

Kanye West performs tonight

O'DOME WILL HONOR **REQUEST FOR ALCOHOL.**

By STEPHEN MAGRUDER Alligator Writer smagruder@alligator.org

Rapper Kanye West and UF have at least one thing in common: They say no to Coke.

West, scheduled to perform at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center tonight at 7:30, is sponsored by Pepsi and has requested that no Coke products be placed in his dressing room.

West's rider, the list of needs and amenities requested by performers, details how everything is to be set up for the show, both onstage and behind the scenes.

The rider includes stage equipment specifications, security personnel and a detailed catering menu covering three full meals, three dressing rooms and a bus full of people.

O'Connell Center Director Lionel Dubay signed the contract with Fantasma Productions, the booking agency responsible for bringing West's "Touch the Sky"

tour to Gainesville. On Dubay agreed to Campus pay West \$115,000 to perform, along with special guests Common,

Fantasia and Keyshia Cole. West's orchestra will be paid an additional \$5,000.

To hold the concert, Fantasma

Productions agreed to take out \$1 million in insurance and pay UF \$2,300 for the first four hours of the O'Connell Center's use.

Security arrangements in-clude 40 security officers, 11 University Police officers and five or six parking patrollers.

Reminiscent of Snoop Dogg's February concert rider, West requested wildly varied items for his dressing room: three tubes

SEE KANYE, PAGE 4

Local fossil diggers unearth past

Kristin Nichols / Alligato Volunteer Phyllis Saarinen digs through a layer of clay Wednesday morning at UF's Tapir Challenge site.

Outside hitter Jane Collymore

scorched Georgia

with a game-high

20 kills, as the

Gators swept the

marked a family

reunion for Amber

McCray. See story,

pg. 21.

Bulldogs. The game

By EMILY KISER Alligator Contributing Writer

Volunteers working alongside museum employees hope to break a world record after discovering remains of mammals more than 2 million years old Tuesday, as they kicked off a fossil dig lasting until December.

The Tapir Challenge, a major fossil excavation run by the Division of Vertebrate Paleontology of the Florida Museum of Natural History, gives volunteer fossil diggers the chance to help excavate a 40-yard by 40-yard site at a limestone mine in northeast Newberry, the town just west of Gainesville.

"It's likely that we will find over 100 individual skeletons," said Richard Hulbert, vertebrate paleontology collections manager for the museum. "No fossil site in the world has ever been like that."

The Tapir Challenge got its name by the high number of tapirs - hoofed, plant-eating mammals distantly related to horses and rhinos - that have been, and will be, excavated from the site.

"We're trying to see who can set the world record for who can find the most tapirs at one site," Hulbert said.

Along with tapirs, Hulbert said specimens of porcupines, giant armadillos, giant ground sloths, fish, frogs, snakes, birds and elephant-like fossils would be extracted. "A number of these specimens are the best of the spe-

cies that we have ever found worldwide," Hulbert said. The site of the excavation is more than 2 million years

old, Hulbert said. The site is dated by comparing fossils found within the site to other dated fossils from other excavation sites around the country.

"Presently, we are in the bed of a lake," Hulbert said. 'We are in the middle of something like Lake Alice."

Employees of the museum have been working since May on the site named Haile 7G. The volunteer-assisted portion of the excavation will continue to mid-December. "We tend to concentrate our volunteers in the two dry seasons, spring and fall," Hulbert said. "The worst things

SEE FOSSILS, PAGE 5

Alumnus to receive **SG honor**

> **By DAVID COHEN** Alligator Writer dcohe n@alligator.org

UF lost a son earlier this year whose work continues to touch the lives of today's students.

Howard Christopher Tompkins II, who served as Student Body president 10 years ago, lost a 10-month battle with leukemia April 30. He was 34.

As one who helped bring the Southwest Recreation Center to campus, Chris will be honored when Student Government names the SG conference room after him at 2:30 p.m. Friday.



Tompkins

After majoring in political science at UF, Chris attended the Levin College of Law and worked as a lawyer for environmental cases

Chris, known as "Spud" to friends,

served as Student Body president, treasurer, Senate president and budget committee chairman during his nearly eight-year stay at UF. During his time, he also brought a discounted SG copy center to students.

His mother, Elizabeth "Betty Jo" Tompkins, a UF alumna, was in a car wreck while pregnant with Chris on May 7, 1970, causing Chris to be born five weeks early.

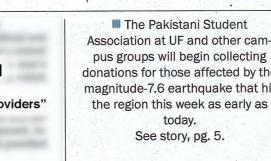
"Friends always teased him that that was the [only] time he was early in his life," Betty Jo said.

When he won the 1994-95 SG election for Student Body president, there were seven candidates for the position; Tompkins received 69 percent of the vote.

Senate secretary Glenda Frederick said he never stopped working.

SEE CHRIS, PAGE 5

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pus groups will begin collecting donations for those affected by the magnitude-7.6 earthquake that hit the region this week as early as today. See story, pg. 5.



are rain-outs.



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2005 ■ ALLIGATOR, 3

Gator dubbed 'cleanest comic'

BRANDON BROOKS WILL STAR IN A NATIONAL TV COM-MERCIAL FOR OLD SPICE.

By HEATHER RAPP Alligator Contributing Writer

Witnesses reported a man being chased around by film crews at the Swamp wearing only a white bathrobe and swim trunks Saturday.

It might sound like a bad prank, but for 19-year-old Brandon Brooks, it was all because of his newfound celebrity status.

Brooks was one of 17 college students from across the country chosen to star in his own national television commercial for Old Spice body wash.

America's Cleanest Comic Competition judges held auditions Oct. 6 on the Reitz Union Colonnade.

Contestants had to tell their favorite joke with one catch: As the name suggests, it had to be clean.

Standing in front of the camera, Brooks spontaneously recalled a joke he'd heard a long time ago but said he wants to keep the joke confidential until the commercial airs.

"It was about a golfer. I'll tell you that much," he said.

A grin crept across his face as he recalled the audition.

"It also included me just acting silly in front of the camera," he said.

The sophomore's joke was a hit, and the punchline landed him a spot in a national commercial for High Endurance Body Wash by Old Spice.

Film crews flew to Gainesville from Chicago on Friday for the filming, which took five and a half hours. Cameramen followed the robe-clad Brooks as he interacted with crowds at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium during the Homecoming game Saturday. Other parts of the commercial were filmed at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.

Student "It was all just fun and games to me," Brooks said. "It wasn't anything too challenging."

The commercial will air nationally at least six times during college football games on ABC and ESPN. Brooks said he will make his debut Saturday.

But the contest doesn't end there. Viewers are invited to visit www.OldSpice.com and vote for who they think is America's cleanest comic; the winner will receive an allinclusive vacation to Las Vegas.

"It's kind of an 'American Idol'type deal," he said.

But Brooks said he is just enjoying his 15 minutes of fame.

"Not everybody gets to have this experience, and I thank God that I did," he said.

Being the center of attention and in front of the camera is nothing new for the South Carolina native.

"All my life, you know when I was a little kid, I used to be the class clown," Brooks said. While this was his first national

television commercial, he appeared in several local commercials when he was 15.

He was cast as an extra in the show "Dawson's Creek" when he was 16, and he returned in another episode to deliver a one-liner.

Brooks was a local star by 17 when he appeared in "Keep it Real," a documentary film educating school children about the dangers of drunken driving and drugs.

But resumes can be deceiving. This microbiology and cell science major has his heart set on medical school.

"Just seeing some of the things people go through these days, I can't see myself being anything but a doctor," he said.

The comedy might end there, but his philanthropy goes further.

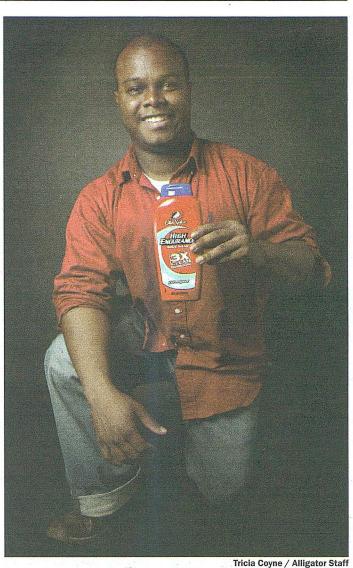
"Then if I became an actor, if I got paid a lot of money, I want to help donate that to some other funds, too," he said.

In his mind, both paths lead to the same goal.

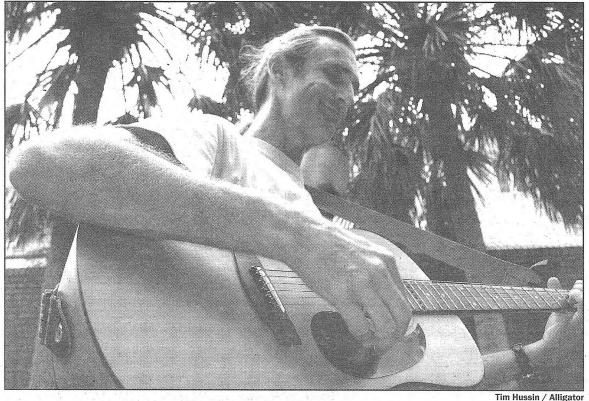
"I like putting smiles on people's faces," he said.

After winning America's Cleanest Comic Competiton for High Endurance Body Wash by Old Spice, Brandon Brooks will star in his own commercial Saturday on ABC and ESPN.





ON CAMPUS Singer on Turlington Plaza carries tune for positivity



College of Education student Lew Welge sings and plays his guitar outside Norman Hall on Wednesday morning.

By DAPHNE CHARLES Alligator Contributing Writer

"And we're rolling, rolling, rolling down the river," he sings, plucking away at the guitar in his arms.

This isn't a concert; this is Turlington Plaza.

Lew Andrew Welge, a student in the College of Education counselor education program, can be found singing and playing his guitar on the plaza throughout the semester.

At 8:15 Wednesday morning, he serenaded students on their way to class with his rendition of Tina Turner's "Proud Mary."

"Life's a dance, and we're always representing, so here's a guy representing performance art, if you will," Welge said of himself.

He is 50 years young, he said, and it is his outlook on life that keeps his spirits high.

The first day he sang and played his guitar on the plaza last August, a policeman asked him to stop singing so he could check his identification.

"He interrupted my song, 'City of New Orleans," he said. After showing the officer his Gator 1 Card, Welge said he has not

been approached since.

As for how the general population has responded to him, Welge spoke of emotional responses being measured on a scale from one to 100.

"One would be first eye contact," he said. "Then you have holding hands. Where would that be? 15? 20?

Society has taught us to repress the "togetherness force we strive for," he said.

Perhaps, he said, that's why some people choose not to respond to his performances.

"Everyone wants to keep a low profile," he said. "I can't, because I'm 6 (foot) 8."

Despite these tendencies brought on by society, Welge said he believes his music has a positive effect.

"I get smiles all the time from people," he said. "I love it."

Turlington Plaza and the Plaza of the Americas are locations where people are welcome to exercise free speech, said Jenna Kilcomons, student manager of the Student Activities Center.

"People can take a guitar out there and sing or play," Kilcomons said. "A little bit of everybody goes out there."

Bottles of cognac, Hpnotiq, tequila on list of West's requirements KANYE, from page 1

of Carmex lip balm, four pairs of men's large

white boxers, one bowl of salted pistachios with no red coloring and 10 bottles of liquor Hennessy cognac, Hpnotiq and Patron Silver tequila.

Common's dressing room will include such items as a bowl of dried fruits, a hot-tea set up, and one bottle each of Clos du Bois Chardonnay, Belvedere vodka and Hpnotiq. Unlike Snoop Dogg's contract, requests for

alcohol in West's rider were allowed because

the O'Dome is paying to bring the artist — not Student Government Productions.

SG is not allowed to use tuition-funded Activity & Service fees to pay for alcohol.

Dubay said SGP's only involvement in the concert was paying to discount the first 2,000 tickets sold to students at the University Box Office from \$36 to \$26.

The administration is bringing West despite his liberal use of a racially charged word that university officials recently decried in an e-mail to the entire student body. Student groups including the Black Student Union also protested its use.

"With a hip-hop show, you never know."

> **Lionel Dubay** Stephen C. O'Connell Center director

O'Dome catering staff are expected to cook for the artists and anywhere from 40 to 75 touring crew members. Menu choices include mixed greens salads, chicken soft tacos, Chinese stir fry and grilled steak, and all disposable flatware and silverware are prohibited.

As of Tuesday morning, ticket sales reached an estimated 4,800 — the largest advance sale for any of West's Florida performances, Dubay said. The figure is out of a venue capacity of 12,000, according to the O'Dome Web site, though seats behind the stage are blocked off. He said the demand for tickets at UF rivals

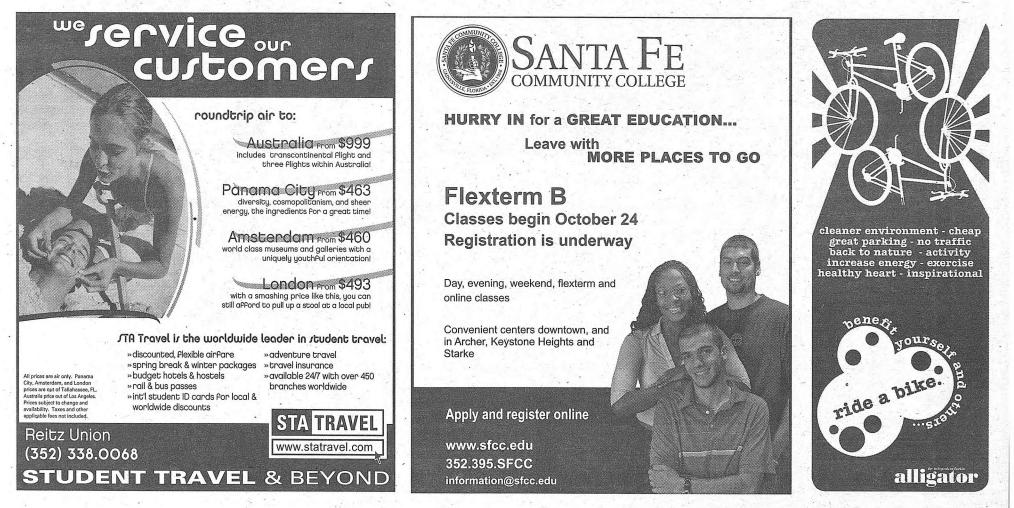
past concerts, including Snoop Dogg's. "For hip-hop shows, I think he's doing

exceptionally well," Dubay said. The concert, including breaks between art-

ists, is expected to last until 11 p.m. Walk-up sales for most concerts generally

number in the hundreds. But, "with a hip-hop show, you never

know," he said.



Students collect for quake victims

CAR WASHES WILL TAKE PLACE AT LOCAL BURGER KING OUTLETS.

> By DIANA MAZZELLA Alligator Writer dmazzella@alligator.org

Aisha Khan's relatives in Pakistan have lost homes, two have died and one is missing after this week's magnitude-7.6 earthquake in the region.

The Pakistani Student Association at UF, of which Khan is president, and other campus groups will begin collecting donations for those affected as early as today.

In addition to campus collections to take place at the Reitz Union, car washes will be held Sunday and Oct. 23 at Burger King on Archer Road and Oct. 30 at Burger King near Newberry Road, said Maria Rehman, the group's Webmaster.

Each car wash will be held from noon to 6 p.m.

Khan said about 95 percent of students in the group have relatives in Pakistan, though Rehman noted that most hail from areas of the country not affected by the earthquake.

"All my friends in Islamabad ... they're doing OK, thank God," Khan said.

Rehman said she and her cousins, including Khan, were going to tour the area of Azad Kashmir in Pakistan and its cities this summer after she graduated. "Most of [the cities] are completely destroyed," she

said. Money raised will go to Zindagi Trust, a Pakistani-run organization that is sending 100 percent of the money re-

ceived for earthquake relief to the affected areas, she said. The trust appealed to Khan and

her executive board because it is sending aid to rural areas, she said.

The organization has set up medical and relief camps in Balakot and Abbottabad in the northern part of the country, according to its Web site.

A dinner and fundraiser will be held Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Hoda Center in Gainesville, Khan said.

Student Government and the South Asian American Student Alliance will host a vigil Wednesday at 7: 30 p.m. in the Reitz Union Amphitheatre, where attendees can also donate, Rehman said.

She encouraged people to assist those affected by the earthquake in Pakistan because it could be them.

She asked people to imagine they are the ones trapped under rubble for 72 hours and suffocating.

"A lot of people on campus ... I talked to them and they didn't even know there was an earthquake," Rehman said

Volunteers of all ages assist with dig

FOSSIL, from page 1

After the bones are reconstructed, they are given a permanent catalog number that will go into a database at the museum.

The museum's vertebrate collection exceeds 200,000 specimens, making it one of the largest in the United States, Hulbert said.

Hulbert said the first 1 percent of the site that had been excavated had produced eight individu-

al skeletons, including an ancient porcupine. Most of the eight skeletons were found during the summer months.

"That's when we talked to the mine managers," Hulbert said. "They were very generous, and will allow for us to dig here for two or three years."

Hulbert said an agreement has been formed between the paleontologists and the mine managers that once the fossils are excavated, they will become sole property of the museum.

Hulbert said the dig doesn't ask much of the volunteers, who work with small screwdrivers and sometimes their bare hands, to remove the clay and rocks around the fossils. "We literally get volunteers ages 18 to 80," Hulbert said. "They just have to be fit enough to work outside and sit or kneel in what can be awkward positions."

Little physical strength is needed for the dig, Hulbert said. The only thing needed is a lot of patience.

If the volunteers find broken or fragile skeletons, the area of the fossil is covered in plaster and burlap. It is then taken back to the lab at the museum, Hulbert said. There the

Research and glued back together.

"We try to reconstruct the skeletons," Hulbert said. "All the arm bones, leg bones and toe bones go back together."

The museum is in its sixth year of holding a major fossil excavation.

"It's an unusual thing to do," said Bill Keeler, a volunteer fossil digger in the excavation, as he flicked tiny clumps of clay away from the ground.

Keeler has participated in a number of the museum's fossil excavations.

"To find something that's been sitting here for 2 million years is kind of amazing," Keeler said.

Former president brought much to UF

CHRIS, from page 1

"He was one who set out do something, come hell or high water," she said. "He came up with more ideas that SG could do than anyone I've ever known."

SG Office Manager Sandy Vernon said Chris was one-of-akind with his chubby cheeks and jolly nature.

"He always had that uplifting spirit," she said. "He spoke to everybody. He didn't look down on people."

on people." She said he had daily conversations with Reitz Union janitors and knew them by name.

Betty Jo said that even at his funeral, she could see the numerous lives her son touched.

She said friends from every corner of the country, including Canada, came to pay respects

Canada, came to pay respects. "Chris was the best friend in the world," she said. "My son wasn't perfect. He was just always the most incredibly giving person you could imagine." She said he would drive 200 miles for anyone. He used to drive to Miami from his hometown of Brandon to take his grandma to the opera.

She said he had a reputation for being brilliant too.

He was UF's first National Truman Scholar, a National Hispanic Scholar, a Florida Blue Key member and Hillsborough County's youngest elected official as district supervisor for the Soil and Water Conservation board.

His busy schedule encouraged his messy lifestyle.

Frederick said she would find dirty socks and open jars of peanut butter throughout his SG office.

Betty Jo said one morning when she was driving Chris to elementary school, he had an unusual sadness about him. He said he was supposed to read a book for a report and forgot to. So, she gave him the typical parental lecture.

When she picked him up from

school, he still seemed sad. She said she figured she knew why. But she was wrong.

The teacher had praised him in front of the class for his literary expertise. "I was so embarrassed be-

"I was so embarrassed because I had never read the book," he had said.

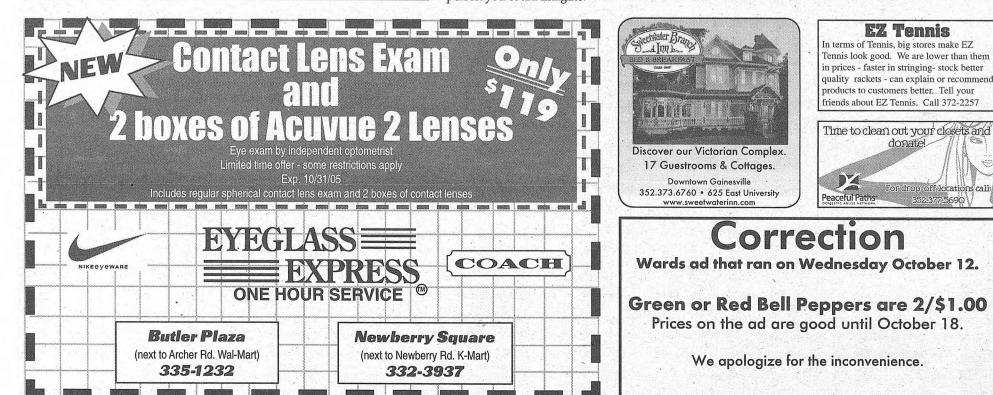
Ivy-league schools tried to recruit him because of his awards, but he rejected their offers.

"He just felt there was no better school (than UF)," she said.

Chris was destined to be a Gator: He attended his first Gators football game at 3 months old with a family full of Gators alumni.

Political science teaching assistant Charlie Grapski said despite trying to impeach Chris from his Student Body president office 10 years ago, he has great respect for him. "Chris was one of the most

"Chris was one of the most politically astute people I have ever met, and I've learned a lot from him," he said. "He wasn't a follower. He was a true leader."



Editorial

Deadly force Self-defense law is necessarily vague

The Editorial Board is going to stand its ground. Just don't try to break into the Alligator offices — we

I might shoot you with our vintage sawed-off shotgun. Continuing with our conservative streak this week, we see some benefits to the recently enacted law that redefines selfdefense.

That's right — in principle, it's not all bad.

The most important, and most debated, change is that residents and visitors of Florida are now allowed to "stand their ground" when faced with "imminent" danger. Previously, the accepted interpretation was a person should attempt a retreat before succumbing to violence.

We're behind this distinction when applied to homes. If someone breaks into your home, you are allowed to defend your "castle."

Too often in our society, the benefit of the doubt is given to the criminal.

Of course, those days of bored teenagers breaking into a neighbor's house for a case of beer are effectively over. Although we would hope such a prank wouldn't fall under a reasonable cause for a homeowner to feel in danger of his life and thus open fire with his AK-47.

We can't promise that it won't. But we can look at the law and realize that, if judged fairly, such a situation would not favor the owner.

We hate to see citizens take laws into their own hands, but we would also hate for a victim to have to ponder the nuances of a law in a dangerous situation.

The law also extends to a person's right to fight "force with force" when attacked anywhere, and allows deadly force if that person "reasonably" believes that it is necessary to save his or her life.

There are a thousand different ways this could go awry for both parties. But if we look at it from an individual perspective, we realize that this is exactly the kind of right we would want if we were put into such a compromising situation.

Basically, if we were dealing only with honest, sane citizens, this law would be perfectly valid. Everyone should have the right to defend his or her life.

Alternately, if we were dealing only with honest, sane courts, this law would be acceptable.

Unfortunately, neither situation exists. Yet it's impossible to write laws around the justice of courts.

A law on defense has to be vague, and the law was vague before the gun-happy got to it. It was always based on whether a person believes he's in danger because legislation can't be specific to every case.

We want to keep our rights to protect ourselves, but we also want to limit those who might unlawfully hurt us. The only solution is a just court system, and that doesn't exist.

So the Editorial Board believes in the right to face danger when it knocks on our door, but we're realistic in the downfalls that come with it. We don't want a law that could allow a murderer to go free, but we also don't want a law that boxes in our choices in survival situations.

So rather than too vague, perhaps the law is not vague enough. By specifying that every intruder into a home can be considered a bodily threat, the law includes all types of unforeseeable situations.

If the homeowner has a gun and the intruder has nothing, is it really fair for the former to kill the latter?

It depends on the situation, and that's for a court to decide. And we are afraid of what side the court will take.

But when we lose faith in a court to uphold the rights of citizens, we cannot blame it on the shortcomings of legislation.



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Opinions

ALLIGATOR www.alligator.org/opinions



SG election plays like a broken record

The same student Government elections is not new. Because the political system is a never-ending saga of the same students, groups and Greek organizations, it's a wonder we still have elections at all.

This is by no means an exhaustive list of election-time improprieties, but rest assured I could fill the whole paper with them.

FALL 2005: In addition to the complaints we discussed Wednesday, the commission found Rawlings-area Gator candidate William Perry guilty of destroying an Impact campaign ad, after he grabbed it out of Impact candidate Victor Bard's hands, and placing a paid political ad without notice.

His punishment: a reprimand and formal apology to Bard. Bard, however, was fined \$25 for campaigning doorto-door. If anything, we would think violence would take precedence.

SPRING 2005: The Gator Party was found not guilty after a widely circulated e-mail reported promises of positions in SG in exchange for Gator votes.

Before the election, the SG Supreme Court met in secret to reject a petition that would allow students to vote via Internet in future elections, claiming uncertainty over whether the petitioners were asking for an initiative or a referendum.

titioners were asking for an initiative or a referendum. Of course, the document used the word "initiative" four times and never even mentioned a referendum.

That decision was eventually overturned because the meeting violated open-meeting laws. In true SG fashion, it was too late to resubmit the initiative for ballot placement.

SPRING 2002: We were actually supposed to have online voting as early as this election, but a late-night ruling by the Board of Masters declared the Internet ballot illegal.

SPRING 2001: Too many to mention, but here are two of the juicier ones.

A member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority told her sisters that the Fusion Party offered to put their names in a raffle for a \$15 Victoria's Secret gift certificate if they voted on the first day of elections. The commission did not see this as serious.



Mike Gimignani Editorial Notebook mgimignani@alligator.org After Fusion Party presidential candidate Marc Adler defeated SUN Party candidate Gil Sanchez by only 17 votes, the Masters issued yet another late-night order allowing the Student Senate to validate the election without a recount.

tion without a recount. SPRING 2000: During an especially heated election, the Impact Party (then Greek-controlled) faced complaints of releasing false infor-

mation against its opponents in the Florida Students Party. In response to a defamatory e-mail that appeared on a widely circulated listserv, the commission actually invalidated the election, only to be overturned by the Masters.

SPRING 1996: After the first SG election featured relatively low turnout, commission-set polling places for the runoff changed across campus. For instance, the Southwest Recreation Center precinct was moved to the Levin College of Law — suspiciously close to Fraternity Row.

SPRING 1995: The day before the election, fliers appeared on campus, complete with phony police records alleging that candidate Charles Grapski was a convicted child molester.

Grapski's complaints to the Elections Commission, student courts and the UF administration were rejected, often without a hearing or review.

Here's where the similarity stops: Instead of repeatedly ramming himself against brick walls within the university, he instead sued in circuit court — and won.

We use the Grapski example often, but it is important because he actually succeeded. That he had to take his arguments outside UF to prevail is lamentable, but perhaps the best evidence we have to show that the officials who decide election issues are not impartial.

I hope this shows that we're not pulling our concerns out of thin air.

The commission did not see this as serious. Mike Gimignani is editor of the Alligator. The views expressed here are not necessarily those of the Alligator.

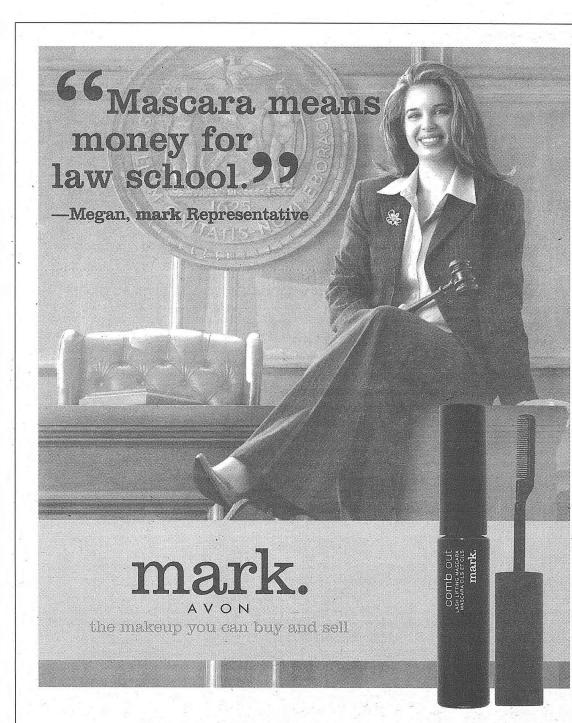
Reader response

Today's question: Do you feel safer with the new "stand your ground" law? Wednesday's question: Did the SG Elections Commission deal fairly with complaints?

40% YES 60% NO 30 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

on: | Wedne



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Letters to the Editor Cartoon mocks value of all life

In Wednesday's editorial cartoon, Andy Marlette depicted a ludicrous picture of Jesus looking at "pro-lifers."

By mocking 'those who realize the value of all human life, Marlette is showing an incredible weakness: the inability to show respect for others. Similarly, those who are supporters of the culture of death also lack respect for the unborn and for life in general. Those who believe in a so-called "woman's right to choose" clearly are missing the point: Life begins at conception, and it should never be ended by human hands.

It's about time people realize that making a choice does not justify murder. I applaud Anthony M. Piferrer, author of a guest column Wednesday. It is encouraging to see that not everyone in college has been brainwashed to believe that killing the most innocent among us is acceptable as long as it makes their lives easier.

Natalia Pedraza Vice president of Pro-Life Alliance 2LS

Psychoactive drugs prompt positive experiences for some

Standing in the middle of a roundabout in north Gainesville is not a safe setting for anyone on psychoactive drugs.

Obviously, Justin Richards didn't interview responsible users when he wrote his Wednesday article on 2C drugs. Many who have experimented with them report positive and introspective trips. Maybe this is because they used the drugs in moderation and in a comfortable setting.

People with anxiety or depression can easily freak out on psychoactives. But for others, tripping can provide insight or a change of perspective. After all, these drugs, along with MDMA, were originally developed to improve patient-therapist relationships.

Richards also failed to mention some facts about 2C drugs. They are analogues of mescaline, derived from peyote. And the difference between 2C-B and 2C-I comes from the addition of halogens to their chemical structures. Bromine is added to 2C-B and iodine is added to 2C-I.

Last but not least, professor Paul Doering's quotes about Alexander Shulgin cast a dark shadow over a brilliant chemist whose research was, in fact, sponsored by the federal government.

If the effects are unknown, they aren't necessarily harmful. Zoe Brugger

3JM

Rulings must be based on laws

Andrew Bare's Wednesday guest column suggested that the U.S. Constitution is "dated" and cannot be applied to today's situations. What Bare ignored was that the Constitution is a changing document. It was changed in 1865 to outlaw slavery, in 1920 to allow women to vote and as late as 1992 to limit congressional pay raises.

Justices must use some standard in judgment, either of the law or not of the law. If rulings are not based in law but personal opinion or conviction, there is no common standard, as everyone has different beliefs. Without some standard there is only tyranny, however well-meaning it may be. Justices who do not follow the Constitution, as written and intended, weaken the foundations of our free society.

If Bare doesn't like the law, he has an avenue to pursue change: He can become more involved in his government. It's hard work, but it's honest and fair.

> Jeremiah Blanchard 7EG

Bible tells us that Jesus would not advocate killing the unborn

I fully respect everyone's right to free speech. Even Andy Marlette's. If he chooses to exercise his right by making fun of Christians and their God, that is his prerogative.

I do, however, advocate researching topics before going to print with your opinions. The Bible is very clear that the only reason one person should take another person's life is if that person has killed an innocent person. According to the only historical source that we have about Jesus, he followed all of the laws put forth by the Bible. It is clear by this that he is not an advocate of killing unborn children.

These fetuses have bodies just like normal people with internal organs and functioning life systems. They are not just masses of tissue. Their life systems must be suspended before they can be eliminated.

Also, Jesus did not smoke. Your body is a temple. Check your sources!

Kendal Hutto 3LS

Opinions section is getting old

Since the massive opinion fire, sparked by Marlette's now infamous cartoon, I have found myself skipping to the center of your newspaper. Whether right or wrong, informed or uninformed, we are all gleefully entitled to our own opinion.

Perhaps it is my own very strong convictions that so draw me to this section. I have an opinion for everything, and, of course, I am also right about everything. Aren't we all?

However, to put matters plainly, it's getting old. Nothing, and I repeat nothing, is being accomplished. Well, nothing positive of course. There has been plenty of line-drawing, finger-pointing and ever-increasing division. I am beginning to think that the Alligator staff spins a giant "issues wheel" to decide what they can get UF students to fight over next.



ALLIGATOR www.alligator.org/avenue

By ALISON MILLS Avenue Writer

Thirty-five feet up a climb in Sandrock, Ala., Katy Fraga slipped. My heart jumped as I watched her search for footing while hanging on the rock face by only her fingers.

"There was a pretty good hold on the roof but not many options for my feet, " said Fraga, a UF nursing senior. "You tell yourself, 'If I fall, I fall.' But I can't do it unless I try... hard." said Fraga.

Outdoor rock climbing is the authentic experience that makes gym climbing seem nothing than an imitation. Every move carries a little more weight than in the gym. But when you reach the top of the cliff, looking over your shoulder, a view of lakes and mountains is something no gym can offer. If you have to stay in Gainesville, the Gainesville Rock Gym is one of the favorites. An old warehouse converted entirely into rock walls, including a tunnel and cave, offers a variety of climbs.

Close to downtown, its biggest advantage is location. The gym is also well set-up with colored tape denoting the difficulty of each suggested climbing path. Although cheaper than most gyms around the country, the gym's biggest disadvantage in Gainesville is price: \$10 for a student day pass, plus \$5 for gear if you need it. Find more information at www.gainesvillerock.com.

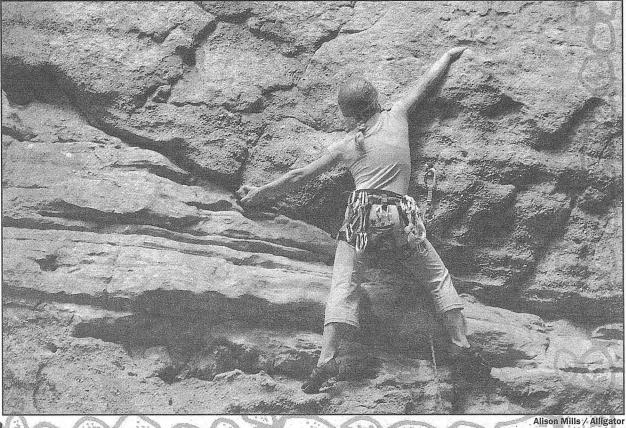
Although smaller than Gainesville Rock Gym, Sun Country Sports Center packs an amazing number of routes onto its one wall. Sun Country is also laid out with tape and names for most climbs, such as "I wish I was a little bit shorter."

At \$5 a day, including gear for students, Sun Country has the advantage on price. Rock wall manager John Reger also said of the material used in the wall, "The Eldorado wall provides a more realistic climbing texture."

Disadvantages of Sun Country include its location: a 20-minute drive west from campus. Also, for college students, the atmosphere might be a little young, as the Sun Country multi-sport center caters to a lot of children and families.

Another climbing option is the Lake Wauburg outdoor rock wall. Located at Wauburg South, it is 55 feet high. Wauburg is free to UF students. Unfortunately Wauburg doesn't have any bouldering (fun, low to the ground climbing), doesn't allow chalk (a climber's friend that dries up sweaty hands to keep you from falling off holds) and doesn't have set routes to challenge you. Also, as a part of the university, its safety policies are strict, and you need an appointment.

But every gym climber should get on real rocks; the real fear is the best part.



*Katy Fraga climbs a rock named "Pump Handle" in northern Alabama. The rock is considered moderately difficult and is rated 5.9 on a scale from 5.6 to 5.12.

Open-mic nights offer outlet for local musicians

By VERA HADZI-ANTICH Avenue Writer

Folk, country, rap, jazz, blues and rock 'n' roll all in one night some might think this never happens, but the open-mic goers of Gainesville have heard it all.

Open-mic nights give musicians a chance to practice performing, an outlet to test new material and the opportunity to meet other musicians, and it gives everyone

INSIDE

Dracula is coming to Gainesville- well, in theatre-form at the Hippodrome. See the full story, by Avenue writer Gabriella Vigier, on pg. 9.

else the pleasure of listening to a bassist, vocalist, violinist or mime. diverse collection of music.

"There's no egos involved," said Kevin Nowak, host of openmic night at Tim & Terry's Music & More. "Bring your own instrument and cable, and you can jump on stage whenever."

The open-mic night at Tim &Terry's is classified as an open "jam," which means anyone can hop on the stage at any point whether it's a guitarist, drummer,

ONLINE

and nightlife online at

out the ultimate-adventure races

offered in Gainesville.

The musicians at open-mic nights have varied reasons for attending.

"It's a community collaboration," said Blake Barrett, a drummer who has been playing for about eight weeks at Tim & Terry's. "Our peers join together. All are welcome," he said as he rushed away to participate.

Musicians have to start performing somewhere, to create a following, and open-mic nights are a channel to stardom.

The Shamrock was the first time I ever played onstage," said Kimball Hobbs, a guitarist and vocalist at the Shamrock Irish Restaurant & Pub's open-mic night. "My friends made me go. They are my dedicated fans."

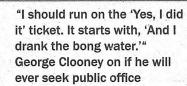
Open-mic nights are a relaxed and laid-back environment, guaranteeing an unpredictable night. Mistakes are made, but they provide a type of entertainment in themselves.

There are open-mic nights almost every night of the week - Monday at Lillian's, Wednesday at the Shamrock and at Tim & Terry's and Thursday at Damon's Downtown.

Go see if you have what it takes to be a star or check out some undiscovered talent.

You can say you were one of the first to see them play.

QUOTABLE



Be the first to email the Avenue editors See stories on sex, music at theavenue@alligator.org to win a copy of www.alligator.org. Also, check

the new "Tiger Woods PGA Tour '06" golf videogame. Also, see the review on pg.

11.

GIVEAWAY

CURTAIN CALL Dracula sucks at the Hipp on Friday

By GABRIELLA VIGIER Avenue Writer

Don't have enough money for Universal Studios' Halloween Horror Nights? You can do better for half the price.

This Friday, "Dracula" will make its debut at the Hippodrome Theatre, and it will be a bloody good performance. The show includes spouts of death, suspense-filled scenes, sex

and seduction — even animal lust. While the storyline of "Dracula" is familiar to most, the choice

of delivery that director Lauren Caldwell has chosen leaves eyes wide open and satisfied. "'Dracula' is the one that we turned upside-down," Caldwell

said.

Caldwell directed another vampire performance eight years ago at the Hippodrome "We thought enough time had passed to bring it up again,"

she said.

Highly detailed scenery and interesting interpretations of costume add to the show's enjoyment.

The performance is approached as an old genre film and has so much visual imagery. Performers in the play include grad students and recent UF graduates.

Ryan Burbank, 25, a first-year student in the Masters of Fine Arts Acting Program at UF, said theater is a good place to get your scare on.

"I think people underestimate how much more scary things are live," Burbank said.

But the live effect isn't the only thing "Dracula" has going for it.

The play is filled with so much detail that the audience may not catch every single thing, but it will be worth seeing, said Garret Bantom, a recent graduate of UF's MFA program.

They may feel like they got it, but they may have to come back," Bantom said.

Rachel Roberts, a 26-year-old UF alumna, said she agrees and that every "Dracula" storyline can be told differently.

The actors, however, appreciate how Caldwell presented the

play. She even had a way of hiding details that worked in the final product.

"She almost kept it a secret until we were ready for them," Burbank said.

There are more interesting facts behind the scenes as well.

For instance, the actor playing the role of Count Dracula is Robin Bloodworth, who says playing vampires runs in the family. His father played a vampire back in the '80s.

Also, scenic designer Mihai Ciupe is originally from Romania, which includes the region of Transylvania, the birthplace of Dracula.

"As a theatrical story, it's quite a challenge," Ciupe said. "The



Rachel Roberts, playing Lucy in the upcoming Hippodrome production of "Dracula," seduces Jonathan Harker, her character's fiancé, played by Armando Acevedo.

subject gives a lot of freedom."

- Don't expect him to tell you about any encounters with vam-pires though; he doesn't believe in them.
- "Dracula" is not for the timid and definitely not for kids. Going further on the sex and seduction, there are not just men and women showing affection for each other.

The actors are excited to present the play at the Hippodrome beginning this Friday.

"It's as sexy as it is bloody," Burbank said.

Calendar

today

- Eddie C's, live music: Vitap, Straight Line Stich, Visceral, 10 p.m., \$5
- Midtown, live music: Ten 13 Concept, Adam's Out, The Junior Varsity, 9 p.m., \$5

Stephen C. O'Connell Center, live music: Kanye West, 7:30 p.m., \$36

friday

Common Grounds, live music: Daedalus, Colored Paper Fantasies, 10 p.m., \$8 Damon's Downtown, live music: Spatch

Jones, Puddin', 8 p.m., \$3 saturday

Common Grounds, live music: Acid Mothers Temple, The Occasion, 10 p.m., \$10

The Side Bar, live music: The Duppies, The Supervillians, The Most, 9 p.m., \$5

sunday

McGuire Pavilion Black Box, theater: "Hamlet," 2 p.m., \$9/\$13

monday

Common Grounds, live music: Ambulance LTD, Apollo Quartet, 10 p.m., \$10

The Purple Porpoise, live music: Motion Picture Demise, No Pronto, TBA, doors at 9 p.m., show at 10 p.m., \$5

tuesdav

Common Grounds, live music: Will Hoge, Rob McGregor, 10 p.m., \$8

Eddie C's, karaoke: 8 p.m., free

wednesday

Abbey Road, live music: Taylor Hollingsworth, Sea Journey, Kachina Weak, \$5

Common Grounds, live music: The

Independents, No More, 10 p.m., \$6 The Side Bar, live music: DIFFUSE 2, Ironing,

Phluidbox, Café Racer, Uh-Oh Spades!, Dreamweapon, 9 p.m., \$5





theGuide

asian

Liquid Ginger Asian Grille and Teahouse

101 SE 2nd PL (Behind Hippodrome Suncenter Downtown) Pan-Asian seafood, steaks, and stir-fry in a relaxing upscale atmosphere. Try our wide selection of exotic martinis and hot teas. Open for lunch Sun-Fri and Dinner every nite 5-10:30pm. Call 371-2323 for a reservation.

barbecue

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Voted #1 in Gainesville and listed in "Where the Locals Eat" as best place in Gainesville for Ribs & BBQ. David's says come on in for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Adult size portions for adult size appetites. David's caters to the Gators. Open 7am-9pm Mon-Sat, 8am-9pm Sun. We are located at 5121-A NW 39th Ave. (352) 373-2002. David's BBQ delivers the best BBQ anywhere in Gainesville with Gatorfood.com

burgers

The New Deal Cafe

Consistently voted best burger in Gainesville. Other best of awards include: salad, dessert, martini, wine list. 3443 W. University Ave. -371-4418

look for us every thursday

casual

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chinese

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dessert

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fresh food

& seafood, daily baked breads & desserts by Gainesville's most awarded chef. Consistently voted best chef, menu, salad, seafood, martini, wine list, wine bar, dessert & service. 3445 W. University Ave. -371-1711

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japanese

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3222 SW 35th Blvd. (Butler Plaza next to Publix). Enjoy Authentic Japanese food in a Casual & Comfortable environment. Our extensive SUSHI BAR provides the best portions in town. All sushi made-to-order. Try our new menu with new rolls, appetizers, lunch specials, & unique rice wines. Open every day 11:30am-10pm. To Go orders available on everything. 335-3030. Delivery available through Gatorfood.com.

Bento Cafe

3830 W. Newberry Rd. Suite 15 Royal Park Plaza (next to Gator Dockside) Enjoy sushi, rice bowls, noodle bowls, and bento boxes. Try our Boba Tea with over 30 different flavors. First in Gainesville in a trendy, hip atmosphere. Open everyday 11am-10.30pm. Carrydut or dine-in checkout our menu at Gatorfood.com. 377-8686.

mexican

El Toro You've had the rest, now try the

the Guide

BEST Mexican food in Gainesville. Loved by Gators past and present. Best homemade salsa in town. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner. 1723 SW 13th St. Take out and catering available. Live music 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.

mexican

vegetarian

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kosher

Ray's Place

Delicious Gourmet Kosher dining at Ray's Place inside the new Hillel building. Lunch served 11:30am-2pm and dinner 6pm-8pm daily. Ray's Place serves a veriety of dishes. You didn't think Cacciatore could be Kosher? How about Jerk Chicken? Beef Lo Mein? All this plus traditional Jewish dishes and Deli; fresh soup & salad bar, vegetarian entrees, and homemade desserts. Shabbat dinner Fridays. Meal Plans and Catering available, Off Campus Dining Cards Accepted. Delivery available through Gatorfood.com. Weekend hours vary. 372-2900

alligator

New, improved Tiger Woods game hits below par

f Tony the Tiger got sick and Kellogg's had to put Electronic Arts' new game "Tiger Woods PGA Tour '06" on Frosted Flakes instead, it could still put "They're g-r-r-reat!" on the front, but the back would read, "This s-s-ssucks!"

In every new or improved aspect of this year's installment to the premiere golfing videogame, there is a flaw to ruin it.

For example, the new "dual analog" swinging adds more complexity to what has always been a too-simple recreation of a

complex game, but since players will most often want to strike the middle of their ball, no one will ever use it.

And the new courses are as distinct and beautiful as any that have graced a Tiger Woods game, and yet some old favorites are noticeably missing.

The biting commentary of past games returns as mean as ever, but mostly because so much of it is the same. Tiger even talks now, but all he says are short quips like "Yes!" or "Come on!"

Most modified about this

version of the is its reinvented putting system. Previously, the game has always presented players with a caddy tip that simply required them

to estimate measurements and shoot for the right spot. The new system

does the same thing, only in a new, worse way. Instead of a caddy tip, golfers use a grid that covers the curves of the green and highlights its slope with moving dots. Anyone

dominating the Tiger Woods series in the past will find this system inexact and frustrating, but can master it with patience disap-

My pointment with this new Kelman system is that, Don't Hate the Playa in a game that theavenue@alligator.org prides itself

gorgeous on presentation, it transforms the pristine greens of Pebble Beach into graph paper.

In addition to graphics determining type of shot, club, weather, terrain, "Gamebreaker" and elevation, "Tiger Woods PGA Tour '06" feels like you are aiming with a targeting computer, not a golf club.

On the whole, Electronic Arts' 'Tiger Woods PGA Tour '06" just doesn't feel very polished. It's like they took last year's model, stripped its glossy coat, tinkered with some parts and forgot to refinish with the glossy coat.

At best, some elements were left alone, so the game still sports its "GameFace" feature, snazzy music and beautiful graphics.

Fires, stunts, vengeance make 'Ghost' comic hot

f you saw a guy with his skull on fire, you'd probably give him your attention. If you see a comic book about a guy with his skull on fire, you had better do the

Especially when Garth Ennis and Clayton Crain give everybody's favorite Spirit of Vengeance a face lift in the new Marvel Knights "Ghost Rider" miniseries.

And it's hot, too. Issue No. 1 sold out, but don't worry if you missed it because a director's cut hit shelves Wednesday along with issue No. 2. The director's cut is chock-full of bonus features, like Ennis' original pitch for the series and covers by Crain, motoring in at 48 pages.

Parts of the first issue play catch-up on Ghost Rider's origin, so don't worry if you're new to the game.

In a nutshell, motorcycle stunt-rider Johnny Blaze sells his soul to the devil to save his friend Crash from cancer, but ironi-

cally, Crash, not knowing he's been cured of cancer, dies attempting a dangermotorcycle ous stunt. Blaze ends up paying the devil his dues, and through

a turn of events becomes the Ghost Rider, but now he's trapped in hell.

Ennis, known for the gallows humor in his twisted, edgy stories "Preacher"

and "Punisher," weaves the tale of two angels, Daniel and Malachi, who have to get Ghost Rider out of hell to stop Kazann, one mean demon ready to wreak havoc on unsuspecting mortals. Meanwhile both heaven and hell have sent their own hunt-

Brett

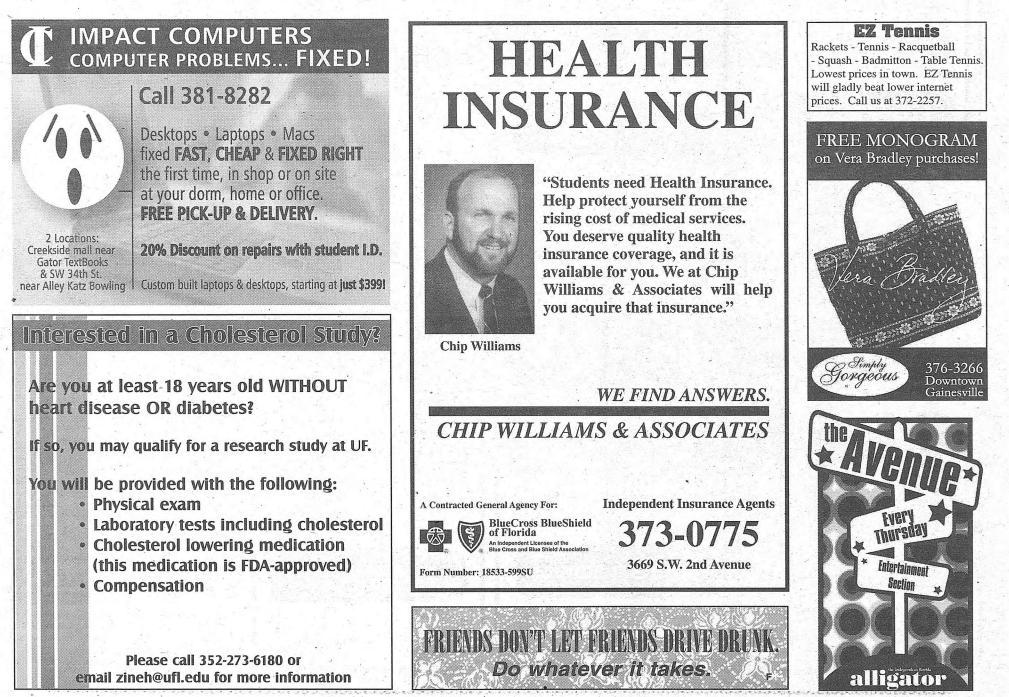
ers, an archangel, Ruth Karolena and a demon, Hoss, to Bielecki clean up the mess. Get Graphic "Ghost Rider" doesn't

theavenue@alligator.org read like a Marvel book, and I don't mean that in a bad way. You almost feel like you've

stumbled into "Hellblazer" or "Lucifer." Marvel isn't notorious for dealing with the realms of heaven and hell, so "Ghost Rider" is actually a breath of fresh air and a change from the normal superhero story. Ennis really balances believe-ability and the fantastic to create an appropriate supernatural tone.

But let's not forget Clayton Crain, whose unique art style, combining digital computer techniques with the classic mode, brands "Ghost Rider" with a design that's both mystical and creepy.

The six-issue series will wrap in early 2006, but before you buy a motorcycle and light your head on fire, you'll get more "Ghost Rider" when the feature film starring Nicholas Cage hits theaters summer 2006



Sherman's march relived

f "The March" doesn't ensure E.L. Doctorow a Nobel Prize in literature sometime in the near future, I can't imagine what would.

Though I try to approach the books I review objectively, I have to admit that my expectations were high for Doctorow's latest novel, "The March," when I picked it up

Î've been fond of Doctorow for a long time. He taught me how much the con-

temporary novel was capable of doing and what the fictionalized past could mean to the present-day.

His novels "Ragtime" and "City of God" rank

high on my list of great American novels, post-1965. Novels like "Billy Bathgate" and "The Waterworks" are brilliant, highly imagined works of historical fiction full of personality and insight, not to mention a deep sense of compassion and some glimmer of hope for mankind. I enjoyed 'The March" just as I thought — or maybe hoped — I would.

The novel is Doctorow's fictionalized account of Union Gen. William Sherman's devastating 60,000-man march through the South at the end of the Civil War.

During that time, the general and his troops destroyed or killed virtually everything and everybody they came across.

It's a story of war and destruction, sweeping in scope and hypnotic in tone. The novel is narrated by a number of

different and wholly unique voices, all

of them forceful and highly subjective, which bring a particular perspective to the story's events. The most interesting character in the

novel, and the closest we get to an actual protagonist, is Pearl.

She is a light-skinned, newly freed slave who joins Sherman's march and falls helplessly and hopelessly in love with a white Union soldier in the midst of Sherman's relentless campaign.

Surprisingly, the novel reminds me of Francis Ford Coppola's "Apocalypse Now. Though Doctorow's locale is the American

South during the Civil War and not Southeast Asia at the height of the Vietnam War, it has that same jarring, nauseous feel to it.

It bombards us with images of annihilated countrysides and stark visions of a relentless human war machine in progress, which Doctorow imagines here as being more of a living organism than a machine, a particularly modern life form entirely dedicated to death and destruction.

A plethora of rambling voices slipping into and finally fully emerging in confusion and madness leaves us with an overwhelming sense of the utter futility and the human necessity of war and conquest. I couldn't help but notice that Sherman

has more than a bit of Coppola's Col. Kurtz in him, yet another brilliant man driven crazy by power and trauma during wartime.

Crow hits, redboy worth it

Sheryl Crow Wildflower A&M

She does it again — lyrics that are unforgettable, a voice that seems to have no boundaries and emotions that flows from every note.

When listening to this album, or any other Sheryl Crow album, read along with the lyrics. It enhances the experience.

"Burn like a cigarette hole inside my head, reminding me not to forget words ... words I'd never say."

Crow intrigues her listeners with lines like this.

She has a vast vocal range, but she uses her high range more in this album.

Though lower range has a certain smokiness that is unique, and she should show it off more.

The title track, "Wildflower," shows a side of Crow that is haunting.

It is different from her traditional sound - it's vulnerable.

Crow takes some worthwhile risks but showcases what she does best - an edginess sought by female performers.

A few more trips to her lower vocal range would make the CD stronger, but even without them, the CD is a hit.

redboy Save Me Unsigned

The indie-folk sounds of the instrumentals blend with a voice built for the music. There are

no pieces missing from this band. It's easy, however, for enthusiasm for the music to die halfway through the album.

This album is monogamous to the band's sound - understandably because this it's debut album.

It's an introduction to the band. Hopefully, the next one will have some variation.

That is not to say the album is not enjoyable.

Interest is perked with lyrics like "You are the light of my life, I am your lampshade."

This band is comparable to Ani DiFranco and The Cranberries. I say The Cranberries mainly because of the opening track, "In Your Head."

Caution to males: There are some feminist undertones in this album, but nothing that threatens your manhood. Worth a listen.

- VERA HADZI-ANTICH

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2

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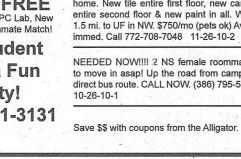
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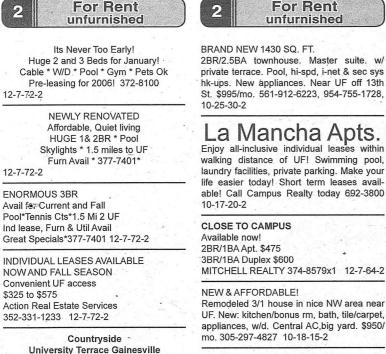
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1 Room available in a beautiful & clean house. Comes w/wood flrs, pool, workout room, W/D, dsl, maid & great roommates.

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NEW Development NEW Construction 1.5 mi. from UF. 2BR/2.5BA. W/D incl. Cabana & pool. Avail immediately. Contact MaCor Realty, Inc. 352-375-8888 11-30-42-2

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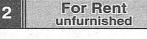
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** BRAND NEW 2/2 APTS ** Includes washer/dryer, alarm system, ontemporary cabinetry, front porch great bus route, SW area. Pets ok. Call 317-8150 for details & showing. One left! 10-31-22-2

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4/3 Walking distance to UF Newly remodeled. W/D. Carport and huge yard. Call 352-283-2828 10-31-20-2

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\$380 only per mo. Private BR & BA. Very well maintained unit. Laundry room facilities, full kitchen. Includes all util + DSL. 10 min from UF. 954-830-8468. www.revictory@aol.com 10-20-10-2

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60 Sec. walk to UF. 1 or 2 rooms. Short term avail. \$350 & up. Call 352-538-2181 12-7-39-2



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1BR/1BA available now, Oct is pd. Quiet, blocks fr UF, on multiple bus routes. Great area for a pet. \$430/mo H2O incl. Lease ends 7/30. Call Jen 262-5365 10-13-5-3

1BR/1BA House across the street from. campus off Univ. Available late Dec, assume lease until 8/06, \$415/month. Length/ Price negot. Call Will @ 352-562-1191 wriccio@ufl.edu 10-13-5-3

Private apt 1BR/1BA Pine Rush Apts on SW 20th Ave. \$420/mo. No deposit. Available Jan '06 - July '06. Renewable lese. #20 & 21 bus rtes. Call Lei 352-374-9855 10-14-5-3

Spacious newly renovated 2BR/2BA 3 blocks from the stadium seeks one female roommate for spring 2006 term. Upperclassman preferred. Call Laura at 954-729-7103 10-14-5-3

1BR in 3BR/2BA w/2guys. \$240/mo rent at Boardwalk Apt on SW 13th St. 5 min to UF. Move in anytime, Call Lindsay @ 352-379 1365 or Tim 352-870-1491. 10-14-5-3



The Landings 336-3838 The Laurels 335-4455 Cobblestone 377-2801 Hidden Lake 374-3866 12-7-72-4

Female roommate for one/two female UF students. Quiet. Responsible. 60 second walk to UF. Old house charm with all amenities. Avail Now. \$400 - up. 352-538-2181.Lv message. Private Owner 12-7-72-4



F NS grad/prof needed for 1BR in BRAND NEW 2/2 condo. 2 mi to UF on bus rte. W/D. \$475 + 1/2 util/mo. Common area furnished, tile flrs. No pets. 904-386-6485 or apena13@ufl.edu 10-14-42-4

1 Male roommate needed. Serious student to share 3BR/2BA house. Located south of UF on Williston Rd. W/D, cable, wireless DSL, \$395/mo +1/3 utils. Call 258-9116 10-14-20-4

Rooms. \$75-\$85 P/W utilities color tv max cab. w/m on bus r/t. 3 mi from Univ Ave + Main St. But rent + utilit. (negotiable) for one day work: 376-0384 for all info. 10-18-20-4

M/F Roommate for unfurnished room in 4BR/ 4BA condo. W/D, DW, full kitchen, pool, bus line, close to UF. \$325 + shared util. Available now, John 786-436-1657 10-20-21-4

Room in spacious 3BR/2BA home. 3 blocks from NW 43rd St. & 16th Ave. near SFCC & UF. W/D, hi spd inet. Rob 494-2565. \$300/ mo + utils. 10-13-15-4

Rooms for rent: Large, clean house. Close to campus. High speed and cable. Large yard. Two car garage and porch area. Rent \$425. For more info call Tre at 352-328-8878 10-13-13-4

Female roommate needed: furn 1BR/1BA avail IMMEDIATELY in 3BR/3BA Campus Lodge apt w/priv. bath, walk-in closet, util. incl. \$519/mo 954-829-6741 10-18-15-4

NS Graduate student for own room and bath in large quiet home 8 blocks north of stadium. Share with two serious grad students. No party animals. \$525/mo includes util, wireless, cable and W/D. 727-433-0229 10-14-7-4

** SPECIAL **

\$250/Mo (Reg 300) + Util. Female for own Rm. in 3BR/2BA House 1/2 Mi. to UF. Near Shands, on bus route, Furn, W/D, DSL, Jen 371-6228 Pls lve msg 10-13-10-4

4BR/4BA COUNTRYSIDE APT. Close to UF on bus rt. W/D, utils, cable w/ HBO,DSL incl. \$390/rm/mo. No dep. Female only. NS. 954-680-0918, 954-328-2021 10-31-45-4

1 male roommate needed for 4/4 BRAND NEW condo by Sorority Row. \$475/mo + 1/4 util, furn, W/D, DW, pvt bath, DSL. 3 blocks from UF. Call Dave @ 954-821-6229 10-14-10-4 Student/young prof roommate wanted for new 3BR/2BA house. About 15 mins to campus. Fenced yard, pets neg. \$390/mo incl satellite, internet & utils. Ready for immediate move in. 561-346-7059 or 352-224-1607 10-14-10-4

Roommates

1/1 AVAILABLE

4

in NEW 2/2.5 Townhouse Everything NEW + W/D \$430 +1/2 utilities. Call 352-870-2506 or email apt4rent06@yahoo.com 10-17-10-4

Female student fo join 2 females for own BR in attractive 3BR house near NW 8th Ave. 3mi from UF on bus rte. #43, tile/hardwood, \$275/mo+ 1/3 GRU & HSInternet-digital cable, avail now. 381-5597 or 332-3852 11-1-20-4

Unfurnished BR for rent in brand new spacious condo w/2 female UF students. NW 55th St. Call Lisa for details @ 352-374-6636 11-7-23-4

3BR/Pvt BA. Available 1/1/06. 6-12 month lease. Perfect for grad/intl. students. Sparkling. Furn/unfurn. Large home in Kirkwood. \$400-\$500 +util. 352-375-6996 or 352-284-0979 11-15-41-4

Furn apt \$325mo utilities female Melrose college complex, parking

priv bath, washer/dryer, bus share w 3 females, pool, I-75 btw Archer + Newberry (954)732-1863 10-

20-10-4 M/F student needed for 3BR/2BA house 4 mi from campus. W/D, cable, hi-speed inet, and more. \$350/mo + 1/3 utils. Call Philip at 352-

284-0654 10-14-5-4 \$250 Nice large room in cool house near UF. DSL, W/D, big fenced yard, great student roommates, good study atmosphere. Flexible lease 371-9409 10-31-15-4

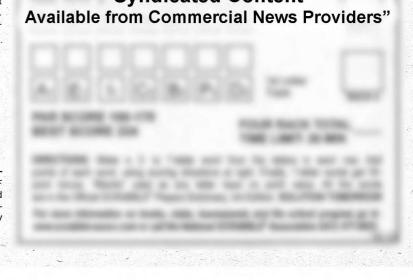
Male roommate for 1 room in 2BR/2.5BA in Victoria Station. Share kitchen, family rm., W/D. Community pool. \$450/mo + utilities. Avail Jan. 1 Call 954-303-1104 or 954-242-4633 kvabraham@aol.com 11-8-20-4

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5

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Beautiful 3BR/2BA Close to campus. Central AC/H, 1700 sq. ft, new paint in/out, new carpet & tile, separate living rm, dining rm. & family rm. screened back porch, new lights & plumbing fixtures. 590 NW 54th Terr. \$205,000 Call 333-9874 10-17-10-5

TOWNHOME FOR SALE. 2BR/2BA w/study loft, Berber carpet, fenced-in vard, near UF & Archer Rd, on bus rte. Call 514-9161 ask for Joey. 10-18-10-5

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5 **Real Estate**

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6 Furnishings

BED-Queen, orthopedic, extra thick, pillowtop, mattress & box, Name brand, new, still in plastic. Sacrifice \$110. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 12-7-72-6

BED - FULL SIZE ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Sacrifice \$85. Call 352-377-9846 12-7-72-6

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Pool Table - Gorgeous 8' All wood table. Leather pockets, Italian 1" slate, carved legs. Br. New still in crate. Cost \$4,500. Sell \$1,350. Can Deliver. 264-9799 12-7-72-6

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Furnishings

6

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Furnishings

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7

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16, ALLIGATOR ■ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2005

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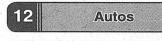
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13 Wanted

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Blind lady needs health majors interested in walking at lease three times a wee 352-219-6948. Thanks. 10-14-63-13 week. Call

14 **Help Wanted**

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Help Wanted

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PT & FT GROUNDS & FXT MAINT

Help Wanted

14

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2005 ALLIGATOR, 17

14 **Help Wanted**

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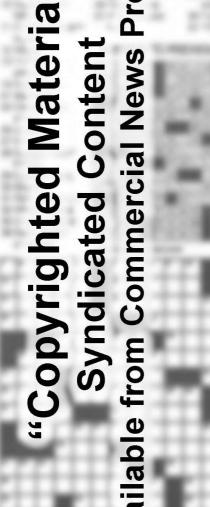
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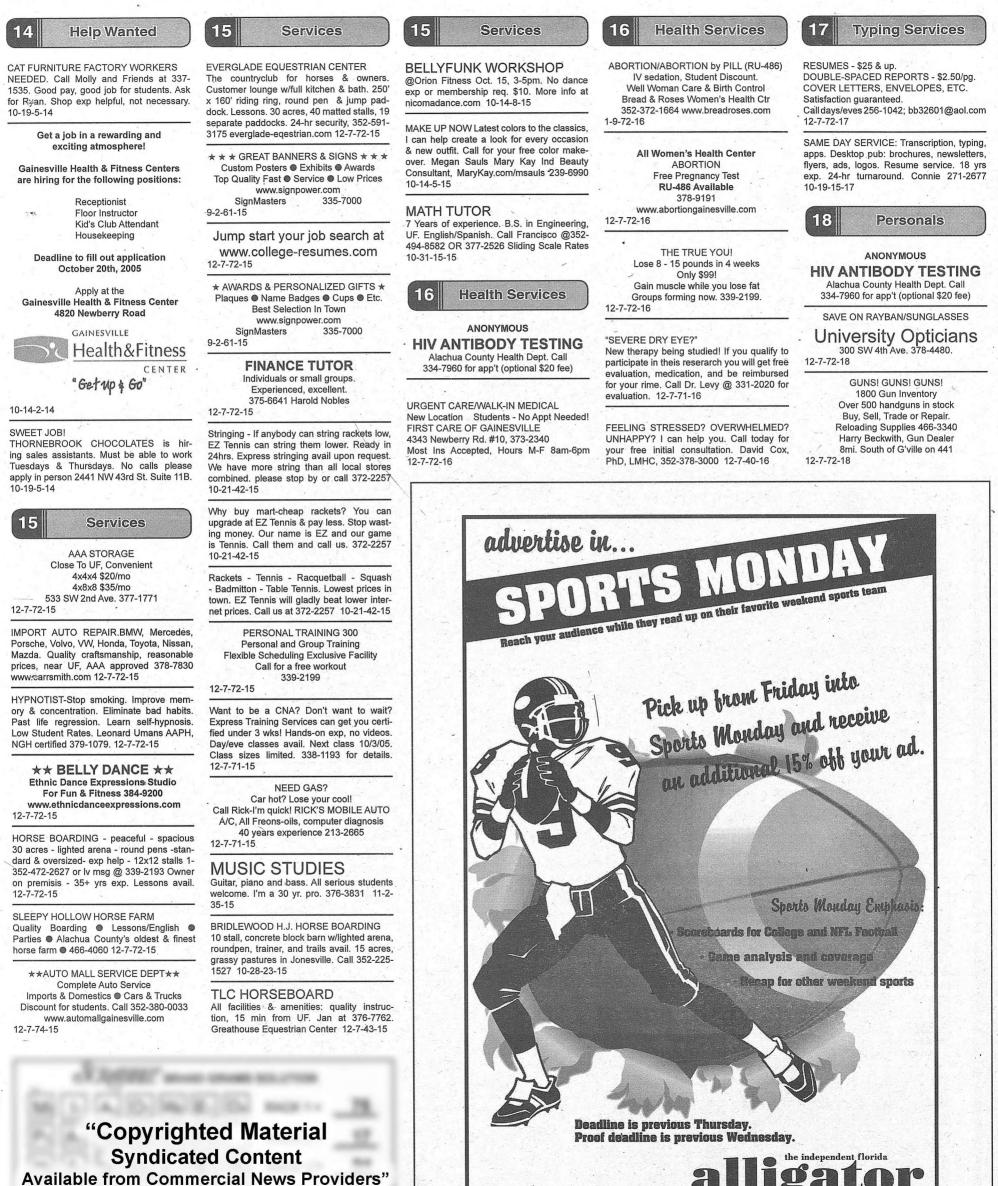


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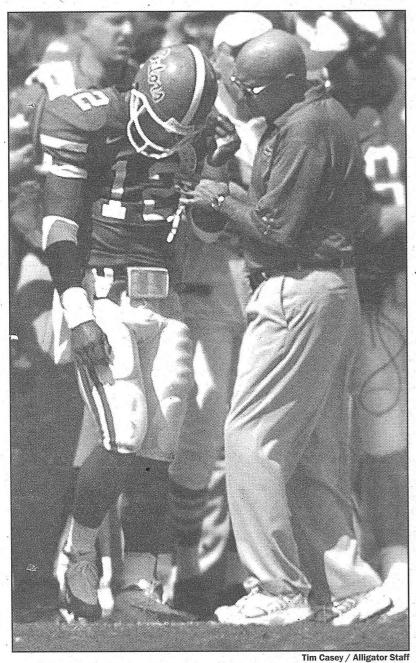
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UF quarterback Chris Leak is examined by team physician Pete Indelicato during the first quarter of the Gators' 35-3 win against Mississippi State after re-injuring his right shoulder.

Leak's injury concerns Meyer

UF might need to turn to Portis

By LOUIS ANASTASIS Alligator Staff Writer

It was 9 a.m. Tuesday on campus, and Chris Leak, instead of shouldering a backpack, wore a mammoth ice pack on his throwing shoulder.

A precautionary decision or a necessary one? Leak's health is UF's burning topic as Louisiana State draws nearer.

"I'm very concerned," Coach Urban Meyer said.

No body part has become more scrutinized, analyzed or important as Leak's shoulder midway through the season. UF's conference title hopes rest on whether Leak will remain aggressive enough to run the full spread arsenal Saturday. Offensive coordinator Dan Mullen admits UF shied away from deep passes against Mississippi State because of the shoulder, but Leak appears a full go for Death Valley.

"The shoulder feels real good, and I've just been focusing on our game plan for LSU and executing it," Leak said. "It happens all the time in football – I mean guys have MCL sprains and a lot worse than what I got. It's just one of those football things."

While the shoulder has hindered Leak's durability, his arm has been fine at the start of practices. But the more throws he logs, the sorer his shoulder becomes. It was this reality that prompted a numbing cortisone shot prior to the Bulldogs' game.

If Leak somehow re-aggravates his injury Saturday, backup Josh Portis will be asked to run the entire offense.

"I'm ready to be the quarterback of the University of Florida," Portis said. "That's what I said at the beginning of the season. You never know what's going to happen, so you just have to be ready when your number is called."

"The shoulder feels real good, and I've just been focusing on our game plan for LSU and executing it." Chris Leak

UF quarterback

Arriving on campus as a Meyer recruit in December, Portis has been dubbed as the team's future quarterback by hoards of fans. Others gripe about his minimal playing time, saying his speed holds the key to the true spread offense. While the team is clearly Leak's, Portis has prepared for the worst-case scenario.

"Chris is my boy," he said. "I wish the best for him. I ask him every day how he's doing. I hope he gets better. We sure need him. "I'll pray for him every night, but if my number' is called, I have to get them."

Mullen has been working with Portis to increase his comfort zone with more facets of the offense. Still, at times, it is obvious he has miles to go.

"He's a freshman and you're going to have plenty of growing pains with him," Mullen said. "He's going to make youngguy mistakes. He hasn't seen all those live looks. "

The one knock on Portis has been his passing. The reserve continued to inflate his gaudy rushing numbers against Mississippi State, but as it stands, he has logged 26 runs to 11 passes.

"He's getting there, but he's an 18-year old who's a really athletic running quarterback out of high school," Mullen said. "You play to his strengths; you're just going to use everything he does best.

"You don't see a lot of freshmen come in and light it up in the drop-back passing game."

You also don't see many teams stay on course during mid-season if their starting arm goes down. Leak understands that concept and doesn't plan on going anywhere.

"I just love being out there with my teammates and that's the main thing," Leak said. "I never want to let those guys down, and I want to be out there with them having fun."

Gators need aggressive defensive line to make Tigers bait on bayou

ccording to the T-shirts they sport, it's no one but them. That mantra could prove true when

the Gators make their first trip to Louisiana State since handing the Tigers the only loss of their 2003 championship season.

The Tennessee win is long gone, and this week's game will decide UF's fate.

The Gators, a 6-point underdog, will need a struggling offense to put up big points against the most blitz-happy, aggressive defense in the conference. However, LSU Coach Les Miles is already hearing whispers of being the conference's next Zooker.

While I see the Gators offense sputtering early, this game stacks up favorably to the last

2

3

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SCOREBOARD

Angels (Series tied 1-1) 1

Astros (STL leads 1-0)

MLB

White Sox

Cardinals

ccording to the T-shirts they sport, it's time the Gators came up big in the bayou.

In 2003, they were big underdogs on the road, and experts gave them zero chance at winning. UF was uncertain at the running back position, and defensive end Ray McDonald was flirting with returning from an injury in remarkable time.

For Meyer to have any shot of coaching this team to victory, the defensive line will have to pressure quarterback JaMarcus Russell and create turnovers, because it will be hard for the offense to move the ball consistently 80-yards down the field on the ground.

The Gators' defensive front has played lights out so far, and several players have stepped their games up faster than the Swamp



Tenacious E eesteban@alligator.org filing out in the third quarter of the homecoming game. A zinger, but I understand how students had to get back to not doing anything.

Things nonchalantly

Mr. Champions Club, aka senior Jeremy Mincey, was named the SEC Defensive Lineman

of the Week and is playing with a nonstop motor. Defensive tackle Marcus Thomas has been playing like a college-level Warren Sapp, and at linebacker, B-Siles has been nothing short of an All-American as a sophomore. But every member of the defense combined might not be able to resuscitate the team in front of a LSU home crowd still hankering for the team's first win in Baton Rouge this year, especially if the offense struggles behind Leak's tender right shoulder.

UF's uncertainty at tailback should force offensive coordinator Dan Mullen to use the conference's deceptively top-ranked pass offense to light up the SEC's worst, but injuries could limit the options. I wouldn't be surprised in the least if the Gators dusted off some trick plays, and if the offensive line steps its game up to the level Meyer has asked. Then the buzzards flying over Death Valley could be dining on Tiger tail.

TODAY IN UF SPORTS HISTORY

2001: Already 5-0 and ranked No. 1 in the country, the Gators drop a shocker at Auburn, falling to the Tigers 23-20. The Gators would later fall to Tennessee, deflating their title hopes in Steve Spurrier's final year.

The Gators will hold open tryouts to full-time UF students. A mandatory meeting will be held Monday at 5:30 at the basketball practice facility on Woodlawn Drive.

MEN'S BASKETBALL TRYOUTS

ON TELEVISION

MLB : Astros vs. Cardinals FOX, 8 p.m.

NCAA Football : Clemson vs. N.C. State ESPN, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2005 ALLIGATOR, 21

VOLLEYBALL **UF sweeps hapless Bulldogs**

By BRYAN JONES Alligator Writer

. Many UF volleyball fans probably thought it would be a long time coming before the home crowd would ever cheer for anyone donning red and black.

Georgia head coach Steffi Legall and assistant coach Nicole McCray, however, received just that with friendly pre-game ovations from the Gators' faithful.

Of course, if the Gators continue to take the bite out of the Bulldogs like they did Wednesday, the fans will find plenty of reasons to cheer.

In what was about as friendly a contest as a UF-Georgia match-up could get, the No. 5 Gators (17-1, 7-0 Southeastern Conference) defeated Georgia (7-9, 2-4 SEC), 30-19, 30-19, 30-17, Wednesday night at the O'Connell Center.

Legall and McCray were both All-Americans for the Gators and played for UF coach Mary Wise.

"I don't think it's ever fun

to play against your friends," Wise said. "But once the first serve starts, you forget all about it."

That could be a little more difficult for McCray's sister, Amber, who is UF's starting right-side hitter.

"We know they are going to come out, no matter how their season's going, and they are going to give us their best shot."

Amber McCray UF outside hitter

Amber said that while she enjoys defeating her sister's team, she just relishes the opportunity to see her sister faceto-face.

"I think it would be different if she was actually playing, and I had to look across the net and see her," McCray said. "But we're just so excited to get to see each other so much more by her being in our league.

The Gators were playing on two days rest, but historically

UF plays well against Georgia. "We know they are going to come out, no matter how their season's going, and they are going to give us their best shot," McCray said.

The Gators won each game by a margin of at least 11 points.

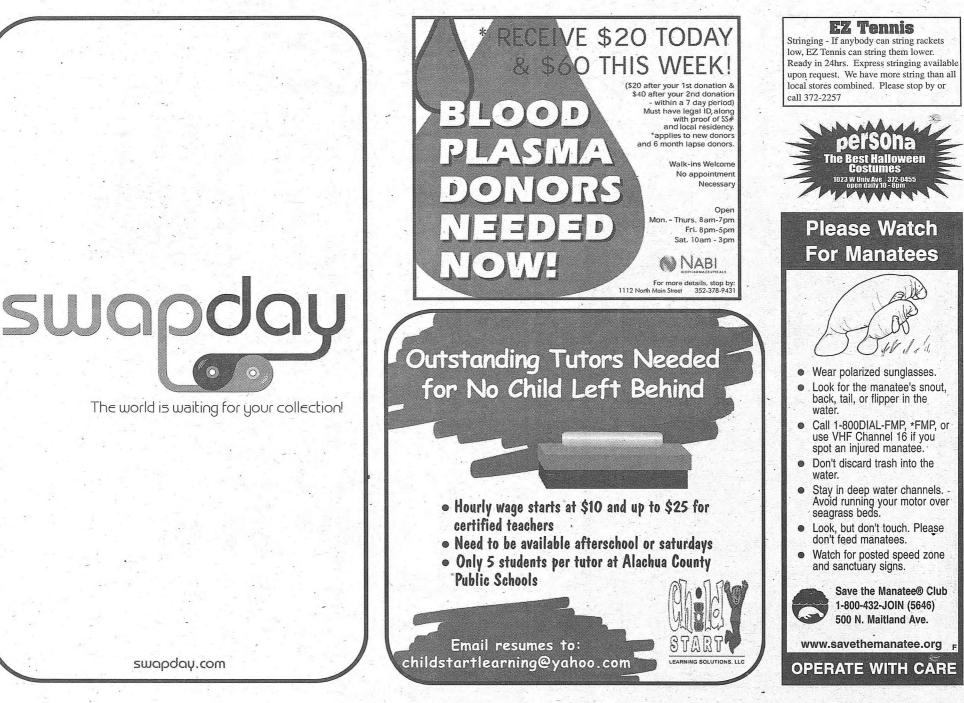
But it took some late-game runs by Georgia to even keep the scores that close.

Struggling to contain UF outside hitter Jane Collymore, the Bulldogs fell behind early and often.

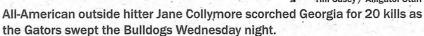
Collymore, two-time a All-American scorched the Bulldogs for 20 kills, 10 digs and three service aces on .567 hitting.

As solid as those numbers are, Wise said Collymore's performance was even more impressive than any stat-sheet could indicate.

"We really know [Collymore] is in a groove when she serves as well as she did, and she passed nails," Wise said. "It was an All-American performance tonight."



Tim Casey / Alligator Staff



Instructional camp pamphlet led Davis to UF

DAVIS, from page 23

"Rhian is a player who obviously doesn't get a whole lot of attention because she was a former walk-on, who we met because she came to camp here," Wise said. "We get thousands of campers who come through here.



Rhian Davis Junior 5-7 Austin, Texas **Bowie High** Major: Fitness/

Career Stats

2003	GP-MP 18-11	A 2	SA 2	SE 5	Digs 6
2004	38-20	2	1	4	40
2005*	58-18	15	22	33	131
*As of C	oct. 12, 2	005			

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"For her to kind of set herself apart, from Austin, Texas, to come here as a walk-on, she stepped up yesterday and was just nailing her serve."

A Daughter's Guilt

As a walk-on, Davis' family had to pay tuition for her to go to school, a fact that left her with a little bit of guilt.

"She had opportunities to go out of state and have a full ride, albeit at a lower level school," her mother, Ann, said. "She felt bad that we were going to have to pay tuition after having paid for her club and all that kind of stuff through her younger years in high school and middle school.' While Davis is now second on the

team in service aces with 22 and fifth in digs with 131, the transition from high school to the college game wasn't a simple one.

"It was really funny because my first day at practice, I was wide-eyed and moving all over the place and trying to do way too much," Davis said.

"The speed is different, the game is different, there's much more reason for what you're doing instead of just going

EZ Tennis

Stringing - If anybody can string rackets

through the motions in practice."

Hard Work Pays Off

Davis was named to the Southeastern Conference Academic Honor Roll her sophomore year and she has obviously come along way from those days when

she was a wide-eyed freshman. Davis credits her consistent hard work as the reason she's gotten to

where she is today. "It's definitely a plus [knowing] people say, 'Well maybe if you work hard and that's all you do, you don't ever get anything from it," Davis said. "Well that's a lie because I wouldn't be here, and I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing now if I didn't work hard and stay here all summer and work in the gym. It's definitely in direct relation to working hard."

Pride of the Family

The fact that she has found her niche in Gainesville is what has pleased her family the most.

her mother said. "We're happy that's she's happy, we're just proud.

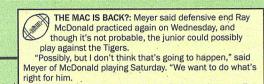


Still suffering from a sore right ankle, UF receiver Jemalle Cornelius had to leave practice Wednesday, and Coach Urban Meyer isn't certain whether he will play against LSU on Saturday.

"He practiced today, then they pulled him out," Meyer said. "He got a little sore.

him out," Meyer said. "He got a little sore." He's day-to-day." The loss of Cornelius, who suffered the injury during the Gators' 31-3 loss to Alabama on Oct. 1, would further hinder a receiving corps that already lost its No. 2 option, Andre Caldwell, to a broken leg. Meyer is still waiting for somebody to assume Cornelius' role.

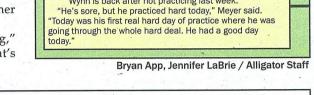
"Gavin [Dickey] is getting more involved, [as is] Tate Casey and [freshman] Nyan Boateng," Meyer said. "But no one is stepping up and taking it."



'Ray did some things today, but he's day-to-day as well. You've got to do what's right by the young man

WYNN IS IN: Meyer said junior tailback DeShawn Wynn played well during his first full practice in nearly two weeks. Still suffering from a sore shoulder, Wynn is back after not practicing last week

"She's happy, that's the main thing,"



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2005 MALLIGATOR, 23

Little defender that could

Track star earns volleyball success

By DAN TREAT Alligator Writer dtreat@alligator.org

You spot her out on the court with her blonde ponytail pulled tight, sporting orange and blue Nike Shox and the No. 2 sewn onto her back, and you may wonder, "How did she get out there?"

She stands at just 5-foot-7, if your program is to be believed, and many of those around her stand at 6-foot or above.

"This girl is a volleyball player?" you silently wonder. "There's no way."

When she is introduced as a starter from Austin, Texas, you become more confused. How can this girl possibly compete?

The match begins, and the opposing outside hitter drills a ball that is shooting towards the corner of the court.

She dives frantically to her left and completes a perfect pass to the setter, resulting in a Gators point.

"OK, now I get it," you think to yourself.

That likely won't be the last thing that surprises you about junior Rhian Davis, UF defender extraordinaire. "I like being the short, quirky, speedy little thing," Davis said.

Track Star Beginnings

A former pole vaulter, a walkon, and a Gator almost by accident, Davis spent a majority of her first two years on the bench, learning from those around her.

"I think when you sign up for this you have that realiza-Volleyball tion in the back of your head that you're not going to be the

all-star," Davis said. "You're going to haveto sit back and you're going to have

to learn. "I was never really disappointed in the fact that I wasn't playing because I knew that I still had a long way to come to earn that right of playing."

She may have had a long way to go on the court, but she already had come so far to be in Gainesville in first place. And from someone whose own

mother described her as "gritty", would you expect anything less?

Davis was actually more highly

recruited in track than volleyball. She was the 2002 regional champion in the pole vault and finished second in the state of Texas that year with a vault of 11 feet 3 inches, a Bowie High School record.

But with a GPA just as high as any cross beam - 4.0 to be exact - Davis could gain admission to most universities with her academics as well as athletics.

Fated for the Gators?

When Davis decided that she wanted to play elite level college volleyball, a twist of fate started her on the path to UF.

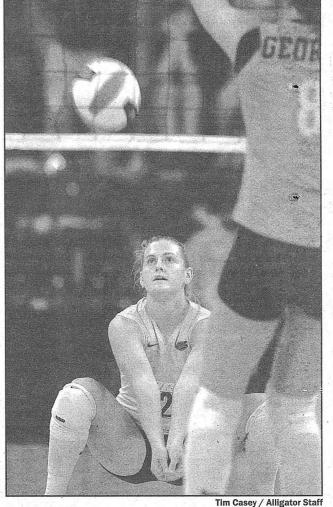
"In the recruiting process in high school, all kinds of schools will send you their camp pamphlets," Davis said. "And I said, 'Well, the first two camp things that I get, those will be the camps that I go to.'

"So Florida's was first and North Carolina's was second."

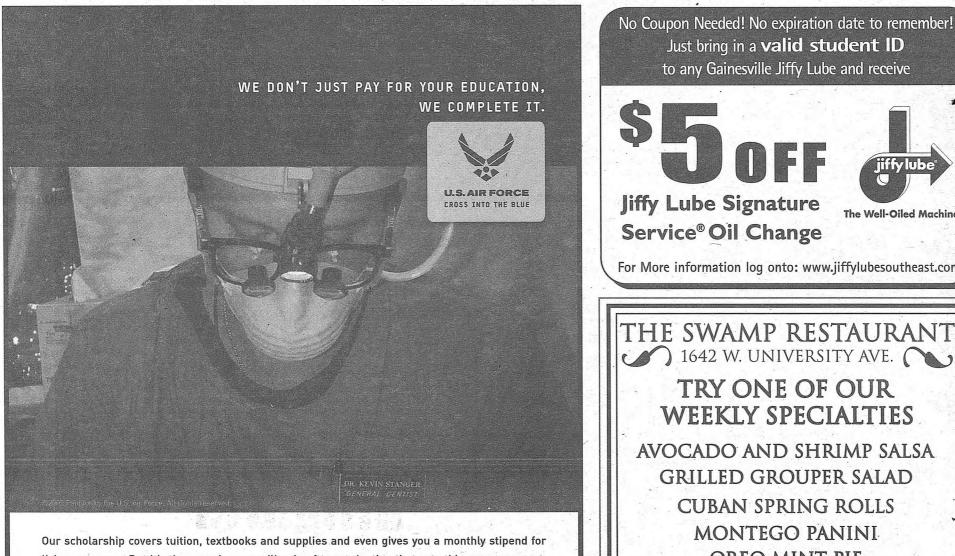
A Legend Takes Notice

That fact may have been even more impressive to UF Coach Mary Wise, who singled her out as a spark plug in a Gators victory over Ole Miss earlier this year

SEE DAVIS, PAGE 22

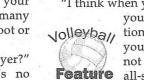


UF defensive specialist Rhian Davis, a 5-foot-7 former walk-on, has become a major asset to the Gators.



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