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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2005

Corners project gets \$37M tax incentive

DEVELOPERS MUST START THE BUILDING BY MAY 2007.

By **JESSICA RIFFEL**
 Alligator Writer
 jriffel@alligator.org

The University Corners project is now a reality thanks to a \$37 million tax-incentive package, approved Tuesday by the Community Redevelopment Agency.

Corners developer Frank Darabi said the project would not have

been possible without help from the agency, which consists of Gainesville City Commission members.

"I'm grateful to the City Commission that they share our vision for that corner," Darabi said.

The commission mandated that construction of the three-block project on University Avenue and 13th Street must begin by May 25, 2007, and be completed within five years.

Darabi said the next step the developer will take is to finish plans and get financing for the project.

University Corners will be a

"I'm grateful to the City Commission that they share our vision for that corner."

Frank Darabi
 University Corners developer.

high-end development with condominium units and more than 100,000 square feet of retail space, developers said. The commission expects it to bring in money for the city in the long run because of increased taxes.

Work has already started, including cleaning up toxic chemicals from a former dry-cleaning business.

The developer also has negotiated lease terminations with current tenants and has settled with every tenant except Maui Teriyaki.

"We have plans ... to build above and around one tenant we don't have the money to pay," Darabi said.

Commissioner Warren Nielsen supported the development of University Corners, claiming it would promote more new developments nearby.

He also said the \$37 million is required for development and is necessary for the project to move forward.

Commissioner Ed Braddy supported the incentive because the city has not supported a project like this before.

"To me, it's worth this vote to see how the project goes," Braddy said.

Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan did not vote in favor of the \$37 million. She said she supports the project but wants some public ownership, such as public input on parking issues or a lesser incentive amount.



Tim Hussin / Alligator Staff

Sprucing up

Atop his ladder, a worker paints the outside third story of Norman Hall on Tuesday morning.

Meth hazardous to all More labs found in homes, motels

By **ASHTON GROSZ**
 Alligator Writer

The existence of clandestine methamphetamine labs is a dangerous health hazard — and not just for drug users.

Florida law enforcement agencies are increasing efforts to find and clean up "meth" labs due to a growing number set up in hotel rooms, apartment complexes and outdoor parks where lingering carcinogenic vapors endanger the health of those nearby.

Robin McDaniel, an agent at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, said he has seized about 150 meth labs since 1999, many of which were in hotel rooms.

"Whoever sleeps in that motel room is contaminated," McDaniel said.

He said meth is cooked using household items such as lithium batteries, peroxide, anhydrous ammonia and over-the-counter medicines containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, like Sudafed.

Once the FDLE finds a clandestine lab in a hotel or house, officials let the owner know that he or she is liable if anyone suffers from health problems as a result. McDaniel said enforcing cleanup is more difficult.

"It's hard to check on these people because there's no law that lets us," he said.

McDaniel teaches first responders how to safely destroy the labs by wearing air tanks and insulated chemical suits where temperatures inside can reach 150 degrees Fahrenheit, putting workers at risk of heat exhaustion.

He said the majority of hotel workers in Florida are still not taught to spot haz-

ards, but law enforcement officials are being trained due to increasing meth use in Florida. The drug trend is originally from the Midwest.

"This is just the tip of the iceberg," he said of the drug's growth. "Florida ain't seen nothing yet."

In October, the Florida House Committee on Health Care Regulation heard a presentation by James McDonough, director of the Florida Office of Drug Control, on policy response to methamphetamines. McDonough said 273 labs have been seized this year in Florida, and he projected the number would reach 364, up from 15 labs seized in 2000.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration's breakdown by county, one lab in Alachua County has been seized every year since October 2003.

State News
 Alachua County Sheriff's Office spokesman Capt. Jim Troiano said that although the drug is more prevalent in counties in the Florida panhandle, local code enforcement officers have requested training from the sheriff's office to recognize clandestine meth labs.

Troiano said meth, dubbed the "redneck drug of choice," is cheaper to buy than cocaine, and the highly portable labs can be difficult for law enforcement to detect.

"You can put a meth lab in a gym bag," Troiano said.

He also said hotel cleaning staff should be wary of unusual items in hotel room trash cans and ammonia odors, though cookers can contain strong fumes in propane tanks.

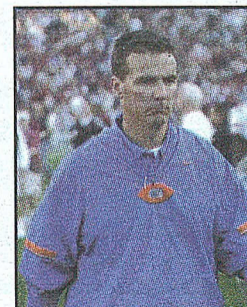
"You, as a person, would never know that methamphetamines had been in that hotel room," Troiano said. "Everything in this room would be contaminated — everything."

SEE METH, PAGE 5

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Deep within the earth in the Turlington Plaza basement lies the only seismometer in Gainesville, which picks up waves that are traveling through the earth.
 See story, pg. 8.

Urban Meyer and the Gators returned to practice Tuesday disappointed about their loss to South Carolina that knocked them out of the SEC title race, but optimistic about the future.
 See story, pg. 17.



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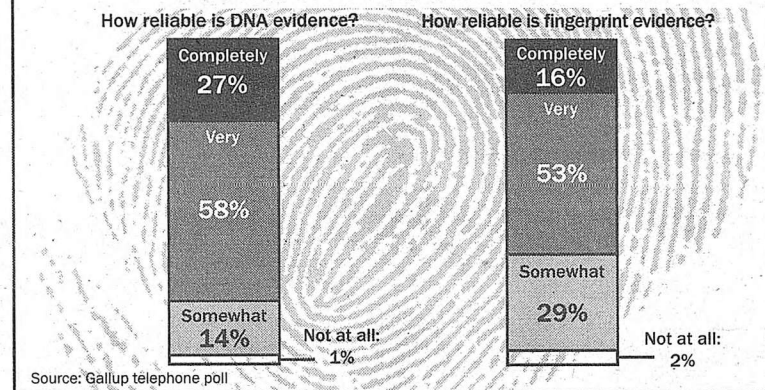
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OPINION

Americans conclusive about DNA evidence

Through high-profile criminal trials and popular television crime dramas, Americans are learning a single strand of hair, a swab of saliva or a drop of blood can mean the difference between a prison cell and freedom. Gallup's recent crime survey indicates Americans are highly confident in the reliability of DNA evidence, especially relative to their confidence in fingerprint evidence.



Jennifer LaBrie / Alligator Staff

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
PARTLY CLOUDY 85/53	RAIN 68/41	PARTLY CLOUDY 70/43	SUNNY 72/45	PARTLY CLOUDY 74/46

ANNOUNCEMENT

Students can enjoy a free lunch with the Student Government executive officers today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the President's Dining

Room on the fourth floor of the Reitz Union.

The event will allow students the chance to ask questions and voice concerns to student leaders.

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Senate approves cap on fees

By DAVID COHEN

Alligator Writer
dcohen@alligator.org

Student Senate approved a 50 percent cap on speakers' fees for special events, such as Hispanic Heritage Month, on Tuesday night by a 51-23 vote.

Budget & Appropriations Committee Chairman Ryan Moseley said the cap was put in place to encourage diverse programming and to ensure that the advertising and food needed to attract students is within budget limits.

"We believed that it would help the student body in general," he said.

The cap on speakers' fees forced the Asian American Student Union to reallocate \$8,000 for its Kaleidoscope Month in November 2006. The group created Kaleidoscope Olympics, which will be a series of games promoting communication, interaction and unity with AASU sub-organizations, to comply with the cap.

Sen. Justin Stone said the committee was amazed at the new programming that groups brought forth.

Moseley said his committee will be meeting soon to discuss a \$310,000 cut in funds for the Reitz Union, Recreational Sports and Student Government.

Moseley said SG asked the UF Fee Committee for an 85-cent Activity & Service Fee increase and received a 60-cent increase, resulting in cuts to the proposed budgets.

He said he expects more cuts in the future, but it was too early to tell the amount of impact on student organizations.

Senate passed the entire Special Events Budget for 2006-07 with the speakers' fee cap totaling \$262,290.

In other Senate news, former Senate President Diane Kassim said she was "terrified" that the Senate might be heading on a path toward less diversification.

"My motivation is my concern for our future," she said. "It scares the daylights out of me."



Kassim

She said being a member of Senate forces students to go political.

"That's the game you are forced to play," she said. "I have made decisions that I am not proud of. It's very important to question everything. Question me. Anyone can be full of crap."

Also at the meeting, Student Body President Joe Goldberg announced UF is working to improve communication with students regarding class cancellations for severe storms. Goldberg said he met with UF administration and reported that the university plans to update its Web site more frequently as a storm approaches.

Goldberg said he lobbied for this decision after he received numerous calls about whether or not class was going to be cancelled for Hurricane Wilma.

Bill may bring drill

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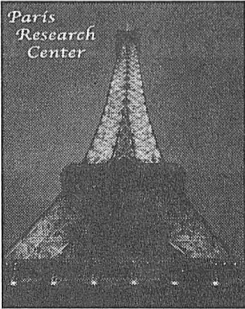
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Panel discusses lack of preparation for hurricanes

By **STEPHANIE RODRIGUEZ**

Alligator Writer
srodriguez@alligator.org

A UF law professor said the government should ban development along the Gulf Coast because of Hurricane Katrina's devastation in a panel discussion Tuesday.

"The government won't ban coastal development because of property rights," said professor Michael Allan Wolf. "The president has a profound ignorance for the proper role of the government."

On Campus Wolf said the major component of the president's solution to Katrina's devastation is tax relief for victims. Four other speakers agreed with him in the panel discussion.

State Rep. Ed Jennings questioned whether Florida should allow mobile homes.

"I don't think we have a clue when it comes to a time of tragedy," Jennings said.

Jennings said his concern is that the government is relying too heavily on the American Red Cross for disaster relief.

"The American Red Cross is great, but they are still a non-profit organization," Jennings said. "I expect the government to protect me and my family with federal resources."

Jennings said the government should allot money to prepare for hurricanes.

Wolf said the president was also urging people to give to the Salvation Army.

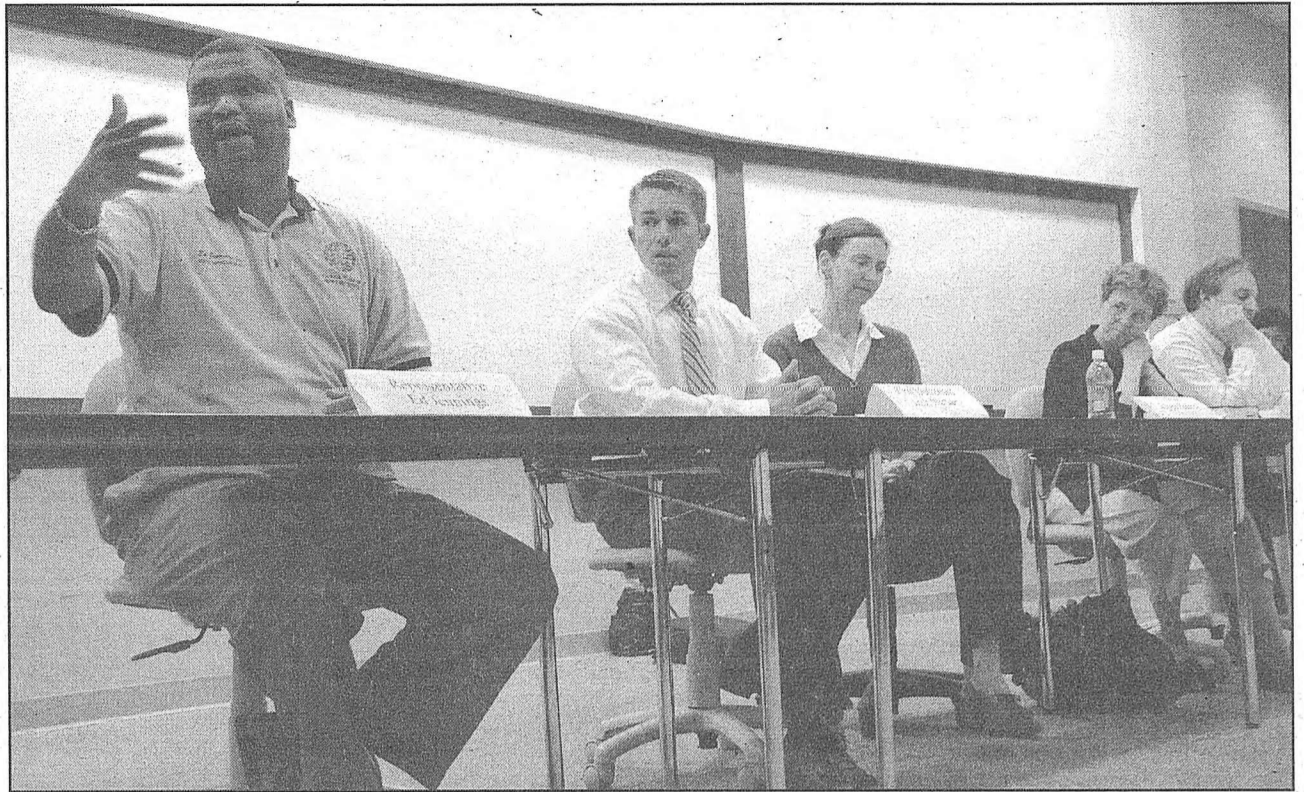
"The Salvation Army is a religious organization," Wolf said. "What about using our tax dollars?"

Wolf said the government should use tax money to subsidize affordable housing.

Ways to minimize the effects of race and poverty in hurricane-stricken areas were also discussed.

Alyson Flournoy, a UF law professor, said 100,000 Louisiana residents could not evacuate because they did not have cars.

The government failed to provide a feasible evacuation strategy for these people, Flournoy said.



Tim Hussin / Alligator Staff

Florida House of Representatives' Ed Jennings addresses students about the problems and issues surrounding Hurricane Katrina. He stressed that future preparation is necessary to avoid a future problem.

Flournoy also worried about communities exposed to toxic mercury from wrecked coal-fired power plants.

"The government's solution is to just warn people," Flournoy said. "The mercury is on fish, and they're just telling people not to eat fish."

Jennings said that the state of Florida must make sure that 17 million people are prepared for natural disasters.

"We need to have county by county plans," he said. "We need a state and federal 'emergency army' that is prepared on the ground to respond to these issues."

SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Virtual lab gives SFCC students hands-on experience

By **ALEXIS LLOYD**

Alligator Writer

SFCC's future health-information managers will be able to receive hands-on learning about how to interpret medical records.

SFCC is one of 12 pilot schools nationwide and the only college in Florida chosen to participate in the American Health Information Management Association's e-HIM Virtual Lab project, which is designed to expose health-information management students

to software they will see in the field.

"Santa Fe has a lot of physical records located here on campus, but this program will allow people to access records from home," said program coordinator Karen Bakuzonis.

All personal information has been blocked from the files.

"It is one thing to read theory of records management. There's more a sense of reality to see the live data," Bakuzonis said.

SFCC student Grace Patrick

"I would recommend this program to anyone. The career field is opening up and growing quickly."

Grace Patrick
SFCC student

worked in a doctor's office as a patient-care coordinator. She said she decided to come back to SFCC to focus more on the management side of her medical career.

"Santa Fe has done a wonderful job preparing me to enter the workplace," Patrick said. "I would recommend this program to anyone. The career field is opening up and growing quickly."

Patrick will graduate from the two-year program this semester and begin her new job as an oncology data specialist at Shands Medical Plaza in December.

Bakuzonis said the purpose of the virtual lab is to help students like Patrick "be more prepared,

have a better understanding and higher confidence levels" as they enter the workplace.

"I think [the virtual lab] program will be a nice additive for future students," Patrick said. "It is more helpful to have more hands-on activities."

"[SFCC] is on the ground floor in developing the virtual lab," Bakuzonis said. "Being the only school in Florida, we have the advantage into how this program will be formed."

The program will begin in January.

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Speakers talk rape

By **DONNA MITRANI**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Kelly Addington and Rebecca Tieder said they want to "make cock blocking cool."

The 30-year-olds spoke to a crowd of about 100 about how to reduce sexual assault and make a difference Tuesday night at the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom.

The two women spoke about their first-hand experience with rape on a college campus.

"People will listen if you say, 'It's happened to me, and look what I've done with my life,'" said 20-year-old Veronica Cooper, vice chairwoman of AAREST, Acting Against Rape: Every Student's Taskforce.

Addington said she was raped while drunk and possibly drugged by a man visiting her one weekend during her senior year at the University of West Florida.

She realized she was sexually assaulted a few months later after two positive pregnancy tests and recurring nightmares about feeling trapped and powerless. To her knowledge, she hadn't had sex with anyone in almost a year.

"Either there was a second Jesus coming into the world and

I had immaculately conceived, or I had been sexually assaulted," Addington said.

Addington and long-time best friend Tieder quickly traced back the pregnancy to Addington's male guest. When Addington confronted the man, he told her that although she may not remember it, Addington wanted it and was all over him.

Addington had a miscarriage three weeks after finding out. At the time, she felt guilt, fear and anger and blamed herself, she said. With the help of her mother and Tieder, Addington survived the trauma.

On Campus "Life is best if lived without fear but awareness," Addington said.

Tieder and Addington have toured 50 universities and high schools speaking on how to gain control of sexual assault rather than letting it take control.

The pair said students should communicate more openly with partners about sex and use campus resources to make a difference.

"We are in this together, and the solution relies on all of us to make better decisions," Tieder said.



Low prices, inability to detect by law enforcement makes meth 'drug of choice'

METH, from page 1

Dave Koppenhaver, a forensic scientist and chemist for the FDLE, said carcinogenic vapors fill a room where meth is cooked.

Someone who walks into a room containing an open bucket of anhydrous ammonia will immediately cough, and some can't stay in the room for more than 10 minutes, he said.

"If you breathe in anhydrous ammonia, it robs your lungs of moisture and air," he said. "If you stay in that environment, you can quite

literally cough your lungs out."

Many labs the FDLE spots are small "mom-and-pop labs," producing about 3 ounces of meth, or the equivalent of 60 sugar packets.

Koppenhaver compared meth contamination to the smell of cigarette smoke, detectable due to settled chemicals that coat the environment's surfaces. A room's walls cannot contain the byproduct in its entirety, he said.

Cleaning costs, funded by federal grants, are about \$3,000 for small labs and \$100,000 for larger labs producing up to 1 pound of the drug, along with 5 to 6 pounds of hazardous byproduct, Koppenhaver said.

"You, as a person, would never know that methamphetamines had been in that hotel room. Everything in this room would be contaminated — everything."

Capt. Jim Troiano
ACSO spokesman

Sanjay Patel, general manager of Comfort Inn on Southwest 13th Street, said that in the 10 years he has been in business, he has not

known of labs in the hotel, but his cleaning staff is trained to look for glass bottles and needles.

Sheriffs in Osceola County are hosting meth-awareness seminars so hotel staff can recognize signs of former labs in rooms, said Lt. Patrick Maloney of the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

Maloney saw a meth lab in an apartment complex that caused health problems for a nearby dweller as a result of toxic fumes seeping through the walls.

"I'm sure there would be some lingering health effects from the chemicals used in the process," Maloney said.

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Editorial

Shady tactics

Officials raise questions by charging for records

The Editorial Board is convinced: UF President Bernie Machen is scared of students.

Recent developments in the lawsuit against Machen pointed us to a most relevant but often neglected question: Why aren't UF administrators bending backward to give public records to students?

If we had these accusations coming our way, we would certainly follow the public-records laws to the utmost technicality regardless of the lawsuit's actual chance of success. In fact, we would be more open than the law stipulates, just to make sure. We might even hand out milk and cookies with every request — because who could be angry after eating a cookie?

But officials have continued to show quite an aversion to this tactic.

First, they say e-mails are deleted. Then, they claim some are printed out and filed only by subject, not date. And a few weeks ago, they told UF student Thomas Mott he would have to pay almost \$150 for documents similar to the ones Charles Grapski originally requested.

We can all see that Mott has talked to Grapski and that he is trying to catch the administration violating the law. We'd hope Vice President for Student Affairs Patricia Telles-Irvin would be able to see this as well.

Yet her office demanded labor costs of \$135 to photocopy about 100 pages. They also added the maximum fee of 15 cents per page to Mott's bill.

This is a confusing response. Sure, officials arguably have the legal right to charge this amount, if they can offer a convincing enough argument. But we don't think we're alone in wondering if taking advantage of these legal maximums is a wise move, especially with officials mum.

However, although \$135 to photocopy a few pages might seem exorbitant to a student, it falls perfectly in line with Telles-Irvin's salary — she makes a lot of money.

But does Telles-Irvin really have no one else to make the copies? Is that person's time really worth \$135? How much time does it take someone to make 100 copies, anyway?

And most importantly: Why complicate their situation further with such a pointless stipulation?

Most students can't afford to pay \$150, making it difficult for the bulk of UF's campus to access these kinds of records.

We couldn't imagine a better example to illustrate the vast distance between students and administrators.

If officials gave Mott the records for \$15, we wouldn't complain. We might even wonder whether Grapski had been led astray by an overzealous attitude.

But now we're convinced that the university isn't innocent in this mess. And we don't believe for a second the claim that Machen doesn't do much business on e-mail.

What is his official e-mail address for? Sending junk mail?

Machen communicates with many people over his e-mail address, and we just don't buy into the idea that a big chunk of business isn't conducted on the Internet.

Although we have our reservations about Grapski's guerilla tactics, we're glad he refiled his suit. Someone needs to stand up to the administration and expose its widespread secrecy. E-mail policies must be defined.

the independent florida
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The Alligator encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 150 words (about one letter-sized page). They must be typed, double-spaced and must include the author's name, classification and phone number. Names will be withheld if the writer shows just cause. We reserve the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to letters@alligator.org, bring them to 1105 W. University Ave., or send them to P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257. Columns of about 450 words about original topics and editorial cartoons are also welcome. Questions? Call 376-4458.

Opinions

ALLIGATOR
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Column

Evolution decision harmful to Kansas

On Nov. 9, the Kansas State Board of Education voted 6-4 to adopt controversial biology standards that severely call into question the scientific theory of evolution.

It offends me as a devotee of science and as a passionate believer in the extraordinary power and importance of public education. But more than that, it offends me as a product of Kansas' public schools.

This offends me as a Kansan.

Yes, in 2002, I graduated from Shawnee Mission West High School in Overland Park, Kan.

But before engaging in a cathartic and fully justified attack on my state's infamous school board, let's remember what this decision does not do. It does not, as many assume, eliminate the teaching of evolution from Kansas schools. It does not place a copy of the Ten Commandments in every classroom.

What the new standards actually state are ridiculous enough without having to overstate their scope. The standards include harsh and unscientific criticism of evolution that, implicitly if not explicitly, places unproven and untested theories like "intelligent design" at the same level as widely accepted science.

But for a second, I'm going to forget about the affront to Charles Darwin and the hundreds of biologists who have accomplished breathtaking work in this area.

Instead, I'd like to focus on the most important aspect of any story: how it affects me. Not just me, but all Kansans, both the expatriates and those still living in the state.

It's never been easy to be a Kansan, especially one living outside the state, and the recent years have not been friendly to us. Last year, Thomas Frank wrote a book with a title that perhaps best summarizes contemporary attitudes toward the Sunflower State: "What's the Matter with Kansas?"

In the national consciousness, Kansas has largely ceased to be a community of people, and instead acts as some kind

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



Andrew Bare
The Bare Truth
letters@alligator.org

of collective punch line. People who have never met a Kansan, never experienced the extraordinary kindness and courtesy of Kansans, presume to denigrate an entire population. UF students will tell their hilarious Kansas jokes without realizing that J. Wayne Reitz was born there.

People who have never set foot in the state, never seen the lush beauty of the University of Kansas campus in fall, will portray an entire state as a massive wheat field without a single two-story building.

This is all very annoying when the speakers don't have ammunition.

I worry that the Kansas school system, my school system, will lose credibility. The credibility that has been built over decades by the hard work of thousands of dedicated Kansans — men and women who have spent their lives turning the state's schools into some of the nation's best.

I worry that the next mediocre student to come out of Shawnee Mission West and apply to UF isn't going to get the benefit of the doubt.

I worry those high-tech companies whose employees carve out America's future, companies who build their offices in neighborhoods with top-flight schools, will look at Kansas as a state hostile to science and learning.

I worry that the teachers I grew to love in my seven years in the Kansas school system will find themselves the target of scorn and will be looked down upon by their peers.

And all this so that six members of the Kansas State Board of Education could accomplish God only knows what.

Andrew Bare is a journalism senior. His column appears on Wednesday.

Reader response

Today's question:

Has Urban Meyer's first season been disappointing?

Tuesday's question:

Were University Police justified in detaining David Miller?

40% YES

60% NO

52 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Guest column

Gators must cast off Spurrier fantasy, rally behind Meyer

It's time to cut Steve Spurrier loose from the Gator Nation.

I will never forget all the great things he did for our football program. He brought us a Heisman Trophy as a player. He brought us six SEC titles, a national title and another Heisman Trophy winner as a coach.

He was a great Gator. Key word: "was."

After 12 successful seasons at the helm, Spurrier was tired of winning so much. He was bored with SEC championships and trips to major bowl games.

Spurrier dropped the Gators like a bored child drops a toy that's no longer fun.

Spurrier turned his back on the Gators. There is no way to sugarcoat it. If he wanted to leave, fine. It just would have been nice if he had let us know beforehand.

Instead, Spurrier left UF at the height of recruiting season, just weeks before signing day, leaving Jeremy Foley with only a matter of days to find a replacement. Thanks to Steve Spurrier, Foley had no time to line up a quality replacement, and the Gator Nation was stuck with Ron Zook.

Flash forward three years. Ron Zook turned out to be a really nice guy with no football brain and was fired mid-season. Coincidentally, Spurrier was unemployed fol-

Tripp Miller
Speaking Out

lowing an embarrassing stint in the NFL and looking for work back in the college ranks.

But he didn't want the Florida job. He left because he was bored with it in 2001, and he wanted nothing to do with it in 2005. He wanted a new challenge.

What better challenge than to come to a school with zero football history and try to beat the team he had made so great?

And so it was: Spurrier, head coach at South Carolina. Today, Spurrier is a rival. He is foe, not friend. And yet Page 133 of the football media guide is a tribute to the

man who turned his back on the Gators.

On Saturday, Spurrier accomplished his goal by beating his former team and ending any hopes of a trip to the SEC Championship Game in Atlanta.

It's time to cut him loose. It's time to send his Heisman Trophy up to Columbia. He is no longer a Gator. He is a Gamecock and nothing more.

Today the Gator Nation needs to rally around Urban Meyer, not as the second coming of Spurrier but as the coach who may finally end Spurrier's long-held tyranny over the SEC.

Tripp Miller is a journalism junior.

Letters to the Editor

'Intelligent design' lacks essentials of scientific theory

A scientific theory has two parts. At its core is a collection of assertions about the nature of some aspect of the universe — say in particular, the development of life on Earth. From this core, one extracts the second part: hypotheses and predictions either refuted or supported by experiment or observation.

"Intelligent design" theory precisely lacks the ability to produce predictive hypotheses or suggest particular real world observations. In fact, by positing the existence of a supernatural being, it automatically throws its scope beyond natural science.

Intelligent design's key idea is that the complexity of life implies that a supernatural, intelligent creator designed it. Many of the theory's supporters suggest that the human eye, for example, could not be the product of mere chance. However, no conceivable experiment nor observation could provide evidence to either support or refute the existence of deliberate supernatural intelligence designing the eye. This critical component is necessary for the hypothesis to have any scientific worth.

So while the problem of the eye leaves something to be desired of evolutionary theory, intelligent design does not provide a scientific alternative. In fact, this shortcoming extends to practically any hypothesis or suggestion that

could come out of the theory because it posits the will of an entity beyond our ken. No real world observation can be scientifically attributed to a supernatural cause.

At worst, it points to the scientific community where current evolutionary theory needs revision and improvement. No reasonable person will claim that evolutionary theory is perfect in its present state; but like any good, sound scientific theory, it is constantly being revised, updated and improved.

Franco Cafiero
8LS



Riots proven effective in changing policies in France

Poor people are lazy? Ridiculous amounts of Ayn Rand quotes? American college students pretending to know what poor people want? What is this, a joke?

The modern welfare state only exists today because some very intelligent capitalist found it easier to protect his wealth by doling out a little of it through welfare rather than risking more and more major disruptions from those who created his wealth: a radicalized working class engaging in strikes, direct action and riots.

And so the liberals were appeased, the conservatives shaken but no longer threatened and the radicals marginalized.

The spontaneity and absence of a unifying political ideology do not exclude the rioters in France from this same logic. Already, French politicians are pushing through more social welfare measures that will (maybe) help to alleviate the plight of the jobless and poor in that country.

Does anyone honestly believe the poor communities of France could have achieved this by signing some sort of petition, attending a peaceful demonstration or through electoral politics (mainland France has zero non-white parliament members)? Do not be so idealistic, young capitalist.

Frederick Douglass said it best: "Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation are men who want crops without ploughing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. ... Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

On a side note, as to the comment made by Chris New about the rich not hiring thugs who beat workers: I'd like him to try to come up with a more historically accurate definition for the state police!

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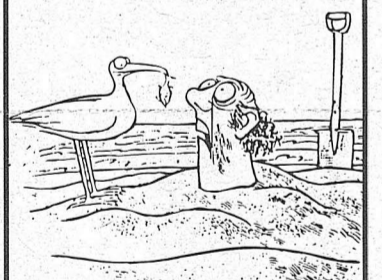
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YOUR PROFESSORS' WAR AGAINST THE MIND:
THE BLACK HOLE OF
POST-MODERNISM AND MULTICULTURALISM

Multiculturalism and deconstructionism — the twin doctrines of academia's latest assault on reason — are working to destroy students' ability to think and to value. These two movements teach that objectivity is a myth and that all ideas are distorted by the lens of "race, class, and gender."

In this talk, Dr. Gary Hull of Duke University explains the essence of Post-Modernism and how philosophers for the past 200 years have systematically divorced reason from reality, culminating in today's rejection of objectivity.

Talk by Dr. Gary Hull
of Duke University

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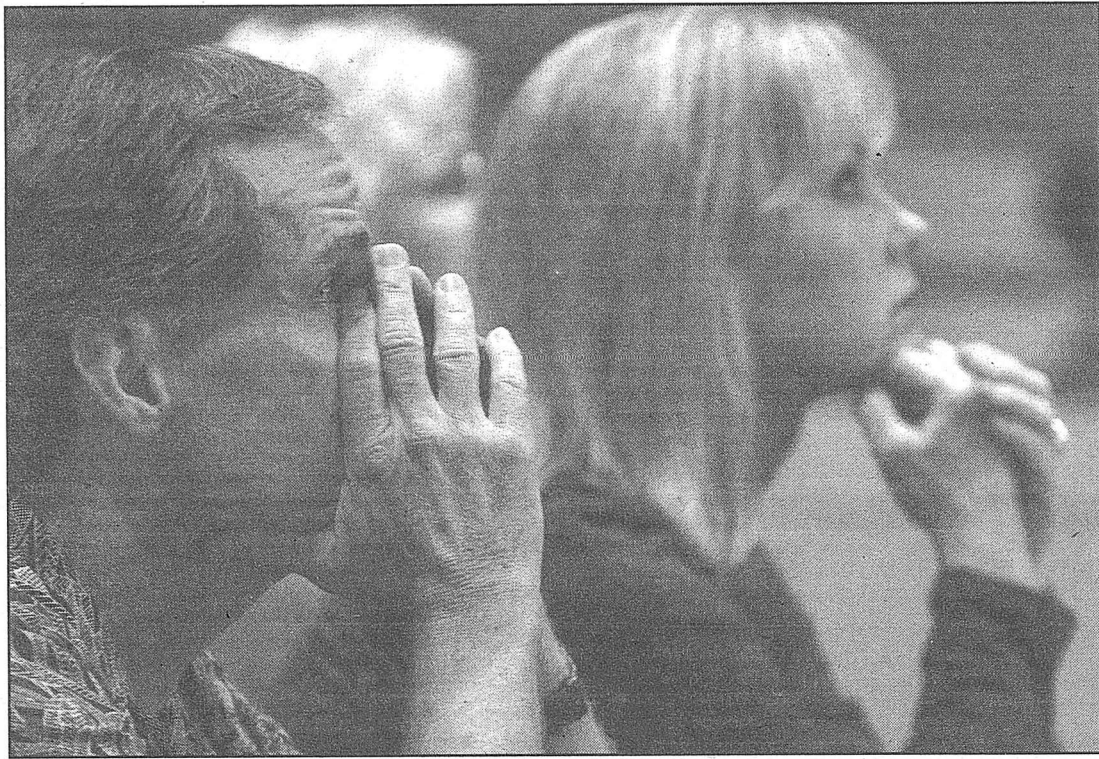
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ON CAMPUS

UF professor makes waves lecturing on tsunamis



Tricia Coyne / Alligator Staff

Jeff Montgomery and his wife, Christy, watch a slide presentation in Emerson Alumni Hall on Tuesday that depicts tsunami devastation in the Andaman Islands, India, in December 2004.

By **OLIVIA ORMOS**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Deep within the earth in the Turlington Plaza basement lies the only seismometer in Gainesville, which picks up waves that travel through the earth.

UF assistant professor of geology Andrew Zimmerman lectured to a crowd of about 70 curious UF alumni Tuesday night about the seismometer and the science of tsunamis. Different seismometers are still picking up waves resulting from the tsunami that devastated Indonesia last December.

"The earth, in fact, is ringing like a bell, and there are different wavelengths," he said. "It is almost like having different bells with different tones expanding and vibrating like a bell does. Even a year later the earth is still ringing."

Zimmerman presented before-and-after pictures of Indonesia's tsunami damages. He discussed the history and science of waves and earthquakes, the three types of plate boundaries and the various types of waves.

"There have been a lot of recent natural disasters, and people want to understand them more," he said.

He said the Indonesian tsunami

was "the strongest earthquake in four years and the fourth strongest since 1900."

The latest figures reveal 300,000 deaths from the disaster, he said.

The Alumni Association brought Zimmerman as part of a distinguished speaker series, held once a month, which is also open to the public.

Mary Clayton, a member of the UF Alumni Association who graduated in 1965, said both she and her husband attend the series of lectures to further their knowledge.

"The lectures have extremely varied topics, and there are always different speakers, usually good lecturers from the university," Clayton said.

Clayton said the main reason why she was interested in coming to hear the lecture was because her neighbor's son survived the last tsunami because he was out on a boat snorkeling.

Zimmerman said to understand a tsunami, you have to understand earthquakes and waves. The word comes from the Japanese "tsu" meaning harbor and "nami" meaning wave.

"Typically, waves travel up to 500 mph in open ocean and only when they get near shore do they feel the bottom and slow down, but build up in height," he said.

Smith: Brucia death 'accident'
Prosecutors play taped talks of man charged with murder

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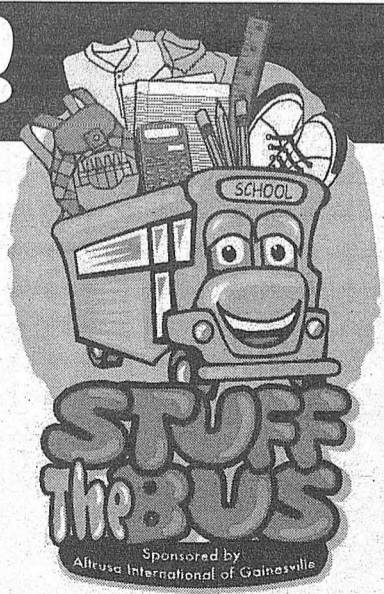
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Reasonably priced NW 3BR house, 1200sf, washer/dryer, den, eat-in kitchen, garage, large maintained yard \$720 edbaurmanagement.com 375-7104 ex. 2 1731 NW 6th Street 12-7-35-2

Talimar, SW 1BR near vet school & hospitals, cent h/a, enclosed courtyard, includes water & trash, \$375 edbaurmanagement.com 375-7104 ex 2 1731 NW 6th St. 12-7-35-2

1 Room Available in a beautiful and clean house. Comes w/wood flrs., pool, workout room, W/D, DSL, maid, & great roommates. No deposit or lease required. Call Justin 336-1271 11-18-24-2

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11-17-15-2

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Avail Dec several units within 1/2 mi of UF campus or closer. Efficiency \$325 1BR/1BA \$420, 2BR/2.5BA \$725, 2BR/1BA \$600. Sec dep. No pets. Contact gvl32601@gmail.com or lv msg 352-870-7256 12-7-29-2

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VILLAGE LOFT APTS. 1BR Loft apts. 650-750 sq. ft. Starting @ \$490/MO. Quiet, wooded setting. FREE monitored alarm system. 6400 SW 20th Ave. Call 332-0720 11-30-21-2

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2 Rms. Both w/screened balconies. \$275/mo. Located between UF & SFCC w/ bus route. Close to Mall & NFRMC. On site W/D, pool, gym, tennis and other amenities. Sparrow Condo (352) 514-3425 11-17-10-2

Close in. Lots of green space. Large 4BR/ 2BA Home Screen porch. No pets. \$800/MO Call (352)378-9220 or 213-3901 12-7-24-2

OAKBROOK CONDO
Large, exclusive 2/2. W/D. Walk/ride to campus. Available Jan 1. \$800/mo. Call 378-2627 or 466-3797 12-7-21-2

AVAIL. JAN OR EARLIER
Large, Modern, Clean 4BR/3BA house 1/2 Block North of UF. Many amenities. Zoned ok for 4 roommates. \$1600/mo. No Pets. K&M Properties 372-1509. 11-30-16-2

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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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2004 Triumph Daytona 600cc 3,000miles. Still under factory warranty \$5,200 OBO Call 352-256-2558 11-28-10-11

1999 YAMAHA R6 rare blue-red-shite coloring, perfect for campus! Polished frame/muffler. Email cheilman@ufl.edu for info/pics. Must pay rent! \$3700 352-283-1484 12-6-15-11

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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 12-7-72-13

THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
NEEDS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS
Transport patients to/from treatments
Must have valid driver's license,
safe driving record & attend training session.
Call 352-376-6866 ext 114 for more info.

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. 11-30-93-13

Blind lady needs health majors interested in walking at least three times a week. Call 352-219-6948. Thanks. 11-30-93-13

WANT TO BUY
BROKEN XBOX, PSP, DS
352-317-6601 12-7-36-13

14 Help Wanted

This newspaper assumes no responsibility for injury or loss arising from contacts made through advertising. We suggest that any reader who responds to advertising use caution and investigate the sincerity of the advertiser before giving out personal information or arranging meetings

14 Help Wanted

the independent florida
alligator
INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER

The Independent Florida Alligator is seeking an individual whom will have the sole responsibility for operations of our computer systems. This individual will be involved in the planning and implementation of our technology, and must be able to communicate and work with students and staff. Must have experience with Linux (Fedora Core3), Samba3, Apache, Sendmail, Squirrelmail, Mailscanner (spam and virus), Htp and IP table updates. Familiar with Dell Power Edge Servers Raid1, a plus. Good networking skills to support up to 100 machines. Must be able to troubleshoot and repair PC hardware and software. This is a full time position with the largest student-run newspaper in the country. Please send your resume and salary requirements to Campus Communications, Inc. P O Box 14257, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257 attention Vern Bean or email to vbean@alligator.org. We are an equal opportunity employer.

the independent florida
alligator

The Independent Florida Alligator Advertising Office has openings for part-time office clerks for the spring semester. Must be an enrolled, full-time student at UF or SFCC in the spring semester. Filing, light computer skills, client interaction, phone etiquette, great communication skills are required. Minimum wage. If enrolled as full-time student in the summer semester, the position has the potential to carry over. Please come by our office at 1105 West University Ave between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm, M-F and fill out an application and class schedule. Deadline for applications is Monday, November 30th. No phone calls please. EEO/AA 11-30-9-14

LIKE TO WORK WITH LUXURY CARS?
Bright? Enthusiastic? Like people? Must be over 22, stable work history, clean driving record, drug-free, pers ref. www.carrsmith.com for details. 12-7-72-14

Animal Care Tech looking for hard working person to work w/ reptiles & rodents. Will train, PT to start with more hrs possible. Start at \$6.50/hr. Flex hrs. Please call 495-9024 between 9-4 M-F. 12-7-72-14

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14 Help Wanted

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Apply online today. At one of over 100 RESTAURANTS, BARS OR HOTELS. Apply for any position today. 11-30-76-14

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We need Paid Survey Takers in Gainesville.
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\$7.50/hr (\$8 Bi-lingual) + BONUS
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Must work eve/wknd
12-7-71-14

Call center needs telephone agents for all shifts 24 hours. 1830 NE 2nd St. Apply in person M-F 9am-4pm. 12-7-66-14

Attention Smokers! Do you want to quit smoking? Smokers are needed to participate in a smoking cessation study. If interested e-mail the UF Smoking Lab and Clinic. ufsmolabclinic@gmail.com or call 328-4944 9-3-15-14

HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS
Earn up to \$12-14/hr.
Call California Chicken Grill 378-2442
12-7-59-14

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\$35K-\$50K/year MANAGERS
Apply online at www.gatordominos.com
Or at any of the 6 locations. 12-7-65-14

Park Place Car Wash is looking for hard workers for all positions. Cashiers (fullday availability) & lineworkers. (AM 8:30-1) & (PM 12-6). Apply: 7404 NW 4th Blvd. Across from Home Depot. No phone calls please. 12-7-55-14

Get Paid To Drive A Brand New Car!
Now paying drivers \$800-\$3200 a month.
Pick up your free car key today.
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Bartending Jobs
Up to \$300/shift. Many Positions Avail.
No exp. req. FT/PT. 1-800-806-0082 ext 1516 12-7-41-14

New Scooters 4 Less is looking for a part time mechanic. Must have knowledge of 2 & 4 stroke engines. Training provided. Relaxed and fun environment. Call 336-1271 to set up an interview. 11-18-24-14

Classifieds...
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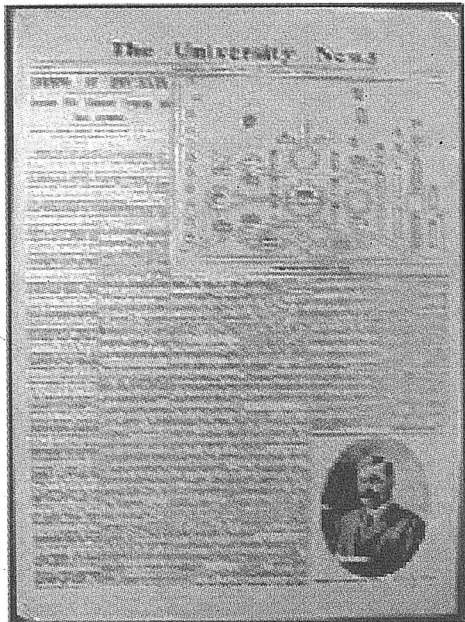
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alligator

and

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announces the openings for the following positions for selection:

December 02, 2005

1. The term for these paid positions is the Spring through Summer A Semesters
 - A. **Editor**, The Independent Florida Alligator
 - B. **Managing Editor / Print**, The Independent Florida Alligator
 - C. **Managing Editor / New Media**, The Independent Florida Alligator

2. **Student Member at Large of the Board of Directors**
This unpaid position may be filled by a graduate or undergraduate student

The applications for these positions are available at the reception desk in the lobby of on the first floor of *The Alligator* Building at 1105 W. University Ave., **each weekday between 9 am and 3 p.m until November 16**. Part of filling out the application consists of short essays in answer to specific questions. Applicants should pick up applications far enough in advance to allow enough time to complete them by the deadline of **November 17, 2005**. More information is available for applicants' mandatory reading at the time an application is picked up. Applicants should allow themselves 15 to 20 minutes of reading time when picking up an application. The application must be returned to the same office no later than noon by **November 17, 2005. This is an absolute deadline**. All returned applications will be copied and available to be read at *The Alligator* building prior to the selection meetings. Interviews and selections by the Board of Directors will be held at *The Alligator* offices in meetings open to the public, **Friday, December 2, 2005** beginning at 1 p.m. Applicants must be present to be considered. Applicants must be currently-enrolled, degree-seeking college or university students. Preference will be given those who have had experience at *The Alligator*. Board of Directors applicants cannot be current or recent employees or trainees of Campus Communications, Inc.

Campus Communications, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

14 Help Wanted

SALES ASSOCIATE FOR GROUPS
Previous hotel sales experience preferred. Hourly & bonus. Apply in person: 4021 SW 40th Blvd. 11-17-10-14

Are you energetic and motivated? Are you looking for a flexible holiday job? LifeSouth Community Blood Centers, Inc. is currently seeking part-time Donor Scheduling Representatives to help maintain the community blood supply. Evening and weekend shifts are available. To apply, please call (352) 224-1741 after 5pm Monday through Thursday & leave a message. EOE/DFWP. 11-17-16-14

CASINO'S PIZZA
is now hiring DELIVERY DRIVERS. Come by and fill out an application at 1710 SW 13th St. 372-4848 11-30-19-14

Student Supervisors/Managers:
Start building or add to your resume! Gator Dining Services, located on the UF Campus, is looking for Student Supervisors/Managers. Pay is \$8-10/hr. based on experience. We offer competitive pay, benefits and a great working environment. Apply at Gator Dining Services, B73 Reitz Union, Museum Rd. or online at www.gatordining.com 11-14-10-14

Inventory Position:
Gator Dining Services, located on the UF Campus, is looking for a full time inventory person. Qualified applicant will have experience with data entry, inventory, cash handling and sales reporting. Must possess strong computer and customer service skills. This position will also help with other general office duties. We offer competitive pay, benefits and a great working environment. Email resume with salary requirements msmorgan@ufl.edu or apply online at www.gatordining.com 11-14-10-14

Accounts Receivable:
Gator Dining Services, located on the UF Campus is looking for a full time office person. Hours are M-F 8:30-5pm. This person will manage cash on account, work closely with the catering department to ensure all invoices go out promptly, post incoming checks to the corresponding invoices and help with other general office duties. Must possess strong computer and customer service skills. We offer competitive pay, benefits and a great working environment. Fax resume with salary requirements to 352-392-9787 or email to msmorgan@ufl.edu 11-14-10-14

Honey Baked Ham Co is now hiring holiday counter and light production people. 20-40 hrs/wk. Starting pay \$6.50/hr. Apply in person 618 NW 60th St (Behind McDonalds on Newberry Rd) Call 331-1253 11-16-10-14

GATOR DOMINO'S is now hiring delivery experts and outgoing, friendly customer svc. reps. Apply online or at our Jonesville location at 14300 W. Newberry Rd. No exp Necessary. Will train the right people! 11-16-10-14

PIZZA MAKERS FLYER DISTRIBUTORS AND DRIVERS NEEDED. Apply at 3458 W. University Ave. 3PM-3AM MARIO & LUIGI'S PIZZA Flexible schedule 376-6433 11-29-18-14

14 Help Wanted

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WANTED to distribute telephone directories throughout G-ville area. For more info Call 1-800-388-8255 x. 80542 11-14-7-14



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Careers@oakhammock.org
Oak Hammock is a DFWP/EOE!
Fax: 352-548-1049

11-17-10-14

Computer person for front page web site and other computer and web related work. Work from your location. 1-800-707-8899 \$10/hour to start 11-17-10-14

Document Production Coordinator for engineering firm. MS office PC proficiency a must. Experience with deadlines, multi-tasking a must. EOE. Send inquires to taust@golder.com. 11-14-5-14

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14 Help Wanted

Personal care attendant needed. No experience necessary. Live in, or PT. A weekend, night, sleepover, morning routine. Will not interfere with school. Good exp. for medical field. Call 332-5810 or 376-1611 x. 4970 11-17-7-14

BEEF O'BRADY'S now hiring FT EXPERIENCED MANAGERS. Mail resume to 4810 S. Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33813 or call Don @ 863-581-7979 11-23-10-14

Morning shift at driving range 4 days/wk 8am to noon. Must be able to work through holidays. Hit all the balls you want. Apply at 6007 SW Archer Rd. 11-16-5-14

FT CLINICAL COORDINATOR to manage practitioner's schedule, increase efficiency & assist w/insurance. Strong customer svc & computer skills necessary. Ability to multi-task req. Exp pref or will train right candidate. Please email resumes to medicalresume1@yahoo.com, fax 352-332-0161 11-16-5-14

Wanted: Experienced hostess for fine dining Asian restaurant, looking for lunch availability, friendly, reliable, hardworking and dinner shifts also. Call 222-8293 11-16-5-14

Looking for self-motivated sales peole. Make up to \$3000/mo working part time. Call Jesse @ 352-494-2519 or email resume to jeisenberg@aolmedia.com 11-14-3-14

★★Education Retail Store★★
Seeking PT help. Please bring in a resume to 2020 NW 6th St. Flexible weekday hours. 12-7-18-14

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Gators deal with upset while looking toward future

By **ANDREW ABRAMSON**
Alligator Staff Writer
aabranson@alligator.org

When Jarvis Herring committed to UF more than five years ago, he had visions of a giddy Steve Spurrier giving a salute to 80,000 fans after winning a crucial Southeastern

Conference game.

But never did Herring imagine that Spurrier would have been coaching against the Gators, and he'd be waving to a herd of Gamecocks faithful.

On Saturday, Herring couldn't bear to watch the postgame celebration.

"I've got pride and that shit hurt me," Herring said. "So I didn't see all that."

Three days after a 30-22 loss to the Gamecocks knocked UF out of the SEC East title picture, the Gators returned to the practice field for the first time. But no one has fully recovered from the loss yet.

Defensive end Jeremy Mincey said he still watched the Georgia-Auburn game Saturday night. Auburn's victory would have propelled UF into the SEC Championship game had the Gators defeated South Carolina.

"I watched every snap," Mincey said. "When they won, I was kind of hurt because that could have been us in the championship."

No matter what happens from here on out, UF's hopes of winning the SEC have been dashed. So the Gators can't do anything but focus on what's left to play for, and they listed plenty of reasons why it would be a mistake to fold at this point.

UF does not play this weekend, but a victory against archrival Florida State Thanksgiving weekend would not only bring pride back to the Swamp, but it would improve the Gators' chances at earning a respectable bowl bid.

Also, if the Gators can defeat FSU and win a bowl game, they would finish 9-3 instead of 8-4 or 7-5 — that could help their preseason ranking next year and also benefit recruiting.

"I've still got a lot to play for," Mincey said. "We haven't won a bowl game in forever, and we haven't beat Florida State back-to-back since '85 and '86."

"I'm not down about it — things didn't go the way we expected, but I'm still proud to be here and I'm happy to be a Gator."

Herring and Mincey — both seniors — agreed that the program is heading in the right direction.

Herring said the goal right now is to groom the younger players,

many who didn't quite buy into Urban Meyer's system for whatever reason.

"I've got a good feeling about [the program's direction]," Herring said. "After [Meyer] gets a couple of years in here with these guys, it'll be on a lot different level. Those guys will have a whole different mentality and they will learn the type of guy [Meyer] is — the things you're going to accomplish if you just listen."

Mincey said he's proud of Meyer

"After [Meyer] gets a couple of years in here with these guys, it'll be on a lot different level."

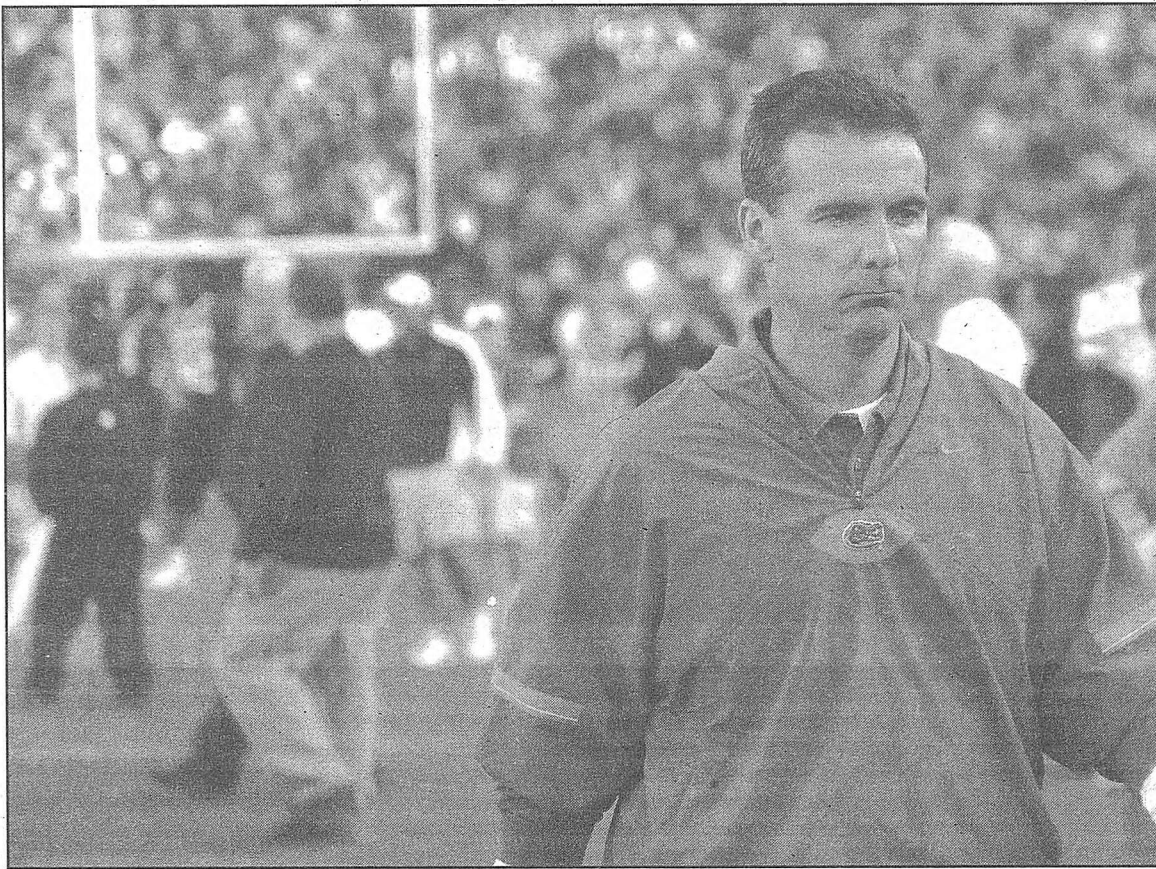
Jarvis Herring
UF safety

for "bringing a lot of guys a long way," and Meyer also expressed optimism about the future.

"There is no one more excited than [me], especially when you see some of the young guys go," Meyer said. "You have a decent team coming back and obviously, it'll be their second year in the system. There are a lot of positives."

But for Herring, there is no second year in the system. That's why finishing the season on a winning note, even if the team didn't accomplish their initial goals, is crucial.

"What do I say to Jarvis Herring? I love him, which I do," Meyer said. "I'm very close to Jarvis Herring and we're doing everything we possibly can. He's had a tough go and we can make this thing right now, we've just got to win that [FSU] game in two weeks."



Tim Casey / Alligator Staff

UF coach Urban Meyer leaves the field at Williams-Brice Stadium following the Gators' loss to the South Carolina on Saturday. Meyer and the Gators still felt the sting of the upset at practice on Tuesday.

Disappointment has UF fans wondering if 'next year' will ever come

Jammed in the corner of a packed elevator at Williams-Brice Stadium as the last relevant minutes of UF's football season ticked away on Saturday, I held back a chuckle.

Roared one UF beat writer, who shall remain anonymous: "I covered a mongoloid for three years and now this."

As crass as it sounds, it about summed it up. After suffering three years of heartaches and headaches with Ron Zook at the helm, this season was supposed to be different.

Urban Meyer was to tear apart the SEC with his ... um ... "Spread 'n' Shred" offense.

Finally, a competent coach who wouldn't, couldn't boggle big games, right? Finally, the Gators would regain the national prominence they lost under the Zooker, right? Wrong.

After the man who put the Swamp on the map out-coached UF's savior on Saturday, that familiar phrase began to swirl once again: "Wait until next year."

Maybe the program should start printing the slogan on the cover of its media guides. Maybe UF should try to squeeze the saying into its fight song. But aren't you tired of waiting until next year?

By the sound of it, it seems like



Bryan App
App-etite
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even the "objective" media has grown impatient, aggravated by the consistent shortcomings of one of the most athletically talented

football programs in the country.

Call me crazy, but at some point, shouldn't the Gators actually produce "this year?"

After helping the Ol' Ball Coach's roosters rise from the SEC East ashes on Saturday, the Gators are in seri-

ous jeopardy of becoming league also-rans. And for all of you waiting for next year, UF's prospects aren't looking all too promising.

Considering a 2006 conference schedule featuring games at Tennessee and Auburn and home games against Alabama, South Carolina and LSU, the Gators could easily watch the SEC Championship from the comfort of their couches once again.

And don't forget a non-conference slate including Florida State, always-competitive Southern Mississippi and a peon-no-more UCF team. Factor in another season of personnel problems for Meyer,

and it seems as though the national spotlight will leave Gainesville in the dark again next year.

Next year, Chris Leak will still be UF's quarterback. Next year, a football field will still have the same distance from sideline to sideline. And next year, SEC defenses will still be fast enough to cover all 53 and one-third yards of it.

Still, you have to feel for Meyer. He wanted to set the SEC ablaze with his offense. Just take a look in his eyes to see how that has gone.

He needs to succeed, but more importantly, he needs time to succeed — more than two years.

He'll adapt. He's not a retard.

JACKSON NOMINATED

■ UF's Chad Jackson was named a semi-finalist for the Biletnikoff Award, given to the nation's top receiver. Jackson, one of 15 players on the list, was the only SEC player nominated.

ON TELEVISION

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TODAY IN UF SPORTS HISTORY

- 1991: After finishing first in the SEC twice but not earning a title because of probation, UF finally wins an SEC title after its 35-26 win against Kentucky. UF finished 10-2 and fell to Notre Dame in the Sugar Bowl.

SFCC WOMEN'S WIN

- The Santa Fe Community College women's basketball team defeated Hillsborough Community College 83-70 in Tampa Tuesday. Carly Collins led the Saints with 21 points and 14 rebounds.

Guarded

Williams still a mysterious figure

Editor's note: This is Part 2 of a two-part feature chronicling the odyssey of former UF guard Jason Williams. See alligatorSports.org for Part 1.

By **LOUIS ANASTASIS**

Alligator Staff Writer
lanastasis@alligator.org

ORLANDO — Miami center Shaquille O'Neal vividly remembers the first time he met Jason Williams during the summer of 1998.

O'Neal, Penny Hardaway and others were playing pick-up basketball outside Orlando when a foreign face interrupted their game.

"It was like in the movie 'White Men Can't Jump,'" O'Neal said. "There were just a bunch of white guys, and Jason Williams was like the little white guy sitting on the sidelines, and nobody was re-

ally paying him any attention. He was like, 'Can I play?' I was like, 'Yeah,' and he tore Penny up."

Just months removed from his UF expulsion, it was NBA-or-bust for the point guard.

Most teams frowned upon Williams' off-the-court track record. Sacramento embraced him, however, selecting him with the No. 7 overall pick of the 1998 draft. The franchise has never been the same.

"The Kings were always a boring team, and now, they still are. But when he went there, he gave them his style with behind-the-back passes and all that," O'Neal said. "Jason Williams put Sacramento on the map."

Williams became an overnight smash, scoring 21 points and recording five steals against San Antonio in his debut.

But the ex-Gator transcended statistics. He was running, gunning, dribbling, crossing over, hopping and driving opposing point guards mad. He was a bite size Rucker Park. He was flash in sneakers. He, a white boy playing in a hip-hop oriented

SEE J-WILL, PAGE 19



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After numerous pit-falls at UF and in the NBA, Jason Williams has re-emerged with the Miami Heat. Williams has a golden opportunity to start for a championship-caliber team.

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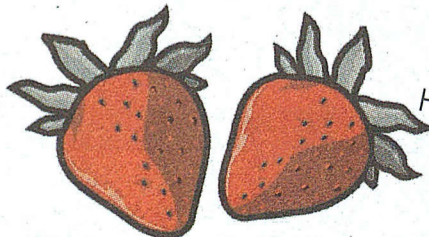
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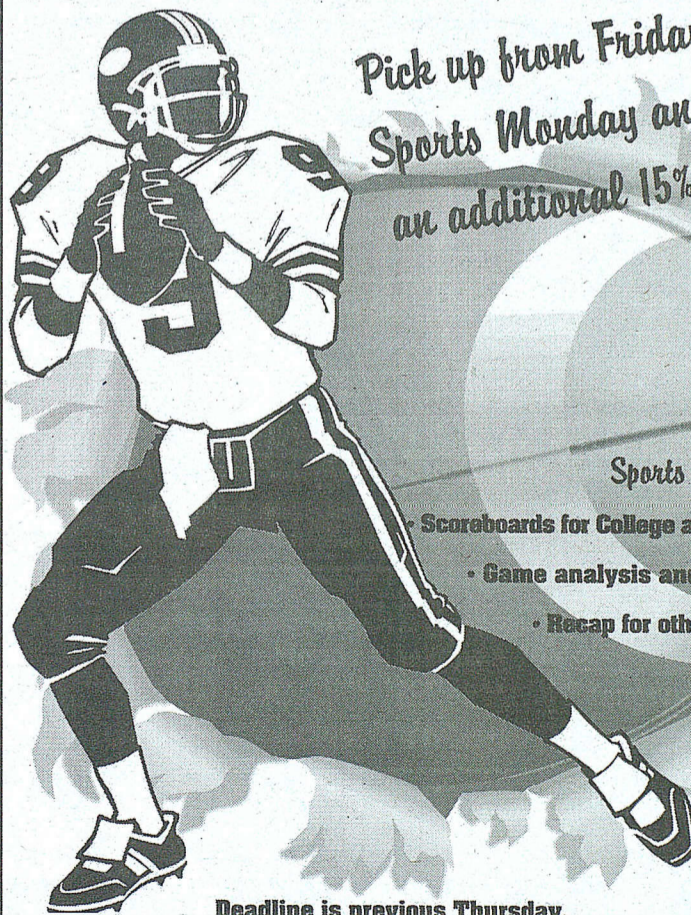
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Williams still carries negative label while trying to lead Miami to title

J-WILL, from page 18

profession, orchestrated dribbling moves and passes that, to this day, have yet to be named.

"He was a hip-hop Pistol Pete Maravich," O'Neal said. "That's who he is."

Equipped with the nickname White Chocolate, Williams converted every game into his own personal highlight reel.

"He had a lot of pizzazz to his game," Heat teammate Gary Payton said. "Everybody was calling him 'And1' and 'Streetballer.'"

Williams turned a dormant Sacramento franchise into a playoff team and the most exciting squad in the NBA.

Falls from Grace

Meanwhile, 385 miles to the south, an attentive O'Neal became impatient. The center pestered Los Angeles general manager Jerry West to bring Williams on board.

West would have none of it. He noticed that Williams' decision making was often erratic. There were too many flashy passes. There were too many ill-advised three-pointers. Soon Sacramento coach Rick Adelman began benching Williams toward the end of games.

Then, the sledgehammer came down. Williams failed a drug test in the summer of 2000. He would be suspended for the first five games of the season. But there was more. During a game against Phoenix that season, Williams launched a verbal tirade on an Asian fan who taunted him.

"I will shoot all you Asian mother*****," adding," said Williams while imitating machine gun fire. "Do you remember the Vietnam War? I'll kill y'all just like that. Just

like Pearl Harbor, do you remember that?"

A \$15,000 fine followed. Sacramento traded Williams to Memphis for Mike Bibby at the end of the season.

"He came in with Sacramento, did all this stuff, and could never get over the hump," O'Neal said. "Sacramento was a good team once they were using his style but they could never get over the hump, and they needed a scapegoat."

Punk, or Misunderstood?

Who is the real Jason Williams?

In Memphis, he toned down his game and his outlandish behavior. He regained his status as one of the NBA's elite point guards when he averaged better than eight assists a game in his first two seasons there. In a 2005 game against Denver, he became the only player in NBA history to record 15 assists without committing a turnover.

Who is the real Jason Williams?

Williams, as he had always done with Sacramento, led Memphis to the playoffs. His team, as always seemed to be the case, fell in the opening round. After Phoenix swept the Grizzlies in the 2005 playoffs, the point guard yelled at a columnist and snatched the writer's pen out of his hands. The incident landed Williams a \$10,000 fine.

So really — who is the real Jason Williams?

The Heat believe they hold answer. They believe Williams' public perception is skewed. They traded for him during the summer with the assumption that he has matured on and off the court.

So why the negative image?

"White guy. Tattoos. Flashy. It's just a stereotype, and they look at him as a punk or whatever," said Miami guard and former UF star Matt Walsh. "But since the whole time

that I've been here, I can tell you that there's nothing farther from the truth."

Ask Miami players about Williams' game, and they will tell you White Chocolate is the best passer on the planet.

Ask Heat players about Williams' personality, and they will tell you how Williams is a close friend. How he always offers to pick up the tab at a restaurant. How he's a family guy.

Williams now lives in Isleworth, next door to O'Neal where the two spent the off-season barbecuing, boating and taking care of each other's kids.

"Sacramento was a good team once they were using his style, but they could never get over the hump, and they needed a scapegoat."

Shaquille O'Neal
Miami Heat center

"I don't even think of Shaq as a teammate," said Williams who, with his wife Denika, has a 4-year-old son Jaxon and a 1-year-old daughter Mia. "He's such a great guy, and I wouldn't trade him for anybody in the world. Words can't really explain what kind of a guy he is."

If Williams isn't spending time with O'Neal's kids, he is probably looking after underprivileged children.

At Memphis, for example, he frequented the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

"In terms of him being around young people, the way he treated my kids is really unique and extraordinary," UF coach Billy Donovan said. "I think Jason often feels a

lot better around people who are not trying to do a story on him or trying to label him or trying to create an image about him. He feels a lot more comfortable being around younger kids, high school kids because he knows they're not drawing any conclusions or opinions about him."

Yet something seems amiss.

One would think Williams recalls the day he first played pick-up ball with O'Neal.

Said Williams: "That was such a long time ago. I don't even remember."

Walsh along with Heat teammate and former UF forward Udonis Haslem maintain they hold a special bond with Williams based on their Gator roots.

Said Williams: "But the whole team hangs out."

And with this statement, Williams emphasizes the interview is winding down. His stare lies somewhere between expressionless and cold. His eyes glare, almost piercing the reporters who have lingered to brave the increasingly short answers.

Perhaps Williams has somewhere important to be. Maybe he is anxious to drive to his Isleworth home and see his family.

Time for one more question, maybe?

"Jason, I know all of you guys hang out, but there has to be a special bond between you and the Gator guys. I mean, I know you went to a bunch of colleges (Williams enrolled at Virginia's Fork Union Military Academy for four days) but..."

"Man, I went to two colleges," Williams retorts. "What are you talking about?"

He snatches his belongings and strides toward the exit. And, gradually, the grayness of his shirt is swallowed by the darkness of the hallway.

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UF RECRUITING Receiver commits to Gators

By **BRYAN APP**
Alligator Staff Writer
bapp@alligator.org

Growing up less than 10 miles from Jacksonville's Alltel Stadium, Jamar Hornsby always knew he'd be invited to the World's Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party.

With whom he would R.S.V.P. was the question.

Rated a five-star prospect and the No. 3 wide receiver in the country by scout.com, the Sandalwood High senior whittled down his list of prospective colleges to UF and Georgia.

In the end, he said it came down to which school wanted and needed him most. On Tuesday, Hornsby orally committed to the Gators although he can't officially sign until Feb. 2 and could change his mind before then.

"Florida stayed in touch just about every day," Hornsby said. "I think they just wanted me to come there and make an impact."

A two-way player who registered 83 tackles and 10 pass break-ups as a safety along with 720 yards and nine touchdowns as a receiver last season, Hornsby said he's not alarmed by the first-year struggles of Coach Urban Meyer's spread option offense.

"I just wanted a program where I could come in my first year and play."

Jamar Hornsby
UF oral commitment

"I think [Meyer] needs receivers; he needs playmakers," he said. "He has a few, but they had a big loss at the beginning of the season with Bubba Caldwell going out with a broken leg and Dallas [Baker] now hurt. Now, the only people they have to rely on are Jemelle [Cornelius] and Chad [Jackson]."

Provided that those four juniors return next season, Hornsby could find himself at the bottom of one of the most experienced receiving corps in the country, but he's not worried.

"I just wanted a program where I could come in my first year and play," Hornsby said. "I really don't care who's there. We're friends off the field, but when it comes to playing time, I've got to do my job, and I'm going to take somebody's position."

Hornsby's decision comes after Stephenville (Texas) High quarterback Jevan Snead decided to change his oral commitment from UF to Texas on Monday.

The receiver wasn't aware of Snead's decommitment but said he'd be happy catching touchdown passes from UF prospect Tim Tebow, one of the top quarterbacks in the nation who is currently deciding between UF and Alabama.

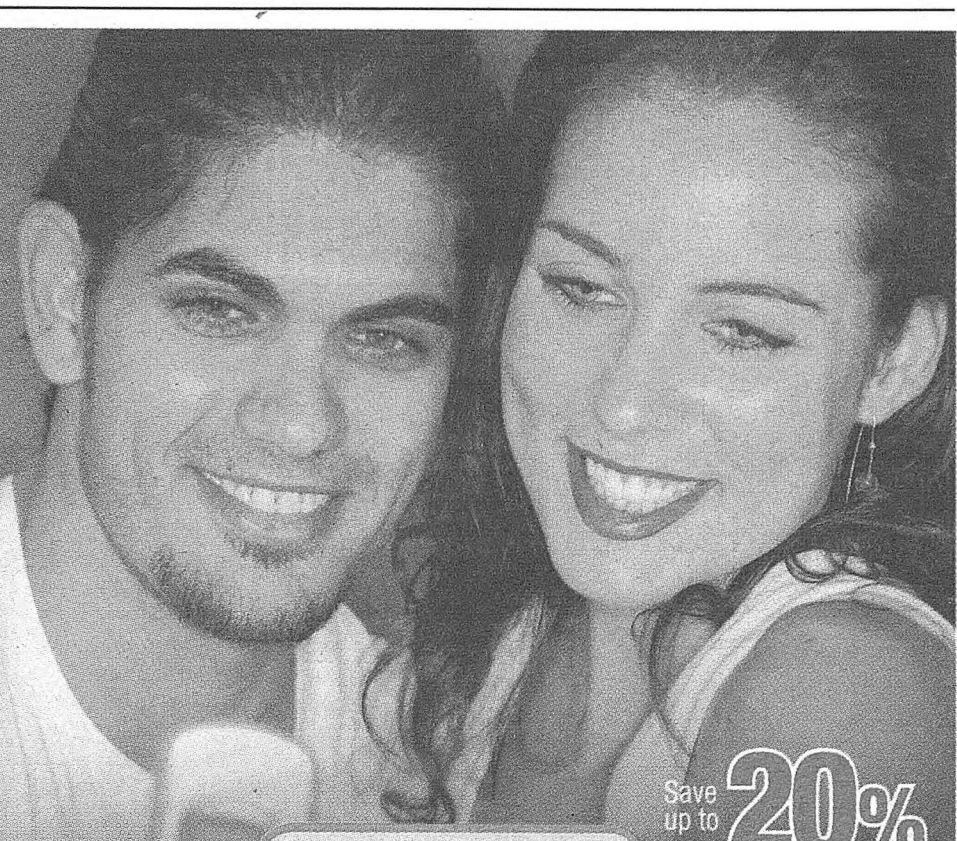
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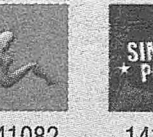





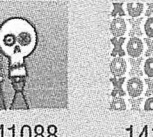



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