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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2009

Local homeless population up 71 percent

■ CENSUS TAKEN JAN. 27 AND 28.

By **HUNTER SIZEMORE**
 Alligator Writer

The number of homeless people in Alachua County rose from 952 to 1,631, a 71-percent increase, since January of 2007,

according to the Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry.

The data, which were collected during a 24-hour period on January 27 and 28 included results from a survey and information from schools, shelters, jails and other Alachua County institutions.

"The amount of time that people spend

on the street is getting longer, especially for families," said Jon DeCarmine, director of the coalition. "And the longer you're on the streets, the harder it is to get back off of them."

The number of homeless school children also rose, from 279 in 2007 to 546 in 2009, a 96-percent increase. These children

often represent hidden homeless — parents who are likely not housed but are difficult to count.

"Homeless children are kind of like the canary in the coal mine," DeCarmine said. "When we see the number of homeless children go up we can virtually guarantee

SEE CENSUS, PAGE 11

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Parties announce candidates for executive tickets

By **CHELSEA KEENAN**
 Alligator Writer



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF political science and economics junior Kori Benton, left, fills out paperwork to slate for a Student Senate seat with the Unite Party for the election on the second floor of the Reitz Union Tuesday.

Tuesday marked the end of Student Government Senate interviews and the newest announcement of candidates for an executive ticket. Following three days of interviews, parties had to submit their selected applicants for the 50 available Senate seats by midnight.

During the three days of interviewing, more than 400 students participated.

More than 700 students interviewed to join a party ticket last semester.

But Supervisor of Elections Dan Siegel said he was not disappointed by the lower turnout.

"I saw quality over quantity," he said.

About 221 students registered with the Unite Party, about 89 registered with the Orange and Blue Party and about 65 registered with the Progress Party, according to figures reported throughout the

week. About 229 students showed up the last day to interview for the chance to campaign for an open Senate seat.

Four parties were present on Tuesday: Keg, Orange and Blue, Unite and Progress.

"I think this is the year. Students know it's time for change, and I'm ready to go and get it."

Stacey Gray
 Vice presidential candidate

The Gator Party, Swamp Party and LAN Party chose to not participate.

About halfway through the eight final hours of interviews, the Orange and Blue Party's presidential candidate, Mark McShera, took a break to announce his completed executive ticket.

McShera will be running along-

SEE SLATING, PAGE 12

Tariff allows GRU to buy solar energy from customers

By **KATIE EMMETS**
 Alligator Writer
 Kemmets@alligator.org

TALLAHASSEE — After years of planning, the U.S. will finally be on the map when it comes to renewable energy, and Gainesville is the city that will put it there.

The Florida Alliance for Renewable

Energy held a conference in Tallahassee Wednesday to discuss renewable energy plans for Florida, of which Gainesville is the leader.

Feed-in tariffs, a renewable energy policy that offers payments to electricity developers for the electricity they produce, were the common thread throughout the conference that had about 220 attendees.

The tariffs will allow Gainesville

Regional Utilities to buy 100 percent of the solar energy produced by houses and businesses.

State News Gainesville will be the first city in the United States to have a feed-in tariff.

Thursday will be the second reading of the feed-in tariff bill at the Gainesville City Commission.

If it is passed on Thursday, it will be-

come law. "We expect it to hit the streets by March 1," said John Crider, a GRU utilities analyst.

Crider said it is more of a policy change than a new law.

"We've always paid people for their solar energy," he said. "But we were only able to buy what energy that had left over

SEE FORUM, PAGE 12

■ UF at Shands is seeing an increasing number of women interested in egg donation, possibly as a way to make extra money. See story, Page 11.

Man gets 15 years in molestation case

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — A man who pleaded no contest to charges he molested a 12-year-old in the back of an ice cream truck in Sarasota has been sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Galen L. Yoder, 39, was sentenced Monday and will have to register as a sex offender once he is released.

The girl told police that Yoder drove the truck to a secluded part of Sarasota and molested her.

Prosecutors dropped three other charges and Yoder pleaded guilty to one remaining charge as part of the plea agreement.



■ The UF men's basketball team had six players score in double figures in Tuesday night's win against South Carolina including Alex Tyus (left) and Erving Walker. See Story, Page 23

Today

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SUNNY
 50/22

visit www.alligator.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Go Green Alternatives presents Green Drinks

Today, 5 to 7 p.m.
The New Deal Café
3445 W. University Ave.
Gainesville Green Drinks will provide a meeting place for those interested in or involved with environmental issues to learn about one another's programs and how they might work together. Come share news about your green project or something you'd like to see here in the greater Gainesville area. The meeting is open to anyone interested in environmental issues.

Business Study Abroad Info Session

Thursday, Feb. 5, 3 p.m.
Stuzin Hall, Room 200
There will be an information session highlighting the Warrington College of Business Administration study abroad programs. All UF students are welcome. Come learn about the three programs offered every semester in London, Madrid and Rome. Contact Lucy DiLeo or Joe Rojo at 352-273-0165 to schedule an appointment, if you cannot attend the session. Online: <http://www.cba.ufl.edu/sb/intlprograms/uf/>.

RUB Entertainment Presents: Zack and Miri Make A Porno

Reitz Union Cinema
Today, 8 and 10:30 p.m.
Thursday, 8 and 10:30 p.m.
Lifelong platonic friends Zack and Miri look to solve their respective cash-flow problems by making an adult film together.

Bob Marley Celebration

Friday, Feb. 6, 7 to 9 p.m.
Reitz Union Colonnade
Join UF's Jamaican-American Student Association (JAMSA) in celebrating Bob Marley's birthday. Come during Gator Nights for free birthday cake, trivia, Bob Marley-themed karaoke, reggae music and more.

Gainesville Holistic Health Fair

Saturday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., United Church of Gainesville
1624 N.W. Fifth Ave.
Local practitioners and vendors specializing in holistic medicine, health care and nutrition will be available to demonstrate self-care techniques and healthy food preparation. There will be art, music, dance and children's activities. A \$5 donation at the door is requested, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Funds raised will benefit local service organizations, including the Home Van, which assists homeless people. For details, go to www.NatureFinder.net.

Got something going on?

And want to post it in this space? Send an e-mail to kbjornsen@alligator.org with "What's Happening" in the subject line.

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
SUNNY	SUNNY	SUNNY	SUNNY	SUNNY
50/22	52/26	62/36	71/44	73/47

STATE

Fuel valve concerns delay space shuttle launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA has delayed next week's launch of space shuttle Discovery by at least a week over concerns about fuel valves.

Discovery had been scheduled to launch Feb. 12 on a space station construction mission.

But on Tuesday, NASA said it will launch no sooner than Feb. 19.

NASA spaceflight chief Bill Gerstenmaier said more time is needed to study three gaseous hydrogen flow-control valves that were replaced aboard Discovery. If a lip of a valve were to break off during launch, it could cause serious damage. A small part of the valve broke off during the last shuttle launch in November, but no harm was done.

Top NASA managers decided on the delay after spending a meeting Monday at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida to discuss launch preparations.

Obama, Crist agree on stimulus, insurance

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — For the second time in four days, Democratic President Barack Obama and Republican Gov. Charlie Crist spoke about policy and came down on the same side.

Obama called Crist on Tuesday to thank him for supporting the economic recovery plan being considered by Congress. Crist and 18 other governors wrote to Obama backing the plan. On Saturday, the men found common ground on an insurance issue important to Florida.

As unlikely as it would have seemed last year as Crist campaigned nationally for Republican presidential nominee John McCain, the governor is becoming an Obama fan. Crist said he was pleasantly surprised the president called.

"He said, 'I just wanted to call and thank you for helping us on this stimulus package and trying to get this economy going,'" and I said, 'Happy to help,'" Crist said. "It shows this president understands bipartisanship and trying to put ... the people above all other issues, like party."

On Saturday, the two also spoke at the annual Alfalfa Club dinner in Washington, D.C. Crist said he urged Obama to support creating a national catastrophe fund to back up insurance companies in the event of major disasters. It's an idea former President George W. Bush opposed and one Obama supported during his campaign.

"I thought he would be re-

ceptive and, in fact, he was," Crist said. Crist lobbied Florida's congressmen last week to support the economic recovery plan passed by the House, though no Republicans voted for it.

Students treated after taking pills at school

PALM SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — Police said nine middle school students reported being sick and one student was transported to the hospital after taking anti-anxiety medicine at school.

Palm Springs Police Capt. Mark Hall said one student identified the pills students took as Xanax tablets.

Hall said police and fire officials responded to Palm Springs Community Middle School at about 2 p.m. The condition of the student transported to the hospital was not immediately known. The remaining students were turned over to their parents.

Trial opens in tobacco suit

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — The first of about 8,000 lawsuits blaming the health problems and deaths of Florida smokers on tobacco companies went to trial Tuesday, more than two years after the state Supreme Court threw out a record \$145 billion class-action verdict.

The high court in 2006 rejected the punitive damages awarded by a jury as excessive but left in place the case's conclusions that tobacco companies knowingly sold dangerous products and concealed the health risks of smoking for years. But the court also ruled that smokers or their survivors must prove their cases individually.

Elaine Hess, widow of 40-year smoker Stuart Hess, is the first of those plaintiffs to go to trial. Because of the previous findings on industry liability, the key to the case is proving whether her husband was addicted to cigarettes made by Richmond, Va.-based Philip Morris, a unit of Altria Group.

Hess' attorney, Adam Trop, told a six-person jury that Stuart Hess, who died in 1997 of lung cancer at age 55, smoked about two packs of cigarettes a day and tried numerous times to quit. Trop said medical and other evidence shows that Hess became addicted to nicotine in the mid-1950s, long before the hazards of smoking were widely known outside the tobacco industry.

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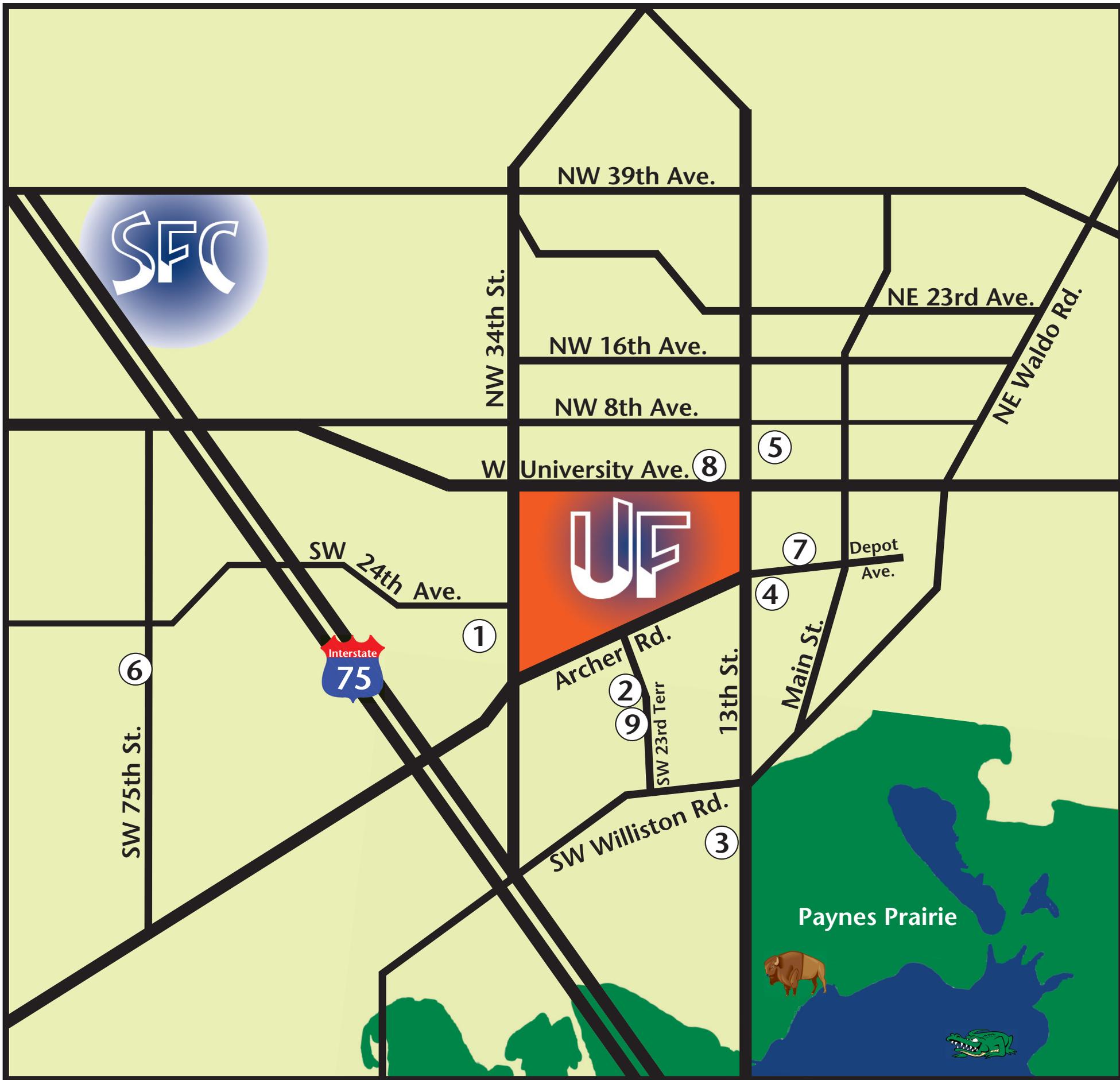
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I-75 rest area closed for repair

By **MORGAN COLLINS**
Alligator Writer

■ THE ROAD WORK WILL COST ABOUT \$493,000.

The Florida Department of Transportation has temporarily shut down an Interstate 75 rest area for road repairs.

The rest area is on I-75 southbound at Paynes Prairie, south of State Route 121 at exit 121, a news release stated.

The current exit ramp needs repairs to help motorists exit the interstate properly.

Part of the highway's shoulder near the exit may be closed occasionally during construction, the release stated.

The exit will reopen after March 6.

Until it reopens, travelers can use the two nearest rest areas. One stop is south of Ocala, 37 miles south of Gainesville. The other is south of Lake City, 30 miles north of Paynes Prairie, the release stated.

The road work will cost about \$493,000.

Local News

CAMPUS

Love triangle may end in firing

By **THOMAS STEWART**
Alligator Staff Writer
tstewart@alligator.org

Three UF faculty members are involved in an alleged love triangle that could end in a restraining order and a simple battery charge against one of them, according to documents filed with the county.

Their names are not being printed because no charges have been filed by the State Attorney's office and a judge has not yet ruled on the merits of a petition for a restraining order.

According to the petition, in December, a UF clinical assistant professor walked in on the man she was dating, a UF associate professor, while he was having sex with another woman, who is a lecturer at UF.

The assistant professor confronted the man and he became angry and violent, grabbing her in a bear hug and pushing her

against the wall, according to court records.

"He was very threatening, very intimidating, and blamed me for causing all these problems," the woman alleged in the petition.

"He was very threatening, very intimidating, and blamed me for causing all these problems."

UF clinical assistant professor quoted in petition

The two had been dating for about two years and he had given her a "promise ring" the day before, indicating his intention to finalize his divorce and marry her, she said.

According to the petition, the associate professor is married, but separated from his wife in 2006.

A sworn complaint was also filed with the Gainesville Police

Department in January, alleging simple battery. The complaint is being investigated by the State Attorney's Office and no decision on whether charges will be filed has been made yet, said State Attorney's Office spokesman Spencer Mann.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said UF is aware of the dispute, and if the associate professor is charged and convicted, UF could decide to levy a punishment ranging from a reprimand to termination.

The associate professor's lawyer said his client is innocent.

"Allegations can be easily made. Proving something is a whole lot different. I have no doubt that the truth will come out in court," he said.

While a temporary restraining order was issued in December, a court date has been set for later this month to decide if the order will stand.

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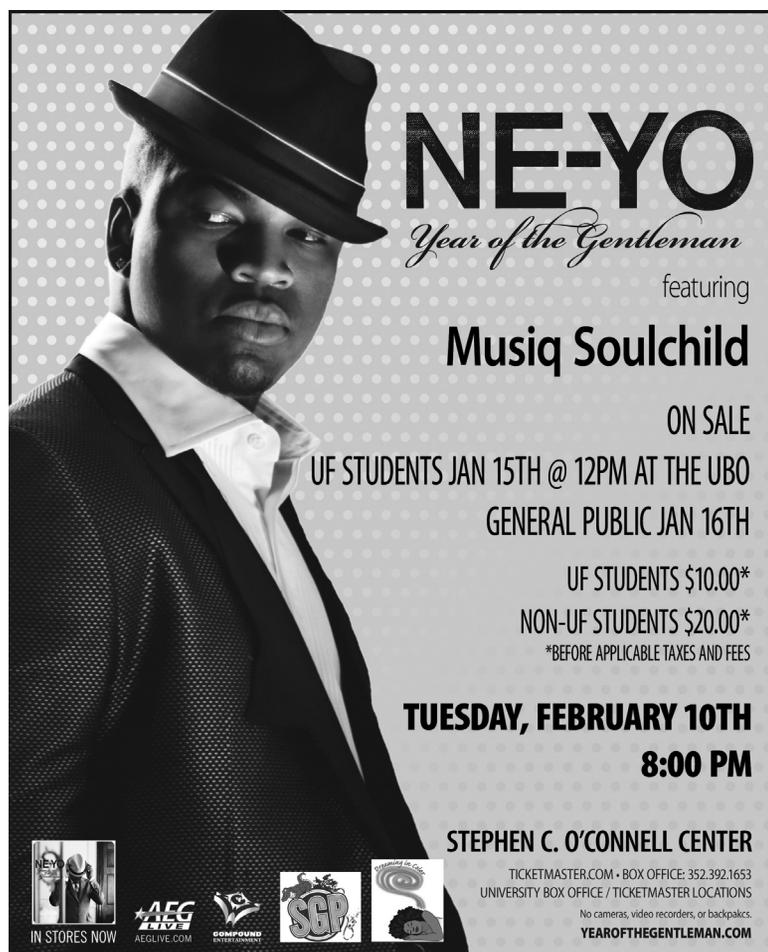
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Six (6) prizes will be awarded by five in-house judges. Deadline for submission is 4pm on Feb 6th. All Heart-Line messages placed will be automatically entered in the contest. Winners will be notified prior to Feb 13th. Winners will be announced in the Feb 13th edition. Positive ID required to collect winnings. Officers, directors, employees & their family members of the Alligator, or affiliates of the contest are not eligible to enter contest. You do not need to be present to win. Prized cannot be transferred. Gratuity and sales tax not included. Dinner certificate must be used by March 31, 2009. No purchase necessary to enter. Contact Classified Office for details.

alligator the independent florida

UPD to patrol for lawbreaking motorcycles, scooters

By **KATIE EMMETS**

Alligator Writer
Kemmets@alligator.org

The University of Florida Police Department will pull over lawbreaking motorcycle and scooter riders on campus today to talk to them about motorcycle and scooter rules.

From 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., officers will

patrol campus to educate motorcycle and scooter riders about helmet and eye protection laws.

Florida state law requires motorcycle riders under the age of 21 to wear a helmet with a shield, according to the UPD release.

Riders over 21 are only required to wear some type of eye wear, like glasses.

If the rider is not wearing a helmet and his or her license plate says they are under 21 years old, the license plate alone does not give the officers reason enough to pull them over, said GPD Lt. Stacy Ettel.

Ettel said the officers have to wait until there is another reason for the rider to be

pulled over, like speeding on campus.

Although a scooter is defined as having an engine smaller than 50cc, Florida law treats it like a motorcycle when it's going over 30 mph on flat land, Ettel said.

He said there are a lot more rules the rider has to abide by because motorcycles have a different set of rules from scooters.

Senate passes bill that gives 'green' lights to Reitz

■ **NEW LIGHTING WILL SAVE ABOUT \$44,000 PER YEAR.**

By **CHELSEA KEENAN**

Alligator Writer

The Reitz Union will soon undergo a makeover to become greener and more energy efficient, after Tuesday night's Senate meeting.

After about 30 minutes of debate, senators passed a bill giving the Reitz Union \$35,000, which will be used to replace its current fluorescent bulbs and light fixtures with newer, more energy-efficient lighting.

Chairman for the Reitz Union Board of Managers and UF student Josh Krivisky stopped by and encouraged senators to pass the bill.

"It would decrease the energy and utility costs," he said, adding the board would be able to pay back the money in nine to 14 months.

"(The bill) had been in the works for some time, but it had been put off because of more pressing maintenance issues," Krivisky said, referring to the Reitz Union's



Sarah Hsu / Alligator Staff

Student Sen. Shire Patel discusses his qualifications for filling the budget allocation seat of the Replacement and Agenda Committee, a position he won by majority vote, at the Senate meeting Tuesday.

aging infrastructure, which has included broken pipes and a broken air chiller.

Independent Party Sen. Cynthia

Kan, who presented the bill, said renovations would take about two months, and the new lights would save a projected \$44,000 per year.

However, some Orange and Blue Party members took issue with the bill, which did not separately address the lighting in the

Reitz Union's art gallery.

Orange and Blue Sen. Sam Miorelli, who represents students living in District D, said the gallery may need special lighting in order for the art to be viewed properly.

"This is no trivial matter," Miorelli said.

After some debate, an amendment was added, saying the art gallery's director must be consulted before any renovations are made.

After the amendment was added, the bill passed unanimously.

Senators also voted on two candidates to fill a vacant seat on Senate's Replacement and Agenda committee, which sets the agenda for the weekly meetings and interviews candidates for unfilled Senate seats.

The seat became vacant after Gator Party Sen. Cecil Duffie was suspended due to too many Senate absences.

Gator Party Sen. Shire Patel and Orange and Blue Party Sen. Stacey Gray both vied for the open seat, each having a turn to state their qualifications and answer questions from the senators.

After a vote of 46 to 21, Patel was appointed to the seat.

Who says Gainesville revolves around sports? We do... The Alligator

Feb Issue Dates	Sports Coverage	Deadline
2/6	Softball Preview - Wrap	2/4
2/20	Baseball Preview - Wrap	2/18
2/27	Highlight Men's UF vs. TN	2/25
	Gymnastics UF vs. GA	
	Baseball UF vs. Miami	

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All donors receive a special 'Orange & Blue Slam' T-shirt. Donors must be at least 16 years old, weigh 110 lbs. or more and show a valid photo I.D. Sixteen-year-olds require written parental consent. For more info, call 352.334.1000.

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Editorial

In Hot Water

Phelps shouldn't be prosecuted for pot

For Michael Phelps, one rip of the ROOR could end up costing him 30 days of freedom.

According to a report from ESPN.com, the Richland County Sheriff's Office is currently conducting an investigation regarding the highly publicized photo of the Olympic champion smoking weed out of a bong.

If charged, Phelps faces up to \$700 in fines, not to mention a month in the slammer.

While the Editorial Board made clear our stance on Phelps' decision to engage in such behavior, we believe it would be ludicrous for the athlete to face a criminal trial in South Carolina.

Normally such an announcement would appear to be a publicity stunt by law enforcement, but Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott has a reputation for taking a strong stance against drugs.

Lott isn't exactly some doughnut-downing rent-a-cop — rather, he has extensive experience cracking down on drug dealers. Working undercover with federal agents à la "Miami Vice," Lott went as far as to drive around in a Porsche complete with snazzy suits and long hair.

The Editorial Board encourages Lott to take a hint from Columbia police who said they will consider the incident a nonissue so long as no new information surfaces. We can empathize with Lott's fear of appearing "soft" while in the public eye, but unfairly bringing down Phelps' star probably isn't the answer.

If a picture of a random Gamecocks student smoking pot in November surfaced today, do you think Lott would care?

Then again, perhaps Speedo should fast-track plans to design Phelps' latest swimsuit with pinstripes.

Fashion Police

Here's a tip from Robbery 101: wearing "crazy pajama bottoms" can hardly be described as inconspicuous criminal attire.

A suspect in a spree of stickups in northern Alachua County on Tuesday, a Fairbanks man was undeniably guilty of committing a fashion faux pas.

After the individual held up a La Crosse convenience store on Tuesday morning, witnesses described him as wearing a peculiar pair of pants with a camouflage pattern.

Unfortunately for this bandit, local law enforcement tracked down his vehicle — leading to a chase that included gun fire from the officers. After losing control of his Geo Tracker, the suspect flipped his vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene.

While taking money from our moms' purses may be the biggest crime committed by the Editorial Board, we have a hunch wearing memorable clothing to a robbery is like asking for a one-way ticket to prison.

We can't help but wonder why he didn't take more time in picking out his clothes Tuesday morning.

The thought of death must've crossed his mind as he scoured his wardrobe for the perfect pair of pants.

Granted, if he's a crook, it's safe to assume his closet isn't exactly The Rail at Nordstrom.

But if there is a chance the Editorial Board might not make it through the day, we sure as hell are going to rock our Sunday's best — not some rags from a consignment shop.

Rest in peace, "crazy pajama bottoms" man.

the independent florida
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Nicole Safker
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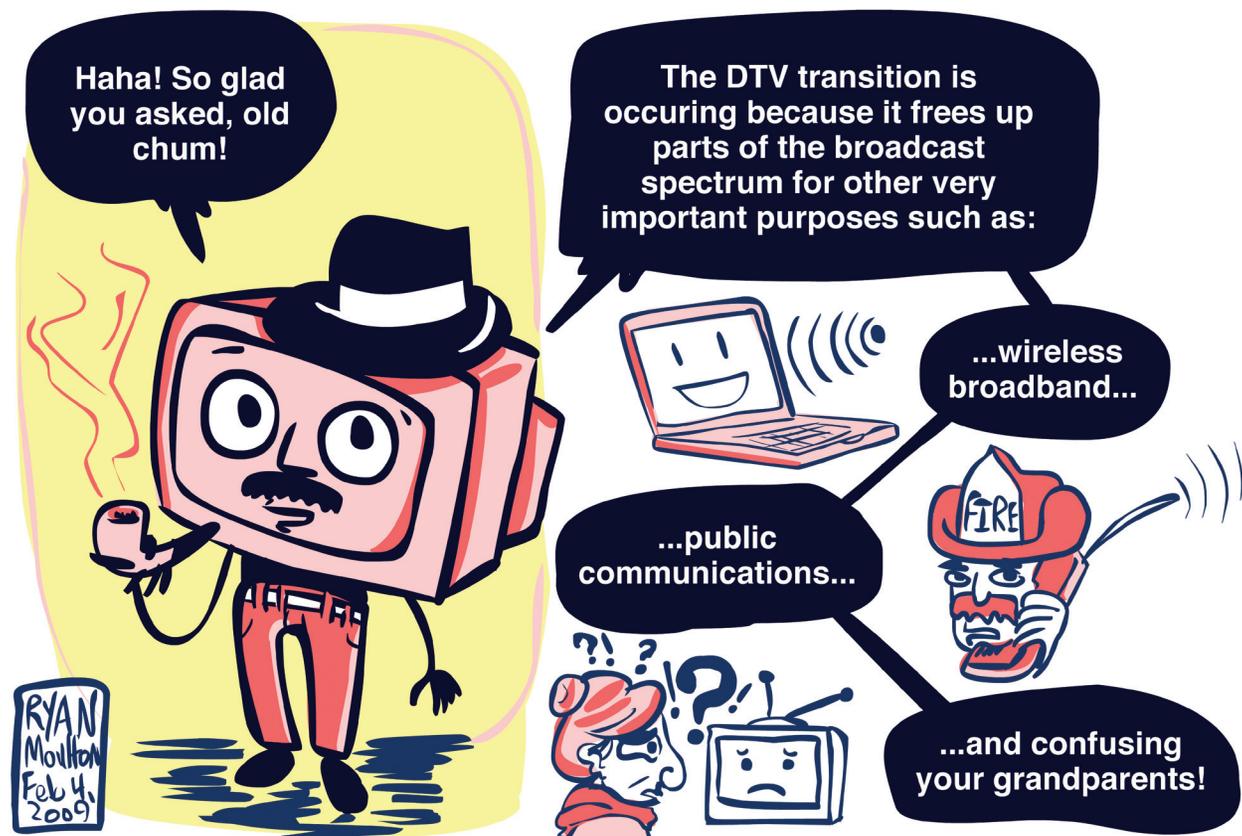
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The Alligator encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 150 words (about one letter-sized page). They must be typed, double-spaced and must include the author's name, classification and phone number. Names will be withheld 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
www.alligator.org/opinions

Why do we even need to switch to Digital TV anyway?



Column

Shoe-throwing: The next fad in violence

"Long live democracy. In a size 10."

So proclaimed a comment left on an online news article about a fad that seems to be slowly catching on across the globe.

We live in an ever-changing world — one where geese hurl themselves towards airplanes and shoes are chucked at the heads of dignitaries.

Less than two months ago, an Iraqi broadcast journalist named Muntader al-Zaidi catapulted to fame for this shocking act, launching both of his shoes at then-President Bush during a press conference. On Monday, a nameless protester threw his shoe at Chinese Premier Wen Jiabo as he gave a speech on the global economy at Cambridge University.

What can be done to stop these rogue shoes from leaping at the craniums of our heads of state?

Shall we ban them from political talks and force them to wait outside? Is there going to be a need for a loafer and oxford shoe-check at speeches throughout the world now?

Maybe Kryptonite should go from making U-locks for bicycles to patenting a SHU-lock that will secure footwear to the ankles of its wearer while in the presence of dignitaries. Pumps and wingtips can't go very far when they're attached to bodies.

The Cambridge protester's aim was not nearly as accurate as al-Zaidi's. Perhaps he can practice for his next shoe-to-skull encounter by playing the online game Sock and Awe, where players can virtually hone their "Bush-shoeing" skills.

To throw a shoe at someone in the Arab world is to insult to the highest degree. To do so in England probably means you left your knife on your bedside table. Either way, with the Cambridge incident being the second such incident in as many months, it seems that the art of shoe-



Naudia Jawad
letters@alligator.org

throwing is not just for your disgruntled journalists anymore.

For al-Zaidi, going down in history as "the guy who threw a shoe at the president's head" put him in jail for up to 15 years, but it also left him a hero to some. Not only was he given a job offer from a Lebanese television channel, he has also received more marriage proposals than he can shake a shoehorn at. A Saudi businessman even went so far as to offer \$10 million to buy the shoes, but they were destroyed by Iraqi and American security agents.

A sofa-sized bronze statue replicating one of the destroyed shoes was erected outside an Iraqi orphanage, but was later taken down. This brogue effigy was apparently going against the law of using government property for a political statement. Yet again, a shoe transcends the rulings of the land.

He is not the only one banking on the event, though. The maker of his shoes has seen orders soar over the past few months. This looks like a possible stimulus for the shoe manufacturing industry. It seems that now is a good time to be in that industry, what with people flinging their footwear away left and right.

What's next for this fad, you may ask? I predict more shoe-related violence — drive-by shoe-ings, grand theft sneaker and socketeering, to name a few.

And perhaps now we will see Maxwell Smart's shoe phone in a whole new light.

Naudia Jawad is journalism graduate student. Her column appears on Wednesdays.

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

Reader response

Today's question: Should Michael Phelps face jail time for smoking pot?

Tuesday's question: Would you get it on with vegetables?

36% YES

64% NO

135 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Letters to the Editor

Nothing wrong with Phelps smoking pot

The thought of unjustly demeaning an American hero disgusts me.

Dare I say that Tuesday's editorial "Bongwater" attempted to do just that to 14-time Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps.

Luckily, it will take a lot more than puffing the magic dragon to take down this legend who won a historic eight gold medals in last year's Beijing Olympics. As far as I'm concerned, this makes Phelps even more of a badass.

As a symbol of our generation, Phelps has, consciously or not, taken a stand against the antiquated laws of America's past. But marijuana's absurd illegality is not the issue here. What is at stake is the reputation of an American hero. To say that Phelps' image "will be forever marred" is a quantum leap to say the least. Fortunately, the American public is smart enough to know that hitting on some grass won't cook your ass.

Marijuana is not dangerous and has never killed anyone, unlike so many legal drugs out there like prescriptions, tobacco or alcohol. Just because something is illegal does not mean it is wrong.

Given his swimming record, I think Phelps is more than strong enough to recover from this debacle concocted by the media.

Brooks Heatherly
4JM

Phelps' drug use mostly harmless

While reading the editorial about Michael Phelps on Tuesday, I was surprised to see such a negative reaction.

The last line, "the...image of Phelps... will forever be marred by his immature desire to have the best of both worlds," changed my surprise to outrage. Comparing a bong rip to a DUI is irresponsible at best and definitely misleading. One of these things intentionally endangers multiple lives and property; the other is an act that only affects one person and, statistically, has never caused immediate harm. No connection exists between smoking marijuana and taking performance-enhancing supplements in order to obtain an unfair edge over competition at the world's highest level.

I am disappointed in Phelps for how he handled the situation. He should have stood up for his beliefs and used his considerable influence to try to make a positive change in this country.

This was an opportunity for the best

athlete on the planet to stand up, admit to using marijuana and be the living proof that pot is less destructive than drinking alcohol or smoking legal tobacco products.

If Michael Phelps can smoke and accomplish what he has, what reasons remain for keeping marijuana illegal?

Ryan Broderick
4BA



Columnist misses point of '25' lists

I was disappointed that Michelle Hipps decided to utilize her column in Tuesday's edition of the Alligator to chide an entire category of Facebook users who participated in creating a "25 things about me" list, claiming that the act is egotistical and selfish.

Her rationalization is that those people are craving attention and ways to make themselves appear more interesting. She asserts that the "45 minutes" each person spent writing his or her list could have been put to better use by such things as volunteering or writing letters thanking our firefighters. However, I have to wonder how much time and effort she spent on writing that very uninspiring — not to mention insulting — column. Two, three hours? Maybe more?

To be fair, I'm sure she was giving out blankets to the homeless while typing with her other hand.

The "25 things about me" lists are meant to be entertainment, and I think she missed that point entirely. I learned some new things about my friends that probably wouldn't have come up in typical conversations. I reminisced with old coworkers about some of the silly habits they listed. My friends weren't being conceited; they were being real.

Maybe Michelle should try writing her own list and see how it fares out in Facebook land. Or perhaps she just doesn't have 25 interesting things to say about herself.

Either way, she shouldn't fault the rest of us for taking part in a lighthearted and harmless survey between friends.

Allison Myers
UF alumna

Facebook lists not self-absorbed

You know what? Michelle Hipps is right. Creating a 25-point list of little quips and jokes about oneself is totally self-ab-

sorbed and selfish! As she said, instead of writing your little list, you could have volunteered at the St. Francis House.

I don't know about y'all, but every time I simply log in to Facebook I think, "Taylor, you are such an ass-hat; why aren't you building a house for Habitat for Humanity?" I personally wouldn't do one of these lists because I am too amazing to limit myself to just 25 things, but really, just glancing at some of them I see things like "I stabbed my mom in the head with a fork when I was 2" or "I have some of the most amazing friends." If that's not self-absorbed, then I don't know what is.

I have a lot more to say, but I am off to the soup kitchen to feed the homeless.

Taylor Moore
4LS

Facebook listers not just time-wasters

Michelle Hipps, perhaps you should stop taking yourself so seriously and realize that Facebook is a form of entertainment.

The "25 things about me" lists are a little silly, but where is the real harm in it? I made a 25 list because I wanted to, not because I feel a desperate need for attention or because I think my life should be commented on by the masses.

Nobody obligates you to respond to the lists, and Facebook probably has a setting that allows you to remove the notes from your alerts. The assumption that everybody who made a list is some self-absorbed, vapid waste of space is fairly extreme.

For the record, I volunteer every Friday from 4 to 7:30 a.m. making breakfast for labor-pool workers on the east side of Gainesville. It's one of the parts of my week that I enjoy most because I come into contact with people vastly different from myself.

There's even a Facebook group for it.
Gabrielle Falconeiri
4JM



Greeks deserve respect in Senate

I am getting quite tired of the Orange and Blue Party's claims that because they aren't affiliated with a Greek organization, they are inherently more qualified for SG.

The Greek community is a group of driven and organized individuals; they are the driving force behind Gator Growl and Dance Marathon, two events that the entire university can take pride in. Those

Greeks involved in SG, regardless of party affiliation, are the best and the brightest when it comes to doing work for UF as a whole.

The Orange and Blue Party lost half of its members to the Progress Party because Orange and Blue cannot handle being in a position to help the student body. All Orange and Blue understands is minority-party tactics and political moves, defamation of character and self-righteous whining.

During election time, look at who is explaining their platform and who is setting the stage for yet another tedious and partisan semester in Student Senate. Senators are elected to help the students. Every senator is intelligent and qualified.

Wasting time looking sideways at each other in the Senate chambers hinders you from looking forward for UF.

Alex Andrade
2JM



Krames sells transgender clause short

Despite commission candidate Robert Krames' attempts to attack our current city commissioner, Jeanna Mastrodicasa is not "out of touch."

She votes with interests of representing students and has stood up against bigotry in Gainesville.

Krames mislabeled her vote on the gender identity and expression addition to Gainesville's anti-discrimination clause as a "bathroom ordinance."

This ordinance bans discrimination based on gender expression, the same kind of protection originally afforded to women and blacks in the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Banning discrimination means no business or public service can deny you service based on how you express your gender. Could you imagine if you were fired because you came in dressed too "femme" or "butch"? Neither could I. The ordinance is a common-sense reform that merely ensures equal treatment.

Gender identity and expression is already protected in 23 states, 80 cities and 230 major corporations. In fact, a majority of UF students voted to add this protection to the SG constitution in 2007.

While Mastrodicasa stands up to fear-mongering, Krames is stuck to the same old politics, the tired rhetoric and the misleading arguments.

Adam Amir
3LS



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STUDENT LIFE

Gator Motorsports to unleash 'baby' at races in May

By CAROLYN TILLO

Alligator Contributing Writer

The Gator Motorsports family is preparing for a road trip to Michigan, where its "baby" will take its first competitive steps.

The baby's carbon fiber and fiberglass body will accelerate from zero to 60 mph in 3.5 seconds — a feat that should give the team an edge in the upcoming competition.

UF's student organization Gator Motorsports is in the process of preparing its student-built, single-seat, open-wheel race car for events at the Michigan International Speedway from May 13 - 16.

After finishing in the top 10 for

the past three years, the team hopes to finish in the top five with this year's car, said Michael Braddock, the faculty adviser for the organization.

But before the car can hit the speedway, the team still has some adjustments to make.

When the driver brakes quickly, for instance, the car shakes and shimmies from side to side, said Lane Gniewek, a senior mechanical engineering major and a team leader.

Team captain and UF mechanical engineering senior Pedro Rivero said after team members make all the necessary tweaks, they will tune the engine and choose the fastest

"It's definitely a nail-biter just watching the judges look at your car and question every aspect of it."

Lane Gniewek
UF Senior

drivers for the competition.

Rivero said the team will take about two months to prepare the chosen drivers, who will compete in events such as the skid-pad where the car completes a figure eight, an acceleration run, an autocross event where the car makes a timed lap around the course and a 22-kilome-

ter endurance event.

UF junior Lori Harrington, president of Gator Motorsports, said the endurance portion of the competition is the most stressful, given its high point value.

"I hold my breath the entire time," she said.

Gniewek said each car must also pass a technical inspection, and each team has to describe how its car could be marketed and sold.

"It's definitely a nail-biter just watching the judges look at your car and question every aspect of it," Gniewek said.

But students gain more from the experience than merely the thrill of competing.

Braddock said working on the car gives students an experience similar to an internship but one that works well with their schedules, Braddock said.

It also offers lessons in commitment and integrity because if team members do not meet deadlines it sets the whole team back, Braddock said.

Harrington, who is also president of the Society of Automotive Engineers, said time management is the hardest part of the preparations.

"It's like a family, and we're all putting in an effort toward one thing," Harrington said.

UF researchers develop possible cure for herpes virus

■ THE TREATMENT HAS NOT BEEN TESTED ON HUMANS YET.

By JESSALYN BERGER

Alligator Contributing Writer

The version of the herpes virus that can result in cold sores and blindness might have a cure, thanks to UF researchers who have been seeking a healing method since 2000.

UF researchers have developed a special enzyme that blocks the herpes virus from replicating.

The HSV-1 strand of herpes is the leading cause of infectious blindness in the United States, according to David Bloom, a virologist at the UF College of Medicine and the research team's leader.

"The data is very encouraging so far," Bloom said. "It has worked better than I had imagined."

The designed RNA enzymes, called hammerhead ribozymes, cleave off strains of the herpes virus to prevent replication, according to UF's research report published in the Journal of Virology at www.jvi.asm.org in August. The enzyme disables a gene that releases a protein to start replication of the herpes virus, causing it to spread and cause eye infections, scarring as well as genital and cold sores.

Genital herpes has not been treated yet by the findings, Bloom said. Current treatments keep the virus in check but cannot fully destroy it, said Arthur Lewin, a molecular geneticist on the research team.

The new medication hasn't been tested on

people, Lewin said, adding the team hopes to run clinical trials on adults in at least a year.

Currently, mice and rabbits are used for testing. Lewin said the team hopes to turn the findings into a cure via a topical cream applied weekly to prevent outbreaks.

He said future research is in the works to see if the findings will cure genital herpes.

Despite competing with researchers working on the same issue, Lewin said coming in first is less important than finding a cure.

"It is not just about the research but about training scientists," he said.

UF's team has founded the sole existing solution to eradicate HSV-1.

Lewin said the team's budget was smaller

than normal, only amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years. The research team, which also includes an ophthalmologist and a doctor of obstetrics and gynecology, gets its funding from the University of Florida Office of Translational Research along with The Burroughs Wellcome Fund and Research to Prevent Blindness.

Bloom said the widely applicable nature of the research drew enough funding.

"They saw it has potential for commercial use," he said.

If the project gets approved to start clinical testing on humans, he said, the budget will move to the millions. The team has already had people step forward with grant money as well as to volunteer for the trial.

"People are anxious for something better," Bloom said.

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STATE

Survey: Fla. voters favor cigarette tax



Sarah Hsu / Alligator Staff

Bill Blackburn smokes a cigarette at the Bo Diddley Community Plaza on Tuesday afternoon. A proposed bill may raise cigarette taxes by \$1.

By HUNTER SIZEMORE

Alligator Writer

Less secondhand smoke and smaller deficits might go hand-in-hand for Florida voters.

Seventy percent say they would support a \$1 flat-tax increase on the price of cigarettes, according to a survey performed by War Room Logistics, a research company based in Gainesville.

The company interviewed 712 registered Florida voters over the phone about this and other issues in late January.

An increase would be the first since 1990, when the tax was raised to 33.9 cents. The average cigarette tax amount in the U.S. is 99 cents per pack, according to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.

State Rep. Jim Walden proposed the increase in November as a way to fight the state's budget deficit.

"Smoking is one of those things that's so bad I don't mind that people would have to pay a premium," said David Digiaco, a student at UF.

Digiaco doesn't smoke and suffers from respiratory infections after being around cigarettes, he said.

Naxim Uddin, owner of Gator's Tobacco, isn't worried about how the increase would affect his business.

"The government might increase the tax. What can you do, you know?" he said.

Because the tax is on the customer, it wouldn't affect him directly.

The tax, if passed, might lower cigarette sales. But Naxim has a niche, he said.

Imported cigarettes make up a large part of Naxim's business. Several brands he offers, such as Fortuna from Spain, Dunhill from England and Mild Seven from Japan, are available in Gainesville only in his shop, he said.

Bill Blackburn, who was out smoking on a bench in Bo Diddley Community Plaza on Tuesday afternoon, doesn't like the idea of an increase.

"I guess if it happens, I'll be smoking less," he said.

Eateries, stores in works for Reitz Union

By CORTNEY WHITLOW

Alligator Contributing Writer

Changes are in the works for the Reitz Union to keep the facility up-to-date and stay in line with the needs of faculty and students.

After revamping the first-floor lobby and creating an expanded lounge area in August 2007, the Reitz Union is planning renovations of the Rion Ballroom and Arredondo Room and the addition of Pollo Tropical in the food court.

Construction on the Arredondo Room, which offers a hot entrée buffet, began in October and is expected to be done by the end of February.

Construction on Pollo Tropical, which will replace Italian restaurant Capeesh, is expected to begin in April and end in July.

Renovations on the Rion Ballroom are expected to begin in early March and finish in late July or early August.

Eddie Daniels, executive director of the J. Wayne Reitz Union, said the ballroom is outdated and needs a new look to stay current with the times.

"We are trying to provide an attractive atmosphere and comfortable atmosphere that meets the expectations of our students and help to promote a more rich campus life," Daniels said.

In addition to those projects, the Reitz Union will refresh Home Zone, which offers home-style food, in its design. Also, the vacant retail spaces on the ground floor will be occupied.

Daniels said they are trying to bring in a convenience and food store to fill the spots that were once filled by STA Travel and Lange Eye Care. STA Travel was removed from the Reitz Union in 2008 due to a new national business model, and UF ended its contract with Lange Eye Care in 2007.

Jill Rodriguez, Gator Dining Services Marketing Manager, said Gator Dining is conducting focus groups with students and staff to determine what food stores they are interested in.

Another prospective change on the ground floor would be to replace Freshens with Jamba Juice. Negotiations are still being worked out on the project, but the transformation will hopefully be under way by fall 2009, Daniels said.

He said there will be minimal changes, if any, to the prices of food.

"We are trying to provide an educational environment and satisfy the needs of students," Daniels said. "We are constantly looking at trends and conducting surveys to get information from students and determine likes and dislikes."

Octuplets' mother faces public outrage

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Where is the lifetime supply of diapers, formula and baby wipes? The free van? The brand-new house?

Women who give birth to six, seven or eight babies are often showered with dazzling gifts from big corporations, local businesses and strangers.

But that is not happening with the Southern California mother who delivered octuplets last week.

The news that she is a single mother with six other children — and that all 14 were conceived by having embryos implanted — seems to have turned off many people, and companies are not exactly rushing to get publicity by piling on the freebies.

Nadya Suleman, 33, has been lambasted by talk-show hosts, fertility experts, even her own mother, who has her hands full taking care of Suleman's other children, ages 2 to 7.

A veteran Hollywood publicist said Suleman's handlers have their work cut out for them in trying to win public sympathy for her.

"I think it's a calamity," said publicist David Brokaw, who has handled crises for celebrities. "I don't see, the way this is shaped, how you can say much about it in terms of something favorable."

Makers of diapers, formula and other products would probably want to steer clear of her, Brokaw said. He suggested she lie

low for now and concentrate on crafting an image as a responsible parent.

Gerber spokesman David Mortazavi said that if the baby-food maker was planning to do something for the family, it probably would have done it already, and that the octuplets' birth was not on Gerber's radar. He would not elaborate.

"I think it's a calamity."

David Brokaw
publicist

Procter & Gamble spokeswoman Tricia Higgins said that the maker of Pampers does not actively seek out parents to sponsor, but that the octuplets' mother can ask for what is typically provided in multiple births: a jumbo pack of diapers for each child, baby wipes and coupons for discounts. That is unlikely to last Suleman a week.

Conservative radio talk show host Bill Handel in Los Angeles, who has branded the births "freakish," said on the air Tuesday that people are ready to boycott any corporations that help the octuplets or their mother.

Suleman's spokesman, Mike Furtney, said that he has received some "fairly negative" comments from the public but that offers to help with the babies have come in from nurses, and some baby stores have stepped forward to volunteer their support.

"I don't remember the brand name, but one major disposable diaper company sent some diapers," he said. Furtney said he was

confident that once Suleman tells her story, many of her critics will "readjust their thinking a little."

Furtney said Suleman has had offers for TV and other media deals, but he added it was too early to discuss how much money she might receive.

For a single mother, the cost of raising 14 children through age 17 ranges from \$1.3 million to \$2.7 million, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Suleman octuplets' medical costs have not been disclosed, but the average cost for just one cesarean birth in 2006 was \$22,762 in California. The Suleman babies were born nine weeks premature. In California, a single premature birth in 2006 led to an average hospital stay of 25 days and cost \$164,273. That would amount to a \$1.3 million bill for eight.

Suleman's income is unclear. She was employed by a mental hospital from 1997 through 2008.

In 1998, Nkem Chukwu of Houston became the first mother to give birth to octuplets in the U.S. The family lives in a donated, six-bedroom suburban home, and the stay-at-home mom had a small army of volunteers help feed and care for the seven surviving babies for the first few years.

The parents of the McCaughey septuplets — seven babies born in Iowa in 1997 — received a donated 16-room house, a 15-passenger van, baby food from Gerber and a lifetime supply of Pampers from Procter & Gamble.

UF student announcer gets to perform 'dream job'

By **MATT TRIPP**

Alligator Contributing Writer

One UF student's dream came true Tuesday night after he announced the UF-South Carolina basketball game live on ESPN.

UF telecommunications senior John Hornbuckle, from Vero Beach, was chosen to sit alongside regular play-by-play commentator Rob Stone and fellow college student Cory Burkharth, a University of South Carolina broadcast major.

This will be Hornbuckle's first attempt at colorful commentary for a major UF game. He was selected based on his prior work for Campus Connection.

"It's not going to be regular stats and breakdowns. We're going to be talking about college life and what it means to be at UF," said Hornbuckle, 22.

Burkharth will be doing the same, but from South Carolina's perspective.

Before the game, Hornbuckle shared his secret for calming the nerves.

"I mean, I get nervous, but I take a deep breath and zone everything out," he said, adding that as a Gator fan he is well-prepped for the job ahead.

Hornbuckle said he has fol-

lowed the team's progress closely and already knows everything about the players and their stats.

After discovering he was selected for the spot after the break, Hornbuckle said he immediately called his family to tell them to watch.

He described commentating for the game as the biggest opportunity of his college career.

"It's pretty big. There could be thousands of people watching," Hornbuckle said.

Of all the classes Hornbuckle has taken at UF's College of Journalism and Communications, none of them prepared him for commentary of a major game, he said.

"There are no classes that teach play-by-play commentary, so you have to rely on prior work experience," Hornbuckle said.

"This is a big resume builder. Any time you can say you've been on ESPN, it's a huge confidence boost," he said.

Hornbuckle has also done play-by-play commentary for the Gator softball team since last season, among other things.

But doing basketball or football commentary would be his "dream job."

While the athletes do their jobs



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

John Hornbuckle poses during halftime on the court in the O'Connell Center on Tuesday night. Hornbuckle was an honorary commentator during the Gators' 97-93 win against South Carolina.

on the court, Hornbuckle said the announcer has an important role to play, adding the commentator's style can affect the audience's ex-

perience in a big way.

The audience depends on the commentators to interpret the game for them, he said.

"People want to be part of the show, so I have to make myself part of the show for them, he said"

ON CAMPUS

UF officials named to federal food safety committee

By **KATHRYN STOLARZ**

Alligator Contributing Writer

Three UF officials are serving on a 12-person federal committee charged with assessing the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's role in ensuring food safety.

"The fact that there are three committee members from UF is really just a coincidence," Gui Liu, the committee's senior program assistant, wrote in an e-mail.

"But three is the greatest number of officials from one institution."

The federal food safety committee met for the first time last Thursday in Washington.

It plans to submit a two-year report examining the gaps in the FDA's measures for farm-to-table food safety and public health protection, according to The National Academies' Web site.

The committee's first meeting coincided with the nationwide salmonella scare and

resulting peanut butter recall, Liu said.

Although current issues will certainly be addressed, the committee is not focus-

"The fact that there are three committee members from UF is really just a coincidence.

Gui Liu

Senior program assistant

ing on any specific food safety recalls.

Douglas Archer, associate dean for re-

search at UF's food science and human nutrition department, was chosen along with UF's Emerging Pathogens Institute Director J. Glenn Morris Jr. and Martha Roberts, special assistant to the dean for research at UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Archer, who has been involved with the FDA for about 20 years, said in an e-mail that he and his fellow UF committee members have extensive past experience with food safety research and policy making.

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Increasing trend in egg donors seen at Shands

By **CHELSEA KEENAN**
Alligator Writer

As wallets tighten due to economic woes, hospitals around the country have been receiving more than just donations of blood and organs.

Hospitals have seen a rising number of women interested in donating their eggs in return for cash, and this trend has spread to Shands at UF.

Jean Melby, a registered nurse at the hospital, said she has seen more of an interest in egg donations over the past year.

However, she doesn't know if the increase is caused by people looking to make extra money in the faltering economy or if it is simply from an increase in the general public's awareness of the program.

Local News Dr. Robert Williams, director of the Obstetrics and Gynecology department at Shands at UF, said donors must go through a long process before receiving the \$2,000 compensation for their eggs.

"It involves three months' worth of medical care, injections and an outpatient procedure," Williams said.

Egg donors must be between the ages of 21 to 30 and have a clean bill of health.

There is also a psychological assessment, where donors are screened by a psychologist to ensure they are donating for the right reasons and won't have any regrets 10 years down the road, said Williams.

Melby agreed.

"(Egg donation) is a wonderful gift," she said. "While some financial compensation is nice, it shouldn't be the most important reason. A sense of altruism should be the driving force."

Although the number of egg donors has risen over the past year, Williams said there are still more couples waiting for a donation than the number of available donated eggs.

Melby said only about 10 percent of women who consider donating actually make it through to the end of the process.

"People don't just do it for the money," Williams said. "You can make money easier."

Fish go belly-up due to cold, depth

By **REBECCA WEISS**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Dead fish floated belly-up on the surface of the Reitz Union's pond last Wednesday.

The culprit? Freezing temperatures combined with the shallowness of the water.

This is the first time anything like this has happened, said Mike Mironack, director of operations at the Reitz Union. "We're keeping an eye on it to see if it was a one-time thing or not," he said. "If not, we'll call someone with more expertise to have it fixed."

Two types of fish were found floating in the pond: grass carp and tilapia, according to Marty Werts, landscaping and groundskeeping superintendent for UF's Grounds Department.

Both are non-native species. Werts said the fish were probably used to a warmer climate and unable to survive the freezing, 20-degree

nights Gainesville has been experiencing recently.

"Everybody I've talked to says that it had to do with the low temperature and depth of the pond," he said.

"We're keeping an eye on it to. If not, we'll call someone with more expertise to have it fixed."

Mike Mironack
Director of operations at the Reitz Union

He explained that the fish were probably placed in the pond to eat some of the aquatic weeds.

"The grass carp could've been put in there a long time ago," he said. "The tilapia are an invasive species – a water bird or an osprey can pick one up out of another pond and drop it in." Werts also confirmed that Aquatic

Weed Control had not sprayed anything poisonous into the pond before the fish died.

"During the growing season, they will occasionally spray weeds," he said. "But they didn't [this time.]"

Mironack said he speculated that something detrimental could have been thrown into the water. Since anyone has access to the pond, a destructive item thrown in could be very harmful to its environment and creatures.

He said hopes that this will not occur again anytime soon.

The recently installed Veterans Memorial Fountain in the center of the pond will hopefully help prevent another fish kill.

According to Mironack, the fountain will improve the water quality of the pond by introducing more oxygen into the water. The increase in oxygen will ultimately benefit the creatures living in the pond, he said.

Census reveals large increase in homeless children locally

CENSUS, from page 1

an increase in the overall number of homeless."

While many housed people in Gainesville are familiar with the homeless who hang around downtown, these people don't represent the diversity of the homeless, DeCarmine said.

"Those people who present 100 percent of the public perception make up about 10 percent of the population," he said.

DeCarmine, who has helped the coalition bring over \$8 million in state and federal funds to the local homeless assistance network since 2003, said he feels this misperception makes homeless advocacy more difficult.

"We tend to marginalize and push the homeless to the furthest edges of society and then question why they can't get back in," he said.



Meghan McMullen / Alligator

Jon DeCarmine, director of the Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry, presents census results to a UF class Tuesday.

Obama, Congress plan to curtail financial executive pay

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration plans to limit pay to \$500,000 a year for executives of government-assisted financial institutions in a new get-tough approach to bankers and Wall Street, a senior administration official said Tuesday.

Obama plans to announce the new limits with Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner at the White House on Wednesday.

"If the taxpayers are helping you, then you've got certain responsibili-

ties to not be living high on the hog," President Barack Obama said in an "NBC Nightly News" interview.

An administration official familiar with the new restrictions said the most restrictive limits would apply only to struggling large firms that receive "exceptional assistance" in the future. Healthy banks that receive government infusions of capital would have more leeway.

The official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because the plan had not yet been made public, said firms that want to pay executives above the \$500,000 threshold would

have to compensate them with stock that could not be sold or liquidated until they pay back the government funds.



Obama

The president and members of Congress have been weighing various proposals to restrict chief executives' compensation as one of the conditions of receiving help under the \$700 billion financial bailout fund.

Banks and other financial in-

stitutions that receive capital infusions, but are considered healthy, could waive the \$500,000 salary cap and the stock restrictions. But they would have to disclose the compensation and submit the pay plan to shareholders for a nonbinding vote.

The administration will also propose long-term compensation restrictions even for companies that don't receive government assistance, the official said.

Top officials at companies that have received money from the government's Troubled Asset Relief Program already face some com-

penetration limits. But elected officials want to place more caps, a sentiment reinforced in recent days by revelations that Wall Street firms paid more than \$18 billion in bonuses in the midst of the economic downturn in 2008.

"I do know this: We can't just say, 'Please, please,'" said Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., who has proposed that no employee of an institution that receives money under the \$700 billion federal bailout can receive more than \$400,000 in total compensation until it pays the money back.

TV switch date unset

By **LINDSEY MARMORSTEIN**
Alligator Contributing Writer

The switch to digital transmission is supposed to take place Feb. 17, but it may be pushed back to June 12.

President Obama wants to give people more time to prepare for the switch from analog.

"We have no idea when we will experience the digital transition," said city spokesman Bob Woods.

Viewers have three ways to prepare for the switch. They can purchase a newer TV with a built-in digital tuner, purchase a converter or become a Cox Communications

customer.

But students living in dorms will not be affected by the switch to digital transmission because UF housing is a Cox Communications customer, said Sharon Blansett, assistant director of housing for marketing, public relations and research.

National News

Because digital signals take up less space, the transition will provide better quality, reliability and additional channels, said Bradley Spatz, Cox Communications vice president of engineering.

For more information about the digital transition, visit <http://www.dtv.org>.

Students apply to fill open senate seats; executive candidates chosen

SLATING, from page 1

side Orange and Blue Sen. and vice-presidential candidate Stacey Gray as well as former Gator Party Sen. Brandon White, who announced he was leaving the Gator Party at last week's Senate meeting.

McShera said the Orange and Blue Party looked at four possible candidates before choosing the two he thought to be the most qualified.

"I'm at a place where I'm happy," White said. "There is no reason you should have to stick to one side."

Student Government Elections

All three candidates said they are looking forward to the upcoming election.

"I think this is the year," Gray said. "Students know it's time for change, and I'm ready to go and get it."

Gainesville residents first in U.S. to benefit from renewable energy policy

FORUM, from page 1

after using it to power their home or business."

With the feed-in tariff, GRU will buy all of the solar energy produced at \$0.32 a kilowatt-hour and sell the energy back to the private vendor for \$0.12 a kilowatt-hour.

This way, everyone with solar panels will be paid to power their houses or businesses.

Crider said there are currently 60 houses and businesses in Gainesville with solar panels, but he expects that number to

drastically increase with the new feed-in tariff.

"We have been getting calls every day from people who are showing a lot of interest in installing solar panels," he said.

In Europe, 20 out of 27 countries have entered into feed-in tariffs that have all been successful, said Adel El Gammal, secretary-general of the European Photovoltaic Industry Association.

Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan was invited by the conference to be the keynote speaker on behalf of Gainesville's renewable energy success.

Gainesville, which has a population of 130,000, is one of the state's greenest cities,

Hanrahan said.

She said that Gainesville has done many things to contribute to make the city more environmentally sound like planting more trees and installing more efficient street lights.



Hanrahan

Hanrahan said that Gainesville is a city with underlying poverty and disparity.

The feed-in tariff will create more jobs for construction workers and electricians, she said.

The city is also hoping to create a bio-mass plant, Hanrahan said.

The plant will create energy by burning organic waste like tree thinning waste, urban waste and parts of vegetables and fruits that are not used for consumption, Crider said. He said it is under negotiation now and if it is built, it will not be finished until 2013.

Mike Antheil, executive director of the Florida Alliance for Renewable Energy, said Florida's status as the Sunshine State makes it the rightful leader of renewable energy in the U.S.

"Our decision makers and policy makers need to take advantage of that to allow Florida to create the roadway for the rest of the nation," Antheil said.

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Shands at UF Room H-1

UF's beam troubles persist

By **EUGENIO TORRENS**
Alligator Writer

After UF's win against Kentucky on Friday, Corey Hartung said one bad balance beam performance was fine, but two — referencing the team's performance against the Wildcats — was unacceptable.

The team hopes the third time's a charm when it travels to Baton Rouge, La., to take on LSU (6-2, 1-2 Southeastern Conference) on Friday night.

UF (3-1, 2-1 SEC) showed improvement on beam against Kentucky from its Jan. 23 loss to Arkansas, scoring marginally higher.

Against the Razorbacks, the team scored a 47.9 on beam, its lowest beam score of the season. Against the Wildcats, the team raised the score to a 48.125.

"It's all mental," UF coach Rhonda Faehn said. "It comes down to the mental preparation. This team knows that they are a very good beam team."

"It's all mental. It comes down to the mental preparation. This team knows that they are a very good beam team."

Rhonda Faehn
UF gymnastics coach

In the first meet of the season, beam was actually the team's best event. UF tallied an event-high 49.25.

Beam woes since then have included occasional falls and wobbles.

"It's just a matter of knowing that, 'Hey, if someone does go out and make a mistake, it should not affect anyone else.' You still have a job to do," Faehn said.

Inconsistencies in the beam lineup have also hindered the team.

Faehn said Tuesday the beam lineup should be the same as it was for the Kentucky meet, but with one more day of practice, that could

change. A different lineup would be the fifth different beam lineup in as many meets.

Junior Amanda Castillo, who is nursing bursitis in her ankle, has had a tough go at beam. Faehn said she would keep exposing Castillo, an All-American, to beam despite recent falls.

"Just to get her confidence back, (Amanda's) going to do a different beam dismount," Faehn said.

Even Hartung, the decorated senior, wasn't immune to beam problems, falling during her beam routine in Fayetteville, Ark. She rebounded against Kentucky with a 9.9.

"Hartung's beam was back to the level of near perfection, which she's capable of," Faehn said.

Because UF is the visiting team against LSU, the order of events is different than at home meets, and beam will be the anchoring event.

Against Arkansas, a 0.525-point lead heading into beam vanished after the Gators suffered three falls.

Faehn said the struggles on beam against Kentucky led to a bit of lost momentum heading into the floor exercise.

The different order of events may help since the Gators will perform floor before beam.

Perhaps most importantly, the varying order of events means the gymnasts get to open on uneven bars, their strongest event. The team ranks No. 1 in the country on bars.

"That should be able to help the confidence level of our team," Faehn said.

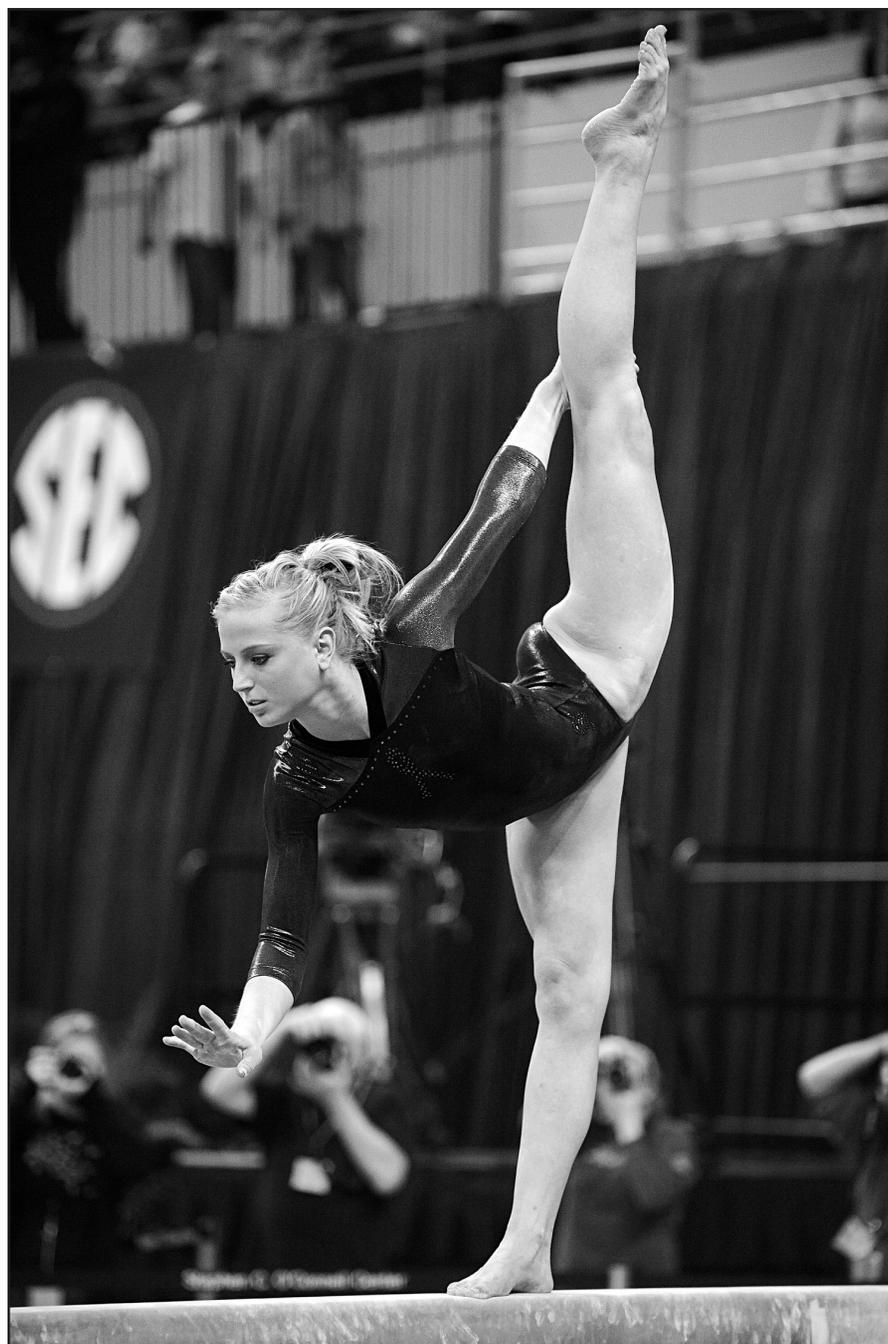
She hopes to carry the momentum from bars throughout the whole meet.

In the team's most recent win against Kentucky, junior Melanie Sinclair scored a perfect 10 on bars.

Her 10 came in the middle of 9.9s posted by junior Maranda Smith and Hartung.

Overall on bars, the team scored a 49.5, tying its Jan. 16 performance for the highest-scoring bar performance this season. No gymnast scored lower than a 9.8 against Kentucky.

"Our bar lineup is perhaps one of the strongest in the country," Faehn said.



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF gymnast Corey Hartung performs on the balance beam during the Gators' 195.925-193.85 win against Kentucky in the O'Connell Center on Friday.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Magic guard Nelson injured, could miss rest of season

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO — All-Star point guard Jameer Nelson could miss the rest of the season for the Orlando Magic because of a torn labrum in his right shoulder.

An MRI exam revealed the injury Tuesday, the team announced.

Nelson will decide over the next week whether he will have surgery or attempt rehabilitation. If surgery is the option, his season is likely over. If he passes on the surgery, he'll likely miss several weeks.

"At some point in time, he's going to have

to have surgery. That's a given. There's no ifs, ands or buts about it," Magic general manager Otis Smith said Tuesday.

Nelson left the Magic's 105-95 loss to the Mavericks on Monday night in the third quarter after he was fouled by Dallas center Erick Dampier and hit the floor. Nelson came up bent over and clutching his right shoulder before heading to the locker room in pain.

The injury leaves the Southeast Division-leading Magic (36-11) with a major hole.

Orlando does not have a third point guard behind backup Anthony Johnson. The Magic likely will have to sign another point guard,

or convert shooting guards J.J. Redick and Courtney Lee.

Smith said he had "zero" regrets about not signing an extra point guard earlier. Now, he's hoping to fill the gap by signing a free agent.

"I don't think anything's off the table," Smith said. "We're actively pursuing (a deal), and have been since last night."

Nelson was having a career season, averaging 16.7 points and 5.4 assists per game. He was selected to his first All-Star Game and was to compete in the skills challenge Feb. 14 in Phoenix.

The Magic host the Los Angeles Clippers

on Wednesday night.

"It's a big blow for us," center Dwight Howard said after Monday night's loss. "I'm trying not to even think about it because he had been playing so well for us. It's a sad day for us all."

Nelson missed five games earlier this season with a right hip injury, and Orlando managed to go 4-1 behind Johnson.

A longer stretch against significantly better competition will provide a tougher test.

"We've done it before so we'll do whatever we have to do," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said.

'Sixburgh' celebrates Super Bowl victory with parade

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — More than 300,000 black-and-gold bedecked Pittsburgh Steelers fans — about the population of the city itself — packed the streets of "Sixburgh" on Tuesday for a parade celebrating the storied franchise's unprecedented sixth Super Bowl title.

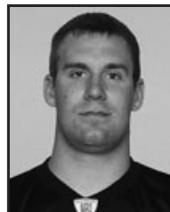
From infants to senior citizens, fans braved freezing temperatures and crowds so deep that for some, even seeing the parade was impossible.

Not that it mattered. Many just wanted to be part of the festive atmosphere and have

the chance to revel in the team's 27-23 victory over the Arizona Cardinals in Sunday's Super Bowl. Rousing chants of "Here we go Steelers!" pulsed through the crowd as they waited for the team to make its way along the route.

"We're going to tell the school we had fever — Steeler fever," 12-year-old Rachel Russell said, excusing her absence from school before leading a Steelers chant.

Renaming the city Sixburgh for the day, Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl made his way through the parade alongside quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, both filming the crowd that painted a gray sky yellow with



Roethlisberger

the mid-20s.

Even police got into the spirit, waving Terrible Towels from atop horses as they led the parade. Coach Mike Tomlin followed behind in the back of a red convertible, while players holding video cameras cheered and

twirling Terrible Towels.

Fans filled parking garages, skyscraper windows, balconies and even climbed trees to get the best view of the team they love and possibly find shelter from the sporadic flurries and temperatures that hovered in

waved from the back of pickup trucks.

Tomlin couldn't stop smiling as he was greeted on stage at the end of the parade route with thunderous applause.

"What do you say to this?" Tomlin asked the massive crowd. "Steeler Nation, you leave us all speechless, man, we just appreciate the love. How about the Steelers? How about the greatest fans in the world? How about number six? Thank you, we love you guys."

Steelers owner Dan Rooney thanked the city for its support over the years — and said there is more history to be made.

"Stay with us," Rooney said. "Maybe we'll get the seventh next year."

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373-1111* SpanishTrace.org
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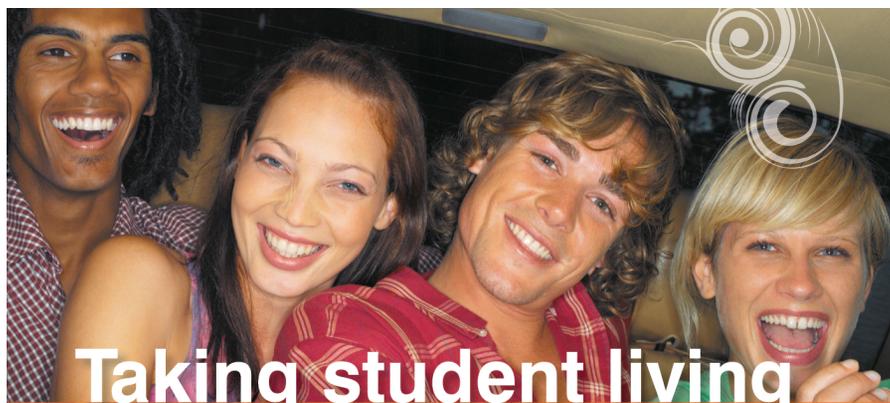
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Blocks
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Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF.
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1 month free for fall &
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Individual Leases: Furniture Packages,
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Studios - \$549, includes electric!
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Walk to Class!
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Huge, luxury 1br-4brs with TVs in kitchen
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10 blocks to UF. Near downtown. High ceiling,
wood floor, cent A/C, W/D, tons of character.
Avail Now 237 SW 4th Ave. \$980/mo
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2BR units starting at \$695. Gated community.
Private courtyards.
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2 For Rent unfurnished

1/1, Ridgeview, free water, next to park, on the bus line, cent H/A, courtyard, 2 miles to UF, convenient to shopping, no smoking, no pets. \$470 SD, \$470/mo 562-2824 2-10-09-55-2

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1BR/\$495 to \$999/mo
2BR/2.5BA \$1499/mo
Gore Rabell Real Estate
378-1387 Gore-Rabell.com
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RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT PRICE, RIGHT NOW
Steps from VA, Shands, Vet School & UF.
1 & 2 Bedrooms from \$625. Grad student & VA/Shands discounts Renovated units avail
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1BRs from \$580 2BRs from \$650
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1 Tour & You're Sure!
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1, 2, 3 & 4 brs, 2br Townhomes
W/D, dishwasher, tennis/bball courts
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Studios \$625+ * 1BR \$689+ * 2BR \$839+
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★★2/1 House w/ Big Yard★★
4 Blocks to UF, HW Floors
Pet Friendly \$1200/mo
352-375-8256
4-22-76-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

BRAND NEW FOR AUG 09
CAMPUS VIEW PLACE
2BR/2BA OR 3BR/3BA
Luxury Suites near Shands,
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Please visit us at the model
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LEASING FOR AUG 09
Quality Student Housing
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1,2,3,4 & 5 BR Properties
List Avail Jan 20th!!
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Are all gone!!
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Now Leasing 2BR/2BA
Luxury Dual Suites
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Close to UF, Norman Hall
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Many have been drastically reduced
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3BR/3BA w room to run
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Pets OK w/fee close to UF
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Large family room w/fireplace
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172 lbs, Black Hair,
Brown Eyes

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Violation of Probation for Possession of Narcotic Equipment and Fraud-Flase ID Given to Law Enforcement Officer

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University Terrace West
1 Female needed \$325/mo
Lease through July 2009
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2bd/2ba \$750/mo
1 car garage. dw, mw, wd incl
Fenced yard. Avail Now!
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Mallorca Unit near Royal Park
2BD/2.5BA Avail Now!!
Beautiful, luxury townhouse
w/ garage. \$950/mo
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2BR/2BA Townhouse, small pets ok! private
courtyard, icemaker, dishwasher, washer/
dryer hookup. walk to restaurants/ grocery.
\$799. mo. quiet neighbors. 318-0089 2-4-
09-21-2

1BR apt. w/pvt gated courtyard located in
small professional complex @ 3320 SW 23d
St. Single, mature applicants only. New car-
pet. \$575.00/mo small pets ok @ \$25.00/mo
352 377-2150 Please leave a msg. 2-4-09-
20-2

POOL HOUSE AVAILABLE NOW!
Bike to UF 4BR/3BA, over 2000 sf, nice area
1 mi to UF. 2816 W Univ Ave. \$1500/mo now
or \$1700/mo in fall. Can divide into 3/2 for
\$1200/mo. Pool service extra 376-6183, 352-
327-2931 2-12-09-25-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

2BR/2.5BA Twnhouse condo near UF. 2
Master BRs w/ own BA, Ideal for 2 to share.
Wired for inet + sec sys, W/D hk-up, appli-
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mo 954-805-7827 dennismiller@tycoint.com
2-4-09-20-2

●1BR/1BA w/lg STUDY - Great Location●
1blk to UF/Shands Avail Now! Energy effi-
cient, some utils. Very spacious, carpet, de-
cal park Prefer grad student/mature. \$650.
postj@bellsouth.net 376-0080, 284-3873
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Immaculate and newly renovated historic
home. New hardwood flrs, appliances, paint.
Walk to campus. 3/1. \$800/mo for two occu-
pants through July 31st. 911 NW 10th Ave.
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AVAILABLE AUGUST 1
4BR/2BA nice, large house. Hot tub, fenced
yard, washer/dryer provided, 3413 NW 8th
Ave. \$1625/mo. Screened back porch, other
houses available. 339-2342 for more info.
2-6-09-19-2

★2/1 Funky Upstairs Apt★
3 Blocks to UF
Pet Friendly \$750/mo
352-375-8256
4-22-68-2

★2/1 House w/ Big Yard★
4 Blocks to UF, HW Floors
Pet Friendly, Outdoor Kennel
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4-22-68-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

★2/1 Apt, 4 Blocks to UF★
Central AC, No Tow Parking,
Pet Friendly, \$700/mo
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4-22-68-2

★2/1 Apt, 1000 SF★
Island Kitchen, WD hookups
Centr. AC, Pet Friendly \$700/mo
352-375-8256
4-22-68-2

AVAILABLE AUGUST 1
4BR/3BA large house with large bedrooms.
House only 4 yrs old. Fireplace, washer/dry-
er provided, vaulted ceilings. 2108 NW 8th
Court. \$1575/mo. 339-2342 for directions.
2-6-09-17-2

AVAILABLE AUGUST 1
4BR/2BA, nice modern house on large pri-
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\$1425/mo. 2606 NW 34th St. Pets ok. Deck,
lots of trees. Call 339-2342 2-6-09-17-2

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Inclusive 2's, 3's, and 4's
MASSIVE Townhomes!
W/D and Jumbo Microwaves in Every Unit
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Great Bus Route! 2 Miles to UF
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2BR/2BA vaulted ceilings, breakfast bar, tile,
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backyard. \$675. SW. 374-4216 appt. 2-12-
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HUGE 2BR 1BA
W/D hookups. Pets OK
Walk to Vet School
\$595 mo. Move in today!
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Studio with separate kitchen, fireplace,
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trance. 106 SW 12th St. \$525/mo 339-2342
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Huge 1BR Loft w/Skylight
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Cathedral Ceilings*Only \$799 at Arbor Lofts
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Phase II, 2BR/2BA Condo
gated, pool, fitness center, W/D
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2BR WALK TO CLASS!
As low as \$380/person!
Pets welcome, wood floor avail
Pool, Open late and weekends
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4-22-09-59-2

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2BR/2BA \$750/mo til 7/31/09
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www.rentgainesville.com 4-22-59-2

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Nice home w/many upgrades
Ready now! 1789 SF Garage
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1-3BR apts + 2 houses 923 SE 4th St, 18
NE 10th St. High ceilings, porch, wood floors.
\$500-\$1100/mo. No dogs. 1st, last, sec. Call
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QUIET, CLEAN, LOTS OF GREEN SPACE.
2BR/1BA house. \$650/mo.
Call 352-378-9220 or mobile 213-3901 2-5-
09-10-2

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deposit. 3608 NW 22nd Pl. Call 352-214-
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\$605 per month \$250 security Walk to VA or
Shands Call 352-672-1482 3-6-09-30-2

**** Across From UF ****
\$1150/mo Special!
2br/2ba Limited Time Offer for Fall
Luxury Apts w/ Internet & Parking Incl.
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111 NW 16th St. -- Call 376-1111
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One month FREE!
1 & 2 BR single-story villas starting from
\$529
Move in costs starting at \$139
Close to Oaks Mall and Archer Road.
Pine Rush Villas 375-1519 4-22-09-
59-2

One month FREE!
1 & 2 BR flats starting from \$599
Move in costs starting at \$139
Two blocks south of Archer Rd. & 34th St
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HUGE 2 & 3 BR single story villas
starting from \$759
Close to Oaks Mall & Newberry Rd.
Ashton Square Villas 333-1120 4-22-09-
59-2

3BR/1BA apts. 1 Blk to UF - August 1st.
Renovated historic building. 1227 SW 4th
Ave. Wood flrs, cent H/AC, parking, some
utils pd. \$1475/mo. Call 352-514-5060 cell.
2-9-10-2

WOODSIDE VILLAS off Tower Rd. 7200 SW
8th Ave. 2BR/1BA + bonus rm. Flex leasing
terms. 1072 sq ft. Vaulted ceiling, W/D, DW,
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LARGE 2BR DUPLEX NEAR UF. Fenced
backyard, lots of privacy, W/D, screened
porch & extra large utility room. Only \$500
deposit & \$725/mo. Call 352-372-3131.
Location: 1710 SW 38th Terr. 4-22-09-
58-2

**UNREAL LOCATION ON UNIVERSITY
AVE/LAW SCHOOL**
2360 W University Ave
4 bed/ 2 bath, w/d, Large Yard, Fireplace.
Walking distance to UF, 1 block from law
school. Call Bill at 615-400-5178
\$1000.00 a month through July. \$1400.00
Starting Aug 1. 2-10-09-10-2

FIRST MONTH FREE OR \$300 CASH! \$650/
mo, 1/1, quiet friendly complex, 2 miles from
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need to rent my place! Ireiden@hotmail.com,
973-534-3788 for more details. 2-6-09-7-2

Huge 5/3 MH on 5ac 12 min to UF, w/d, no
pet fee. \$1600 mth. 352-213-3943 2-17-
14-2

Spacious POOL home in Keystone Heights
3BR 2Bath, 35 min from G.ville, quiet cul du
sac, lots of extras, PET FRIENDLY
Call Trevor Water Realty 352-473-7777
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\$445-4/4 University Terrace condo; includes
cable, internet, and utilities. On routes 12
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W/D incl in unit. Small pet ok. Pool/exercise
room. \$800/mo 352-378-5801 x 5 2-12-09-
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Cabin, 20 acres, 7 mi south of Newberry.
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Monthly rent \$700. Pets ok. Sec dep \$700.
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Sign now for studios, 1/1, 2/2, 3/3s! Perfect
Location-Great Price-No Move-in Fees
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Great parking-walk to bars-bike to UF
Reserve now! 338-0002
4-22-09-53-2

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1/1 - 750 SQ FT - \$699
2/2-1007 sq ft for \$799 or \$899 for brand new
& w/d. Water & Sewer Included!
Call Today! 352-376-2507 4-22-58-2

★CAMPUS EDGE CONDO★
2/2 Walk to UF, Shands & VA. Tile floor, W/D
in unit, avail fall. Reasonable rate 239-250-
6149 239-992-2449 2-20-09-14-2

Why Pay More?
Great Apartments at a Great Price!
1/1 - From \$689; 2/2 - From \$759;
3/2 - From \$899 CALL: (352) 377-7401
www.theboardwalkapt.com 4-22-09-56-2

We have REAL 1/1s for Feb '09!
3 blocks to UF - GATORNEST
300 NW 18 St-Large, 575 sq ft only \$585!
Bike to UF - CENTERPOINT
1220 NW 12 St-530 sq ft big, only \$475!
No Application Fee, Most Pets OK. For info
call E.F.N. Properties, (352) 371-3636 or
email Rentals@EFNProperties.com
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★Live on UF Lake★
Huge 2/2 with Den - 3/2
Fully Remodeled \$1275/mo
352-375-8256
4-22-53-2

★Live on UF Lake★
Large Estate, 5 bedrms
Dock & Pool, \$2500/mo
352-870-9453
4-22-53-2

2 bdrm/1 bath, Sun Bay Apts. near UF cam-
pus, bus route, 2 pools, workout room, W/D
hookup, \$685/mo. (negotiable). Contact for
more information: slw@helloworld.com or
(352)870-0010. 2-10-09-5-2

2/1.5 Newly Renovated Townhouse. Avail
Now or Fall 09. Close to Shands, Park N
Ride 2, & Shopping. Incl W/D, A/C, Pvt Patio,
& Pool. \$745/mth & \$500 Dep. No Pets
Pls. 772-538-5792 or ltsao12@hotmail.com
2-10-09-5-2

2BR/1BA SPACIOUS
7209 SW 45th Pl, Gainesville. Cent H/AC,
W/D hk-up. \$600/mo, \$500 sec dep. No pets.
Call 386-462-0994 2-17-08-10-2

3BR/1BA HOUSE
1 car garage. Biking distance to UF. \$900/
mo. \$700 sec dep. No pets. 825 NW 10th
Ave. 386-462-0994 2-17-09-10-2

AFFORDABLE, COZY AND PRIVATE!!!
2bdmS/1bath apt and 2bdmS/2baths/1Loft
home for rent. Near UF, SFCC, Shands,
Restaurants and Shopping. For more info,
please call 352-359-0711. 2-10-09-5-2

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Tropical Smoothie Cafe
NOW OPEN 24 HOURS
Come study with us - Free WiFi
3345 SW 34th Street 2-17-10-2

2BR/2.5BA CONDO
with furnished living room, dining room &
kitchen. \$550/mo/person. utils included.
Great location - near UF. Available immedi-
ately. Call 561-753-6972 2-10-09-5-2

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Jerk
6 Unwilling to listen
10 Pinochle calls
14 Emulate Cicero
15 Questionable
16 "A Death in the Family" novelist
17 Site of strange disappearances
20 Somme summer
21 BMOCs, e.g.
22 Entrance
23 High-quality wine
25 Singer Redbone
27 Gulf of Panama archipelago
32 Displays at a St. Petersburg, Florida, museum
35 They may be rolled
36 Texas tea
37 Vienna-based cartel
38 Wine choice, briefly
40 U2 co-founder and Nobel Peace Prize nominee
41 Whole lot
42 Frame of mind
43 Perceive
44 Roman landmark rising from the Piazza di Spagna
48 Digging
49 Changing careers?
53 Levi or Zebulun
56 "The Godfather" actor
57 Once known as
58 Song vessel beneath a "sea of green"
62 Leafy green
63 Site of Napoleon's exile
64 Murmured lovingly
65 Formerly, formerly
66 Show off
67 Sweetie pie

DOWN

1 Solemn
2 Center of the Minoan civilization
3 Calves : cows :: leverets : ___

4 TV production co. whose mascot was Mimsie the Cat
5 Bodies of work
6 Brit's nappy, here
7 Immature salamanders
8 Cape Verde's cont.
9 "This might interest you," in memos
10 ___ split
11 Pop of rock
12 Site of a memorable "When Harry Met Sally" scene
13 Observed
18 Prima donna
19 Mil. truants
24 Huge in scope
25 Whopper maker?
26 Created, on signs
28 A whole lot
29 High time?
30 Cacophonies
31 Gin flavoring
32 Things to connect
33 Each
34 Actress Olin

38 Price
39 Sounds from Santa
40 Top
42 "Exodus" actor
43 Leafy green
45 Bit of corn
46 Leaves holder
47 Cheese in a ball
50 Each of this puzzle's four longest answers begins with one

51 Diarist Bridget's portrayer
52 Down-at-heel
53 Rug rat
54 Bum
55 Afflictions
56 Gloria Estefan's birthplace
59 Surfing venue
60 Camera type, for short
61 Kanga's son

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

W A F T S S C A T S O B S
E X T R A H A L O Q U O I
D E C A F A V E O U S C G
P E R F E C T M A T C H
M A X S O T S U B S E T
A S S A I L R A I D
M Y O L D F L A M E T O F U
M O U S E I D O E A S E S
A U T O T R A I L B L A Z E
G E A R U E C K E R
M A I D E N S S N A S S
A N G E L A S A S H E S
J I L L B E N T Z E B R A
O M O O L E N A E M A I L
R E O S E D E N E R R I G B Y

xwordeditor@aol.com 02/04/09

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By Donna S. Levin
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3 Subleases

DON'T WAIT TO PLACE YOUR SUBLEASE AD
 Last spring semester paper published on April 22rd.
CALL TODAY!!!
 OR
PLACE YOUR AD AT WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG

Arlington Square (2b/2ba) - \$1025/mo-
 UF Campus/Downtown Gainesville. Avail 12/18/08. Utills not incl. Must be willing to take over existing lease. Security dep free. Contact sean6cly@ufl.edu or 239-410-1603 2-9-08-30-3

First month's rent FREE!
 Fully furnished premium apt. at Gateway at Glades. \$455/mo., all utilities included. jbreland@ufl.edu 2-11-15-3

1 BR/BTH 1/2 mile from UF. Near Oaks Mall & other attractions. On bus 20 & 21 route. \$549 a mth. Pet-friendly. Call Vicki at 865-363-7044. 2-9-09-7-3

\$400/MONTH SUBLEASE THRU AUGUST
 Apt less than a mile from campus & downtown. Amenities include W/D, dishwasher, oven w/ stovetop, & refrigerator For more info call 863-370-9602 or 863-581-4928. 2-4-09-5-3

Subleasing a 1/1 in a 2/2 at Cabana Beach. Available NOW-July 31st. First month FREE. \$614/month includes: Utilities, Gym, Pool, Furnished, W/D, Large plasma TV, Balcony, Vaulted ceilings, near Buses. \$200 deposit moves you in today, first month FREE! Call 954-682-9738. 2-6-5-3

Subleasing a 1 bedroom/1bath in a 4/4, february is paid for on me. Nice apartment, furnished and great ammeties \$550 a month, everything included: furnisher, utilities, located on Archer Rd and 23 terrace, contact me at (954)865-6539 or gazouzou18@hotmail.com; don't miss out! 2-4-09-3-3

ONE BLOCK ACROSS FROM UF/LIBRARY WEST!
 \$410/month for 1BR/1BA in 2/2 at Looking Glass Apts. Great location, price greatly reduced! Can lease through August. 561.261.2249 2-6-5-3

Furnished 1/1 in 2/2 apt @ Lexington Crossing. \$557/mo. utilities included. FEB FREE, NEGOTIABLE. Avail today through Aug 7. For more info ywpark@ufl.edu or 352-872-8329 2-6-3-3

4 Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE
 Oxford Manor 377-2777
 The Landings 336-3838
 The Laurels 335-4455
 Greenwich Green 372-8100
 Hidden Lake 374-3866
 4-22-72-4

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 ●1BR hdwd flrs, pvt ba avail in beautiful NW house close to UF \$395/mo 352-316-3930. 2-13-09-30-4

4 Roommates

Very close to campus 4/2 remodeled condo opens to lovely courtyard and pool. \$425 w/ UT cable and internet included.(for sale or rent) call 352-870-0291 2-17-09-30-4

Male roommate needed. Share furn 3BR/2BA house w/young prof \$400/mo +1/2 util Directv, ph, wireless, Vonage, elec. W/D, ofc space pvt BA (morn) lg yd fenced, pets ok, trees, wooddeck, hottub, pond. UF-15 min drive, near bus, Lakeview Ests 352-682-6297 2-10-25-4

2 BRs AVAIL FOR FEMALES ONLY
 in 4/2.5 townhouse. \$450/mo/room. All included: internet, cable, electric, etc. 754-204-1624 2-13-09-27-4

2 Female roommates NS/ND to share a new 4/2 house in a quiet neighborhood 3 mi. W of I-75. w/ cable, internet & security alarm. \$475/mo. util. incl. Call 352 331 8794 2-20-30-4

1BD/1BA avail NOW in 2/2.5 condo near UF. Furnished, W/D, pool, open parking, on 4 bus rts. \$400/mo + 1/2 utills. Call Chris 561-445-9034 2-6-09-17-4

Share 2/2 MH Furn rm \$200 N/R dep. \$400/mo; \$100/wk incl util. 2wk adv. laun/cook svc avail N/S, N/A, N/D. Discount for handyman. Car a+ 30 day notice 2 vacate. Nr bus/shops Sm caged pet ok 331-0762 2-9-10-4

- :: 2 Blocks To UF :: -
 Room in 4br condo incl utills, internet, cable TV, pool. Very Nice \$375. 283-8777 www.Gainesville-Rooms-4-Rent.com 4-22-09-62-4

Master bed w/private bath in 4BR/3BA house off NW 16th Ave. DW, W/D, Cox cable w/ networked inernet, new carpet & ceiling fans. No cats or dogs. \$425/mo incl utills. 328-4995 2-5-10-4

TWO FEMALE ROOMMATES needed for a nice 4/2 house to live with two other graduate professional women. ONLY \$350 & \$375. Includes util and swimming pool. Great location, quiet neighborhood. Call Mr. Kristoff 352-332-5030 2-10-09-10-4

1/2 OFF 1st MONTH Rent if in by March!
 Seeking 2 roommates-1.5 miles to UF easy ride2 SFCC off-NW 16th-HUGE house, PoolTable,65"TV Large roomslsayNo2apts \$495/MONTH per room 561-756-5368 2-10-10-4

Looking for male college student (preferred) to share 4BR/4BA condo with same. Own bathroom. W/D, high speed internet. Includes utilities \$430/mo (available immediately) 863-634-1893 2-4-5-4

1BR/1BA avail march 1st in 2Br/2BA for responsible mature individual. \$425-\$450/mo + utills. Barandywine on Archer Rd. yttek@ytttek@hotmail.com or 305-332-6566 2-6-09-6-4

4 Roommates

ENJOY A ROMANTIC OLD HOUSE
 Near library downtown. \$285-\$375/rm + utills. Short term. No pets. No smoking. 378-1304 2-6-5-4

2 female grad nonsmokers seek 3rd F non-smoker for 3/3 @ new Enclave beg. Aug 1. Clean, quiet, no pets. \$510/mo, appliances, pantry, carpet/tile, walk-in closet, 3 bus routes. ebisibe@yahoo.com to SIGN ASAP 2-5-2-4

5 Real Estate

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NEW CONDOS -WALK to UF
 3 Blks to UF. For Info on ALL 1, 2, 3, 4 Bedrooms for Sale, Call Eric Leightman, Campus Realty at 352-219-2879. 4-22-72-5



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CONDOS AT UF
www.CONDOSatUF.com
Matt & Tiffany Thomas, Bosshardt Realty (352) 494-0194 or (352) 316-5556 2-17-60-5

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2BR/2BA Unfurnished for \$600. 7200 SW 8th Ave- Unit B#8 Woodside Villas off of Tower road. 1YR Leases. Call: Joanne at 808-779-0714 2-9-09-5-2

6 Furnishings

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC
 Extra thick, pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 4-22-08-72-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC
 Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-22-08-72-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400
 Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 4-22-08-72-6

BED - KING - \$170 PILLOWTOP
 mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Call 352-372-8588. Can deliver. 4-22-08-72-6

CHERRY SLEIGH BED solid with Pillowtop
 Mattress & Box. All new still boxed. Cost \$1500, sacrifice \$450 352-333-7516

Sofa \$175 Brand new in pkg 333-7516
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BEDROOM SET. 7pc Cherry, Queen/ king bed, dresser w/mirror, 2 nightstands, chests avail. Dovetail const. New, in boxes. Can deliver. Retail \$6500, must sell, sacrifice \$1100 (352) 372-7490 4-22-08-72-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather.
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DINING ROOM Beautiful cherry set w/table,
 6 Chippendale chairs, hutch & buffet. New, still in boxes. Retail \$5200, sacrifice \$1100. Must sell. Can deliver. 352-372-8588 4-22-72-6

FUTON Solid oak mission-style frame w/mat-
 tress. New, in box. \$160 332-9899

DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box.
 Never used. 352-377-9846 4-22-08-72-6

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****Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200****
 Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 4-22-72-6

BED - QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mat-
 tress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 4-22-72-6

Bed- All New King! 3pc Orthopedic pillowtop
 mattress set. Brand NEW, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$200 352-333-7516. 4-22-72-6

6 Furnishings

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
 Still in boxes! 6 pieces include: Headboard, 2 Nightstands, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 4-22-08-72-6

FUTON - \$60 Solid Oak Mission Style. With
 plush mattress \$140. All brand NEW still in box. Can deliver. 352-333-7516 4-22-72-6

Bed-FULL size pillowtop mattress & box.
 New in plastic, warr. Can del. \$100 317-4031

SOFA \$185 Brand new! Love seat \$150 still
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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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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

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14 Help Wanted

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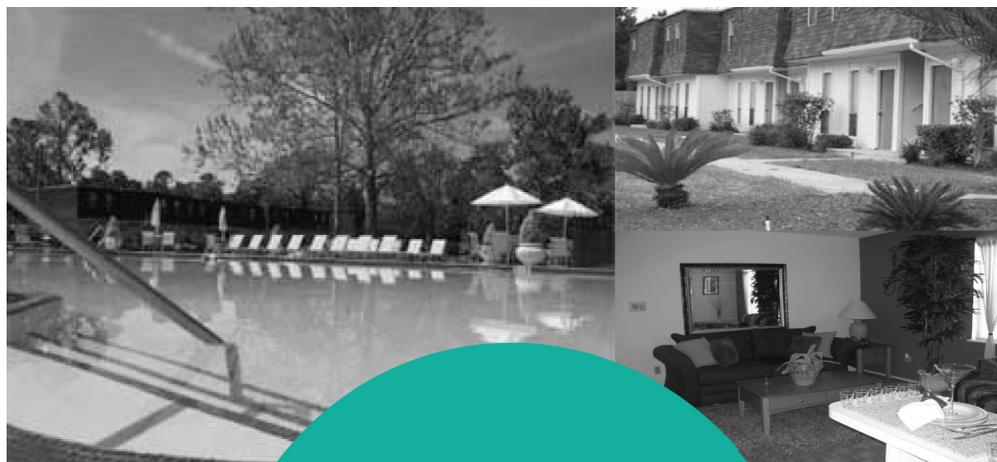
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Models needed for photo and film shoots. 18 to 25, excellent shape (toned, defined, muscular), attractive - no experience necessary. Great cash opportunity. Apply at www.asftalent.com/alligator 2-6-6-14

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Gators dial up long-distance record with 13 threes

By **CHRISTOPHER YAZBEC**

Alligator Writer
cyazbec@alligator.org

While the UF women's basketball team was busy breaking the school record for 3-pointers on Sunday against Arkansas, none of the players had any idea how the final numbers would crunch.

All they knew was that the threes kept falling, and until they stopped, the team was not going to let up.

"We were just feeling good about ourselves," Sha Brooks said. "I know earlier in the week, a lot of us came in. We got a lot of shots in. We just had one of those nights where it just felt like we can't miss from the 3-point line."

The No. 11 Gators (20-2, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) went on to make 13 treys, which broke the previous school mark of 11 and boosted their score to 94, their highest output of the season.

Brooks, who tallied a season-high four shots from long distance, said she knew what her team was capable of doing.

"On any night, any one of our players can go off, even people who come off the bench," Brooks said. "It's tough to defend us when we're playing our best."

For Arkansas, it was a nightmare watching UF shoot just shy of 62 percent from beyond the arc.

Junior guard Susan Yenser, who added two from long range, saw what making shot after shot did to the Razorbacks.

"When you're on defense and

somebody hits a three, it takes the wind out of you," Yenser said. "In Arkansas, even when they hit a couple threes, we came back down and answered their threes. So when they're trying to make a run and we answered with threes, they fell off."

UF has been a solid, consistent 3-point shooting team all year.

The Gators are shooting 37.2 percent from long distance on the season and in SEC play.

They are way ahead of pace to break the school record of 179 threes in one season, needing just 27 more to match that total, set last year.

Not only that, but they're averaging 6.9 treys per game thanks to shooters like Steffi Sorensen, who has made a three in 17 straight games. She leads the team with 53 from downtown.

Despite these impressive numbers, players and coaches don't think this team relies on the 3-point shot to win.

"We're really balanced," Yenser said. "We know that when our shots are hitting, it can get us through a ballgame. But also we know that we can get it inside and rely on that, too. So really we're kind of like a double threat."

UF coach Amanda Butler agrees that her team's shots come in the flow of the game.

"I'd like to think that what we rely on the most is our defense, and that leads to a lot of our threes because we're able to get a



Women's Basketball



Katie Tschopp / Alligator

UF guard Susan Yenser pauses before passing the ball during the Gators' 75-54 win against the Rebels in the O'Connell Center on Jan. 25.

steal, get a rebound, push it back down and put them in matchup situations where a lot of times the shooter is who gets left," Butler said.

Making long range shots opens

up the rest of the floor and forces defenders into a decision.

"You put the opposing defenses in really a little bit of a quandary," Butler said.

"If you try to take away a

3-point shot, Marshae (Dotson) one-on-one on the block is really hard to guard."

With the way UF's been shooting, opponents must choose their fate wisely.

UF's linebacker class could be best in nation with Jenkins, Jones

RECRUIT, from page 23

from junior college. They are the only sure things for UF.

Beside those six, UF enters today with 10 oral commitments, but there have been rumors of signing-day switches.

Andre Debose, a five-star wide receiver from Sanford, committed to the Gators last month, but took an official visit to Florida State last weekend. Nu'Keese Richardson, a wideout from Pahokee, had never visited another school until this past weekend, when he went to Tennessee. Both are still expected to sign with UF, but their actions over the last week have made fans anxious.

Another potential Gators de-commitment is Marsalis Teague, an athlete from Paris, Tenn. Rumors have been circulating that Teague, who is expected to play defensive back should he come to UF, would feel nervous about going to college far from his home.

"If (Teague) follows his gut, it's Florida," Jamie Newberg of Rivals.com said. "If distance plays a factor, it could end up

BRIAN, from page 23

of hacky sack then wrap her mind around that.

"I don't know. I don't believe it," a red-faced Nelson said when asked if she ever realized she was among the best players in the nation. "If that's what people think, I guess they're getting fooled."

Actually, the fools would be football players Dustin Doe, Ahmad Black and Wondy Pierre-Louis, along with a group of baseball players who thought they could hit off Nelson. In Sunday's Swing for Cancer competition, Nelson struck out athletes from several UF sports and at times made Billy

Donovan wish he was playing T-ball.

She's already UF's career leader in wins (95), saves (15), shutouts (36), complete games (99), innings pitched (856.1) and strikeouts (759). She downed No. 1 Michigan in her freshman year and led UF to its first Women's College World Series last year.

This is where the competitive side comes in – the non-Diet-Coke-sipping, Bob-Marley-listening and hacky-sack-flipping side.

"She does have this driving side of her that wants to be a perfectionist," outfielder and close friend Kim Waleszon said. "With homework, she wants to be a perfectionist. ... From a one-page assignment to a huge 20-page paper. Some people just get

it done to be done and turn it in. She gets it done and makes sure it's done right and looked over 10 times. It doesn't matter if the teacher's easy or a hard grader. She makes sure it's done to perfection."

Thanks for screwing up that test curve, Stacey. Some people depend on those, you know?

It'd be a lot easier for everybody if she stayed carefree all the time.

"The deceiving part about it is, when she does get in the circle, there is nobody more competitive than she is," UF coach Tim Walton said. "She's competitive with strikes. She's competitive with balls. Those are the things that make her very special."

being 'Bama or Tennessee."

While some UF commits have been getting cold feet, there are a few uncommitted players recruiting analysts think will become Gators.

"(UF) needed linebackers, and it looks like they're going to get the best three in the country."

Jamie Newberg

recruiting analyst for Rivals.com

Jelani Jenkins, a linebacker from Olney, Md., and the nation's No. 10 overall prospect according to Rivals, is believed to favor UF over Penn State.

Another potential UF linebacker is Jarvis Jones out of Columbus, Ga. But Jenkins is believed to be leaning more heavily toward than Jones, who has visited Texas and Louisiana State in the past two weeks and is also rumored to like Southern

Cal.

Landing Jenkins and Jones would give UF a strong class of linebackers that already includes Jon Bostic, a four-star out of Wellington who is already on campus.

"(UF) needed linebackers, and it looks like they're going to get the best three in the country," Newberg said.

The Gators are also expected to score a commitment from safety Joshua Evans of Irvington, N.J.

If UF signs Jenkins, Jones and Evans, as well as its current commits, the school will have 19 signees.

But that might not be all.

The Gators are believed to have an outside chance at a few players: running back Trent Richardson of Pensacola, defensive tackle Brandon Moore of Montgomery, Ala., and wide receiver Marlon Brown of Memphis, Tenn.

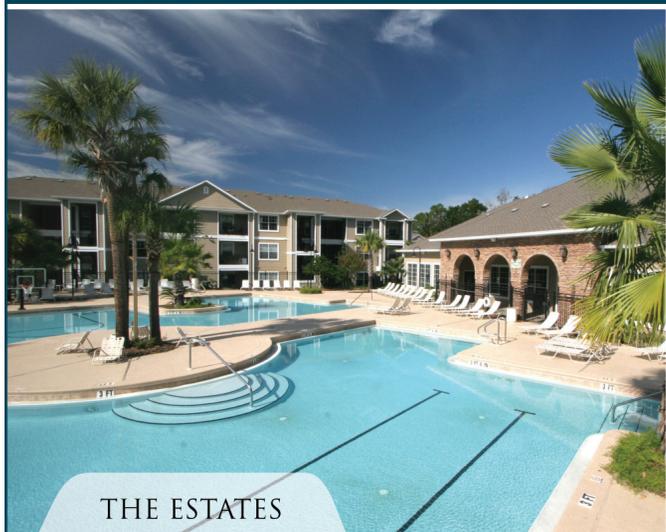
Richardson and Moore look like Alabama commitments and Brown is rumored to be Tennessee-bound, but nothing is final until they sign their names to the letter of intent Wednesday.

Even if Nelson doesn't realize it, she is the athlete who has fueled a program for years to come. Walton, in just his fourth year at UF, has been the director, but Nelson has been the performer.

Ten years from now, when the Gators softball program has become one of the best, most consistent programs in the country, Nelson will be the player most talked about.

If you want to talk to her about it, however, stand on the side of the road with a case of Diet Coke, a Bob Marley CD and a hacky sack. But good luck talking to her about herself, because she'd much rather talk about that next bump in the road.

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Walker leads UF to close win Freshman guard scores career-high 18

By **MIKE DiFERDINANDO**
Alligator Staff Writer
mdiferdinando@alligator.org

With a hot hand and an icy glare, Erving Walker led the Gators on the road to redemption.

The freshman, who turned the ball over five times during UF's last meeting with South Carolina, finished with a career-high 18 points and four assists while knocking down three shots from 3-point range as the Gators (19-4, 6-2 Southeastern Conference) beat the Gamecocks (16-5, 5-3 SEC) 97-93.

"It would have hurt to lose two (games) in one week," Walker said. "We didn't want to lose to these guys again."

The Gators had six players score in double figures, including all five starters and Walker.

The game went was close throughout and was tied on 17 separate occasions.

With the victory and Kentucky's loss to Mississippi State on Tuesday night, UF now has sole possession of the lead in the SEC East.

South Carolina had won four straight coming into the game.

Forward Chandler Parsons cried in the locker room after the

Gators loss to the Gamecocks on Jan. 21.

As he walked off the court Tuesday night, the sophomore couldn't help but crack a smile.

Parsons finished the game with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

"I felt like someone stole something from me," Parsons said. "That game was a bad memory, but I think we've learned from it."

"It would have hurt to lose two (games) in one week. We didn't want to lose to these guys again."

Erving Walker
UF freshman guard

Sophomore center Alex Tyus stood tall in the paint, scoring 19 points and grabbing seven rebounds.

The two teams traded baskets in a first half that saw UF take a 49-45 lead into the locker room.

But South Carolina started the second half with a 7-2 run in which the Gamecocks took a 52-51 lead.

With the score tied 72-72, UF went on a 5-0 run in which the Gators began to separate themselves for the first time.

They wouldn't give up the lead

again.

Senior guard Walter Hodge made several crucial free throws down the stretch and finished 5 of 7 from the line.

"They made some big shots, but we came down and made our free throws when it counted," said sophomore guard Nick Calathes, who finished with 22 points, six rebounds and five assists on the night.

South Carolina turned the ball over 17 times, while UF capitalized on Gamecocks fouls and controlled the game down the stretch.

Gamecocks guard Devan Downey kept his team alive late in the game, scoring 33 points and going 7 of 9 from 3-point range.

"I looked at him and I was in awe," Parsons said.

After coming back into the game with 57 seconds remaining, Downey hit three 3-pointers in a 29-second span.

He could not connect on four straight shots, however. He missed the Gamecocks' final shot with 12 seconds remaining.

Still, his performance impressed the Gators.

When asked after the game to describe his effort in one word, Tyus knew his answer.

"Lethal," he said.



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF center Alex Tyus dunks during the Gators' 97-93 victory against South Carolina on Tuesday night in the O'Connell Center.

Recruits to sign today

By **TYLER JETT**
Alligator Writer

For UF coaches, today could not come soon enough.

All year, while game-planning week to week and hoping to guide their players to a national championship, the UF staff has had Feb. 4 in the back of its mind. Today is the reason the staff has spent countless hours on phones, in living rooms and in the ears of high school coaches, all in the hopes of swaying teenagers to their side in a life-changing decision.

Today, Urban Meyer and company find out if it was worth it.

Across the nation, high school students will don baseball hats with a dress shirt and tie as they announce where they will spend the next three to five years,

barring off-the-field setbacks. They will sign a contract that binds them to a football program in exchange for a fully paid education, books and housing included.

Until today, little is guaranteed. Some players have orally committed, but they can change their minds so long as they haven't signed a letter of intent.



Football

The Gators enter Wednesday with 16 commitments. Of those 16, six are already on campus. These players either graduated high school early, came from prep school or transferred

SEE RECRUIT, PAGE 21

Nelson relaxed despite success

She cruises around town, car windows down, maybe even a foot sticking out the window.

A Diet Coke likely sits in the cup holder as thoughts of the next rendezvous with her hacky sack are close by. While the melodies of Bob Marley and other oldies mix to relax her until the team arrives at its destination, she has conversations reminiscing about random bumps in the road she and her teammates have encountered.

This is the second-best athlete at UF. Welcome to the world of Stacey Nelson. Other than Tim Tebow, she is Gainesville's top attraction.

She may be the best player in the coun-



Brian Steele
Steele-ing Bases
bsteale@alligator.org

try, but she doesn't know it. She could be the player that, years from now, is known as the pitcher most responsible for starting a softball powerhouse, but she's blushing at the thought of it. She may be one of the most decorated athletes — in all sports — to come to UF, but she would rather get to another game

SEE BRIAN, PAGE 21

ON TELEVISION

- **NCAA Men's Basketball: Wake Forest vs. Miami**
ESPN2, 7:30 p.m.
- **NCAA Men's Basketball: West Virginia vs. Syracuse**
ESPN, 7 p.m.

TODAY IN UF SPORTS HISTORY

- **1970: LSU guard Pete Maravich scores 52 points on 20-of-38 shooting, grabs nine rebounds and dishes out seven assists in Florida Gym, leading the Tigers to a 97-75 win over the Gators.**

POLL QUESTION

Today's question: Who is the second-best athlete at UF?

Yes **94% (64)**
No 6% (4)

Previous question: Will UF avenge its loss to South Carolina on Tuesday night? (see right for results)

Percent (Votes)
68 TOTAL VOTES

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