 352-598-5481 2-16-20-3

3 Subleases

WALK TO CLASS! \$250/mo

Now til Aug. Courtyards 352-328-6967 all included! 2-27-3-3

Two bedroom/two full bath Sublease available immediately Seven month sublease Homestead Apartments. Call 338-1588/283-3885 add'l info 2-8-10-3

SUMMER sublease @ Campus Club! Everything incl: maid svc, all utils, cable, ethernet & more. NO FEES! \$400/mo. May 1-Aug 5. Female only. Please call 352-262-5995 2-8-10-3

SUBLEASING APT. I'm moving to NYC! 1 BR/1 BA in 3 BR/3 BA apt. Willing to give away living rm furniture to the subleaser. \$473mo utils incl. Completely furnished. 352-258-6775 2-10-10-3

Sublease March thru Aug 2005. 1BR/1BA in 4BR/4BA @ Lexington Crossing. Female only. \$430/mo, all incl. Enet, W/D, on bus rt, furn or unfurn. Clean & friendly roommates. Last mo free. 352-359-2872 2-14-10-3

1 Bdrm in a 2/2.5 new townhouse, \$385/mo. Avail March 1, will work around date if needed. call Jessica 367-4053 2-14-10-3

1 BR avail 2/12 in University Commons furn 4 BR apt. \$385/mo incl elect. FEB RENT FREE! We pay all start up fees + give you \$200 CASH upon signing lease! Please call 540-785-9404 or email kampertwo@aol.com 2-9-5-3

1 BR apt, close to KashNKarry on 34th St. Take over lease 2/15 to 4/30, renewal option. \$409/mo. Feb rent, transfer fees paid by me. Keep sec dep. Pool, pets welcome. Call Erik 262-1551 2-11-7-3

Furnished 1 BR/BA avail Mar 1 in a 2/2. Kitchen, living room, W/D, @ The Exchange. \$480/mo 772-473-0560 2-8-5-3

University Glades Sublease!! SUMMER: May-Aug. \$440/mo. BR w/ personal bath in 3/3 apt. Incl all utils. Furniture avail. Call Stacey 352-336-1968 2-9-5-3

AVAILABLE NOW
Share a 3/2 HOUSE w/ F.
Fenced backyard, wood firs, carpet, pool table, bar. Must know when to study, when to party. \$350/mo. 727-743-4289 2-9-5-3

2BR/2BA apt sublet. New beige carpet. All appliances incl & W/D. Close to UF in quiet neighborhood. \$550/mo. Call Rodney 317-1536.2.11.6.3

I'LL GIVE U \$200 TO MOVE IN! 2/1 In Beval Apts. Incl. W/D hkup, new carpet, excell cond. Rent valued \$520, u pay \$499/mo. Avail 2/28-7/31, can renew. Call 256-0501 2-10-5-3

WALK TO CAMPUS

Available now. 2BR/2BA apt off of NW 17th St. 3 blks from campus. W/D hookup, DW, All pets ok. \$500/mo. No dep. Call 352-219-5323 2-17-10-3

SANTA FE POINTE 1BR/1BA in 4BR/4BA. All utils incl. \$400/mo. 1st month FREE. Sublease until Aug 15th. Call 954-536-8010 2-10-5-3

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Subleases

OXFORD MANOR 1BR/1BA, walk-in-closet, private bath in 2BR/2BA furn, all util incl \$512/mo neg. Feb free. Female. Sublease until 7/05. 904-571-8337

1br/1bath of 2br/2bath util, cable, internet incl. Furn or unfurn avail. \$535/month in the Cambridge. Call Aaron @ 352-258-5465 or e-mail aspen82@ufl.edu 2-11-5-3

1BR/1BA in 4BR/4BA apt furn, liv rm, kit, laundry, W/D, pool, tanning, clubhouse, b-ball, tennis. FEB FREE. \$400/mo incl elec, water, garbage, NO activity fees. 786-554-9339 2-18-10-3

2BR/2.5BA apt for sublease. Only \$560/mo, 1050 sq ft, dep pd, pet dep pd. Move in by April 1st. 1st month's rent will move you in. For more info call 352-363-0084 2-14-5-3

4

Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE Oxford Manor 377-2777 The Landings 336-3838 The Laurels 335-4455 Cobblestone 377-2801 Hidden Lake 374-3866 4-20-71-4

Female roommate for one/two female UF students. Quiet. Resposible. 60 second walk to UF. Old house charm with all amenities. Avail Now. \$400 - up. 352-538-2181.Lv message. Private Owner 4-20-71-4

Female roommates wanted brand new 2100 sq ft home. Huge pool, pvt fence, minutes to UF. Internet, HBO cable, sec alarm & utils incl \$525/mo.Aval Fall. Call Jacqueline 352-395-7462 or 941-780-3526 4-20-71-4

GIRLS ONLY 2 rooms each w/prvt baths. cent AC, W/D, cable incl. Interenet ready. \$375/mo each. 1 mo FREE. Call 352-472-9778 2-9-25-4

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MOST WANTED



Debora Karen Toole

White Female (DOB 03/05/65); 5'06", 140 lbs, Blonde Hair, Green Eyes

Wanted for:

Felony violation of probation warrant for resisting an officer with violence.



Call (352) 372-STOP

4 Roommates

M/F NS Grad student/professional wanted to rent furn room in gorgeous new house 1.5 mi to Shands. Kitchen, LR, laundry \$425+ utils 336-5450 or 954-646-1341 2-15-20-4

Avail NOW Great location 1BR/1BA in 3BR/3BA, washer and dryer, high speed internet, \$308/mo + util. Females only, please call Lauren @ 352-799-3726 Lv message. 2-11-272-4

2 ROOMMATES NEEDED in spacious 4/2 HOUSE by law school. Master BR \$450 or other BR \$350 + utils. AD, W/D. Call 850-510-4063 or 352-328-4633.2-16-20-4

1 Male roommate wanted to share 4BR house w/3 guys. Only .7 mi from campus @ 2 NW 29th St. Pets ok. \$275/mo + utils. No lease or dep. 745-6017 2-9-10-4

Large furnished BR in 3BR house w/ den, porch, W/D, off Archer Rd. Bike to campus. NS female, grad, professional or quiet student pref, \$210/mo. Call 373-0357 2-8-5-4

Student in 2BR/2BA looking for friendly M/F near Tower/Newberry. \$350/mo + util. W/D, TV incl. Mike @ 352-514-1852 2-8-5-4

Female roommate needed. 1BR available in 2BR/2.5BA condo. \$425/mo + 1/2 utils. W/D, cent A/C. sec dep. Kensington North condo. 352-379-3497 2-10-7-4

M/F roommate. Furnished except bedroom. Private bathroom. On-site gym, pool, and hot tub. \$274/month. Call Katy 813-966-7998 2-15-9-4

Prof/grad to share 2/2 new condo. Plantation Oaks. MBR suite, W/D, C/HA, D/W. \$450/mo + 1/2. Avail now. Call 538-6505 ASAP. Very spacious and secure scenic location. 2-9-5-4

Unfurn rm in huge 4/3 house 1.4 mi to UF. NW 6th St, big TV, pool table, W/D, cent AC, DW, hi-spd inet, big yard, \$350 + 1/4 util avail. Now call Dmitriy 373-7231 2-10-5-4

Quiet Female Roommate Wanted. 2Bd/2Bth in Treehouse Village. W/D in unit. Bus every 10 min. Two small pools and workout room. \$290/month and split bills. 213-2458 2-10-4-4

Roommate needed \$200 mo (+\$200 refundable deposit) +1/2 utl. Furnished 2BR/2BA. Must be able to pass a background check. (352)335-6274 2-10-4-4

Roommates

Male grad/mature stu for small furnished apt for 1 person only on side of private home, no pets, clean, quiet, patio, 1 mi from UF, avail Jan 1. \$400 w/util incl. On bus line. 378-2016 2-11-54

Roommate wanted in a 2BR/2BA apt w/22 yr old female. \$320/mo + \$150 sec dep + utils. Call 352-870-7670, 352-377-0295. Avail

Female roommate needed. Master BR w/pvt BA, W/D, hi-speed web, \$240/mo + 1/3 utils. Call 352-331-8446 lv. mssg. 2-14-5-4

Room for rent in 2BR/1.5BA private condo \$350 reserved parking W/D big screen TV, great location on Archer Rd, rent without summer for \$450, No pets 871-5328 2-14-

5 Real Estate

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Condo Countryside at UF. 4BR/4BA. Close to UF, W/D, tiles kitchen, pool & gym. 3rd floor. Quiet location. \$176,000 Call 352-332-3755 2-14-5-5

6 Furnishings

BED-Queen, orthopedic, firm, extra thick, pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Sacrifice \$150. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 4-20-71-6

BED - FULL SIZE ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Sacrifice \$140. Call 352-377-9846 4-20-71-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT

Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must self, Can deliver. Retail \$1400. Sacrifice \$399 352-372-7490/4-20-71-6

BED - King Pillowtop mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Sell \$230. Call 352-372-8588 Can deliver. 4-20-71-6

CHERRY SLEIGH BED solid with Pillowtop Mattress & Box. All new still boxed. Cost \$1500, sacrifice \$550 352-271-5119 4-20-71-6

BEDROOM SET. 7pc Cherry, Queen/ king bed, dresser w/mirror, 2 nightstands, chests avail. Dovetail const. New, in boxes. Can deliver. Retail \$6500, must sell, sacrifice \$1400 (352) 372-7490 4-20-71-6

SOFA, LOVESEAT, & CHAIR 100% Italian leather. Still new in boxes w/warranty. Cost \$5000. Sacrifice \$1,500. Call 352-372-8588 4-20-71-6

DINING ROOM Beautiful cherry set w/table, 6 Chippendale chairs, hutch & buffet. New, still in boxes. Retail \$5200, sacrifice \$1100. Must sell. Can deliver. 352-372-8588 4-20-71-6

FUTON Solid oak mission-style frame w/ mattress. Brand new, all unused in box. Sell \$199 can deliver. 352-377-9846 4-20-71-6

BedsoFull mattress & boxspring sets \$49 On sets \$89 Single sets \$39 King sets \$99 From estate sale: Safe pine bunk bed \$109. 376-0939/378-0497. Call a Mattress 4370 SW 20th Ave 4-20-71-6

BED - King size redwood shaker style frame w/ king mattress & box. Great condition \$425/OBO. Call 352-281-6191 2-8-5-6

7 Computers



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8

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9

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Classifieds... Continued on next page.

10 For Sale

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12

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13

Wanted

LOCAL ARTIST NEEDS: GOLD DIAMONDS, GEMS, CLASS RINGS, ETC TOP CASH \$ OR TRADE. OZZIE'S FINE JEWELRY, 373-9243 4-20-71-13

On-going VOLUNTEER needed: Blind lady needs trans on Sundays only to Mass @ Queen of Peace Catholic Church or St. Augustine Catholic Church. For more info call 219-6948. I live in the Tower Rd area. 2-22-70-13

WANTED: MAZDA RX7

2-door, 1982 to '88. ASAP for 2 hour engineering study. 1983 preferred. \$100. Call, lv. msg. 375-8710 2-10-10-13

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14

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Help Wanted

14

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14. **Help Wanted**

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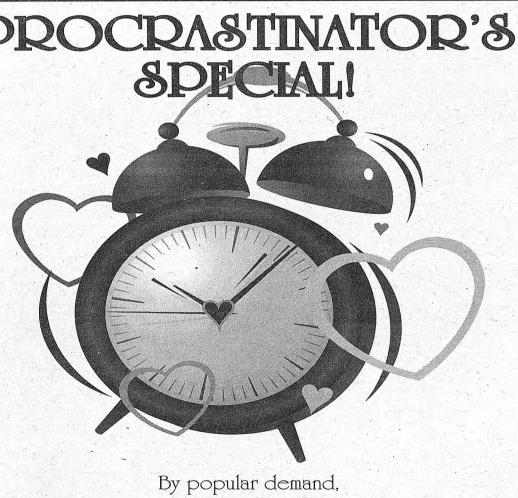
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Classifieds... Continued on next page.



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20 Event Notices

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21

Entertainment

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One on One

Freshman, dad disagree on playing one another

By BRYAN APP

Alligator Staff Writer bapp@alligator.org

At 6-foot-8, 235 pounds, Al Horford isn't scared of much.

Averaging a Southeastern Conference-eighth-best 6.8 rebounds and 1.37 blocks per game, the Gators starting forward has proved his readiness for any challenge in his freshman season.

His confidence grows as he gobbles up double-digit rebounding performances as often as he convincingly snares a basketball.

Still, one long-desired opportunity eludes him. And perhaps he's finally ready.

Maybe now he can face his ultimate challenge: his old man. Big deal, right? Just push pops around for a while, give him a lesson on the not-so-attractive aspects of aging and call it a day.

day.
Not exactly. At 7-foot-1 and 265 pounds, Horford's "old man" has the ability to ruin just about any youngster's afternoon.

Eagerly awaiting his chance,

Horford claims never to have played his father, Tito, one on one.

"I'll play him any time," Horford said. "He won't play me. You might want to ask him why"

But Tito, a former Miami standout and three-year NBA center, says it's for his son's own benefit.

"It's going to be hard for him to stop me on the inside," Tito said. "I don't think he's ready to play me one on one because he's going to struggle. He knows better than that."

The father-son competition, at least for the time being, is safely relegated to non-physical games of "horse" whenever the two meet.

"He just gets killed when we play horse," Tito recalled. "He never has a chance."

And so goes the trash-talking without any hope of settlement in the immediate future.

But if statistics serve as any indicator, Tito better not wait much longer for his son to develop. He may be in trouble.

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 16



Matt Marriott / Alligator Staff

UF forward AI Horford doesn't have any problem finding willing opponents in the Southeastern Conference, but father Tito still won't play the freshman one-on-one.

FOOTBALL

Suspended UF athlete back in court

By IAN FISHER

Alligator Staff Writer ifisher@alligator.org

Suspended UF linebacker Taurean Charles, who tried to plead no contest to misdemeanor culpable negligence in December, will retry the same plea Feb. 21. Judge Larry Turner did not approve the plea in December, so Charles was back in court on Monday.

Charles was accused of throwing a halffull beer keg on a UF student at a party last

"We had a judge that was leaving the bench who just didn't want to take the time to go through it," said Robert Rush, Charles' attorney. "And we want to go through this very, very carefully because we still don't agree on all the facts as to what happened.

5

Charles

"But we have agreed on a resolution in terms of the plea is going to be to a charge of culpable negligence basically."

Rush and Charles both hope to have everything resolved after his next court date.

"I just want the judge to see all of the community service Taurean did while he was out of football for a year," Rush said. "He did a lot of commendable things. A lot of people could've just transferred and cried about it, but he didn't."

As far as getting back on the football team, Charles is not sure yet. He said he has not spoken with Athletics Director Jeremy Foley yet. However, Charles said he spoke to assistant coach "Doc" Holliday, who was with N.C. State when Charles was in high school and recruited him. Holliday told Charles to take care of it and get back for spring practices.

It's critical that both Rush and Charles sit down and explain everything to the coaching staff, Rush said.

"Out of this whole melee, this is the only person who was charged with anything," Rush said: "We know other people threw punches, we know that people were punched, so when you're the biggest target, you're the easiest to identify."

Gators try to upset nemesis

If you have a minute to spare, kindly answer this one-question multiplechoice pop quiz, sponsored by Drew's Control.



Andrew Abramson Drew's Control

A rivalry between t w o sports teams is defined

A. A fierce, completive bout with two

opponents of near equal status where the outcome is always in jeopardy.

B. A thorough beating, performed repeatedly over a 5-season span when one opponent completely dominates the other.

If you read the textbook I'll give you credit for A, but the UF-Kentucky rivalry, which resumes tonight at 9 on ESPN, has become answer B.

Where were you on March 4,2001? If you're a senior at UF, you were likely in high school. If you're a freshman at UF, you were probably an eight-grader investing in a large supply of acne cream.

Yes, it's been nearly four years and five seasons since UF last defeated Kentucky on the basketball court.

And they don't hook up just once a year — UF plays Kentucky between two to three times each season.

So don't you think, simply by odds, it's time for the Gators to win a game against the Wildcats?

Just days ago it seemed the U.S. government would find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq before UF would defeat Kentucky.

But then something strange SEE CONTROL, PAGE 16

SCOREBOARD

Men's basketballConnecticut74Syracuse66Oklahoma67Oklahoma State79

TODAY IN UF SPORTS HISTORY

■ 1998: Murriel Page recorded the 59th double-double of her career against Mississippi, breaking Quientella Bonner's 17-year double-double mark for the UF women's basketball team.

UP NEXT

The UF softball team became the first team in the nine-year history of the program to start off the season with a 7-0 record, including a win against then-No. 4 Oklahoma. For more about UF's early-season success, be sure to pick up Wednesday's Alligator.

ONLINE

For a complete analysis of tonight's Kentucky game, log on to alligator.org/sports. Be sure to check out what positions Urban Meyer assigned to his assistants, how the women's golf team is doing in California and a feature on pitcher Connor Falkenbach.

Freshman's skills resemble those of NBA father

HOOPS, from page 15

Against then-No. 11 Alabama on Sattæday, Horford tied his Dad's Feb. 27, 1987, performance with 18 rebounds, the fourth-best single-game total ever in the O'Connell Center.

Being careful not to concede any leverage to Horford, Tito, 21 at the time of his rebounding exhibition against the Gators, said the difference between them is how quickly his 19-year-old son has emerged as a force in the paint.

"I never thought he would make such a great accomplishment so early in his freshman year," Tito said. "I would've thought by his sophomore year, he'd be a pretty decent rebounder."

But for some of Horford's frontcourt teammates, his success comes as no surprise.

As sophomore forward Chris Richard recovered from knee surgery during the summer, with crutches in hand, he would watch his teammates play pick-up games.

The teams were always the same — the older guys versus the younger ones.

And according to Richard, watching Horford work against senior David Lee and fourth-year junior Adrian Moss was all he needed to see.

"He didn't back from anybody," Richard said. "He brought it everyday, and I've been impressed since he got here."

Still, there's a great difference between jockeying for the respect of peers in a pick-up game and holding your own for 40 minutes in the SEC.

"Going into the season, I really had

no idea," said Lee, regarding his expectations of Horford. "You really never know with the freshmen until you just throw them in the fire and see what happens."

Following the unexpected loss of Moss to a bulging disc in his back, Horford braved the flames.

Horford broke out in his second game as a starter against Eastern Kentucky, earning his first career double-double with 14 points and 12 rebounds.



Donovan

The freshman hasn't loosened his grip on the starting role since, largely due to his capacity for learning rapidly.

"Talent does not make you effective in any sport, it's a piece to the puzzle that

gives you an opportunity," Coach Billy Donovan said. "To me, what makes you an effective athlete is your mentality and mindset.

"The biggest thing with Al — which I've tried to get across to the rest of the freshmen — is that he is like a sponge. He absorbs everything we say, and it has helped him where he lacks in experience."

Horford's sponge-like mental ability has surfaced in other aspects of his life as well

As a native of the Dominican Republic, Spanish was his first language. But while traveling with his father, Horford learned English and Portuguese, a language in which Tito said his son was once virtually fluent.

In addition to facilitating his cultural

diversity and allowing him to bond with his roommate, fellow forward and world traveler Joakim Noah, Horford's Dominican background has afforded him the opportunity to meet some great players of his country's real pastime.

Playing for the Milwaukee Bucks in 1989, Tito said he often would visit Sammy Sosa as the fellow San Pedro native played for the Chicago White Sox.

And while playing in Miami, Tito said a young Alex Rodriguez would often show up to watch.

Over time, Tito and his family forged relationships with the Dominican big leaguers.

Though the opportunity to informally meet such guaranteed future hall-of-famers would likely highlight the childhood experiences of even the mildest baseball fan, ask Horford, and he'll respond with a typically placid, even-keeled response.

"It was pretty cool."

But that's just his nature — off the floor. Never high, never low, he just maintains.

A stark contrast from the high-rebounding, slam-dunking big man who whipped the crowd into chanting his name as he took the bench for the final time Saturday.

"We are very similar," said Tito, who was nicknamed the "the Intimidator" by some while playing with the Hurricanes. "Off the court, we're just big teddy bears."

Undoubtedly that cuddly demeanor will quickly melt once the two finally face off.

"I'll play him any time," Horford said. "He won't play me. When you get old, that's what happens."

CONTROL, from page 15

happened on Saturday when the Gators spanked Alabama in the ass and said, "Call me daddy."

Now the Gators ride into majestic Rupp Arena coming off an enormous victory but carrying a giant orangutan on their back.

The names may constantly change on the other side, but it's still the same old blue and white which, for the Gators, has been more black and blue in recent years. Just look at some of the recent highlights.

2003: Ranked No. 1 for the first time in school history just 24 hour earlier, UF trailed by as much as 29 points, falling to Kentucky 70-55

2004: Up 11 points with seven minutes remaining, the Gators somehow managed to lose by 3 and the losing streak lived on.

Later in 2004: An unguarded Ryan Appleby travels at halfcourt. Enough said.

It sounds more like misery than rivalry, and tonight, on national TV, the Gators have an opportunity to improve to 7-2 in the SEC.. All it takes is one victory, two 20-minute periods of outplaying the opponent.

Sound easy? Not when the opponent has beaten UF in seven consecutive games and 83 of 107 overall.

This year's Kentucky team is much like its predecessors. Despite losing several key players to graduation, Tubby Smith retooled and the Wildcats are undefeated in the SEC.

Once again the Wildcats are beatable, yet nobody can beat them. I don't know which team will win tonight, but I do know that all streaks come to an end, and the Gators have to defeat Kentucky sooner or later. Probably.

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