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VOLUME 103 ISSUE 51

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009

UF gets 1,000 H1N1 vaccines

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

UF received its first batch of H1N1 vaccines for students Monday afternoon.

The Student Health Care Clinic was given 1,000 doses of the nasal spray form of the vaccine — 800 of which are for students only — from the Alachua County Health Department, said Kat Lindsey, SHCC marketing coordinator.

The remaining 200 doses are for students, faculty and staff who care for children six months or younger, including workers at Baby Gator, Lindsey said.

Students need to sign up online at shcc.ufl.edu/h1n1/ for an appointment to get the free vaccine. Appointments are first come, first served.

Appointments will be available on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the infirmary, with 50 spots available every half hour. Lindsey said she expects the appointments to fill up quickly.

Students are required to present their Gator 1 Cards to get the vaccine and are asked to print and fill out a medical questionnaire from the UF Web site before coming in.

Students must be 25 or younger to receive the vaccine. Those who are pregnant or have chronic medical conditions should not get the nasal spray form of the vaccine, according to the UF Web site.

Lindsey said she has no idea when UF will receive more doses of the vaccine.

UF has requested about 45,000 doses. The university was given about 600 doses of the injectable form of the vaccine for health care workers in specific departments last month.



Rayiaz Khan / Alligator Staff

Comfy Chat

Brett Boncore, a UF sophomore, holds a sign advertising “Couch Talk.” The couch, which Boncore and friends Michelle Hubbard and Daniel Hemme set up on the Plaza of the Americas, is intended to give students a place to just come and talk about their lives, he said.

Students style soles

■ THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 11 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

By **BRANDON BRESLOW**
 Alligator Contributing Writer

Students get to pour their souls into their shoes today.

Style Your Sole, an event where students can purchase and decorate a pair of canvas TOMS shoes, will take place 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Reitz Union Colonnade.

Students may also bring a previously purchased pair.

Style Your Sole is part of a weeklong program dedicated to TOMS Shoes, a company known for donating one pair of its shoes to a child in need for every pair a customer purchases.

Blake Mycoskie, founder of TOMS Shoes, will cap off the week’s events Wednesday night when he speaks at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m.

The week’s events are co-sponsored by Accent Speakers Bureau, the UF Office of Sustainability, the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, the Center for Leadership and Service, Gators Going Green and New Student Programs.

ON CAMPUS

Student reports man watching porn in library

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

A 21-year-old man was banned from campus last week after a UF student reported that he was looking at porn and masturbating while using a computer at Library West.

The student told police that the man, Christopher E. Wallace, did not expose himself but had his left hand in his pants and appeared to be masturbating, according to a police report.

The witness said she didn’t report the original incident in late September but made sure to report it when she saw him

at the library again last week.

When officers arrived, they did not find him looking at porn, but, because he had no connection to UF, they banned him from campus. The ban is effective for three years.

A phone number listed for Wallace was not in service on Monday afternoon.

The incident is not the first in which a man has been accused of masturbating in a UF library.

In January of 2008, Gene Walker Moore, 41 at the time, was charged with exposure of sexual organs after two students saw him masturbating in the Norman Hall library, according to a University Police Department news release.

■ Guard Kenny Boynton (right) scored 22 in his debut as Florida routed St. Leo 95-46 in the Gators’ exhibition opener on Monday. He also added six rebounds and three steals. See Story, Page 13.



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Today

FORECAST	2
OPINIONS	6
CLASSIFIEDS	9
CROSSWORD	11
SPORTS	13



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News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Universities Closing Their Doors to Immigrants?

Today, noon to 1:30 p.m.

UF College of Law

The Immigration Law Association (ILA) and CHISPAS are hosting an informative DREAM Act Debate. Representatives from FAIR (Federation for American Immigration Reform), FIAC (Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center) and United We DREAM Network will be present. The event is free and open to the public.

Florida Education Association Meeting

Today, 7 p.m.

Terrace Room

FEA will be hosting an Arts in the Classroom workshop. Those who attend will learn fun activities that incorporate dance, drama, art, music and cooking into their curriculum. There will be food and fun giveaways. Contact Laura Roberts at laura.roberts@ufl.edu with any questions.

Taco Dinner

Today, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Campus Christian House

Come for all-you-can-eat for \$5 for pre-sold tickets and \$7 at the door. The event is hosted by Project MASCOT, a mentoring group for at-risk elementary school students.

Engineers Without Borders general body meeting

Today, 7:30 p.m.

RNK Room 110

There will be updates on the group's international projects and some great ways to get involved with local and research projects and our exciting fundraising committee. All majors are welcome.

RUB Entertainment presents: comedian Lachlan Patterson

Today, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Orange & Brew

Stressed from all your exams and classes? Come out for a good laugh. Patterson has performed on Comedy Central's "Live at Gotham."

Bone Marrow Donor Drive

Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Reitz Union Ballroom

UF and Alpha Epsilon Delta will be holding a drive to register bone

FORECAST

TODAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
76/56

WEDNESDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
81/57

THURSDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
77/51

FRIDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
73/52

SATURDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
76/57

marrow donors. Registration involves only a cheek swab and no needles. Help the group save leukemia patients.

Exchange Study Abroad Fair

Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Stuzin Hall, Room 200

International Exchange business students will be hosting booths to represent their exchange university and country. This social provides an opportunity for UF and exchange students to meet, talk about their country/university, learn about different study abroad options, and exchange contact information. Please contact international.business@cba.ufl.edu with any questions.

Golden Key General Meeting

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.

This is the last general meeting before the induction ceremony, so come out to learn why Golden Key is the world's most prestigious honor society. Come learn about our service and charity projects with free pizza and soda. Please send an e-mail to aagazarm@ufl.edu if you have any questions.

UF MEISA Meeting

Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Plaza of the Americas

Want to learn more about the music industry while meeting other musicians? Come to the sixth meeting of the Music Entertainment Industry Student Association (MEISA). The group will be handing out the first issue of the MEISA PICKS Newsletter, finalizing the benefit show and brainstorming for our radio show.

Got an event?

And want to post it in this space? Send an e-mail to bkelly@alligator.org with "What's Happening" in the subject line. Please include a one- to two-sentence synopsis of the event. Make sure all submissions are formatted properly.

LOCAL

Fest goer arrested for spitting on officer

A 19-year-old woman in town for The Fest was arrested on campus Saturday for spitting on a University Police Department officer.

Alyson McEvoy, of Port Orange, Fla., was charged with battery of a law enforcement officer.

She was approached by officers at the McCarty Hall bus stop Saturday afternoon in response to a report of a woman acting strangely.

While being questioned, McEvoy called one of the officers a "douche bag" and another "black man" and "blackie," according to a police report. She then spit on one of the officers.

"She cleared her throat and brought a mouthful of spit into her mouth," the officer's statement reads. "She leaned towards me and looked into my face. Then she spit directly at me."

The spit landed on the officer's shirt and pants, the report stated. McEvoy, who admitted to officers that she had been drinking, blew a .27, more than three times the legal driving limit, when given a breathalyzer test.

Contacted by phone Monday, McEvoy said she doesn't remember much from that afternoon because of how drunk she was but said she regretted spitting on the officer. "I feel bad," she said. "I mean, I've never spit on anyone in my life. I don't know where that came from."

Early the next morning, in an unrelated incident, four men were arrested for battery of a law enforcement officer after allegedly beating an officer at a Fest afterparty in northwest Gainesville.

— THOMAS STEWART

The Alligator strives to be accurate and clear in its news reports and editorials. If you find an error, please call our newsroom at 352-376-4458 or send an e-mail to editor@alligator.org.

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NATIONAL

Military sees jump in recruitment due to recession

By **ANDREW NORRIS**

Alligator Contributing Writer

The job market is down, but Travis Thibeault isn't worried.

When the UF sophomore graduates, he has a steady job, good pay and benefits waiting for him.

Thibeault hasn't unlocked some secret to life, but like an increasing number of college-age students, he's enlisted in the military.

What was at one time a career path reserved for few has become many Americans' answer to the faltering economy.

"I tell everyone when they ask me why I joined the Air Force that

not only do I want to serve my country, but when you're in the military in any branch you always have a job and a paycheck on the first and 15th of every month," he said.

After enlisting in the Air Force Reserve when he graduated from high school, Thibeault joined UF's Air Force ROTC. At the end of his four years, he'll become a commissioned officer.

For Thibeault, the decision to enlist and join ROTC was an easy one.

"There's no doubt in my mind that this is the right thing for me to do," said Thibeault, whose father was also in the Air Force. "If col-

lege doesn't work out, I always tell myself that I'll be in boot camp the next day."

"There's no doubt in my mind that this is the right thing for me to do."

Travis Thibeault
UF sophomore

For the 2009 fiscal year, every branch of the military reported recruitment numbers that either met or exceeded their goal.

The armed forces have even seen an increase of interest from older generations; in 2006 the

Army changed its enlistment age limit from 35 to 42.

"Because of the economy and a lot of people losing jobs, people want job security and health care," said 1st Lt. Sean Norres, an officer strength manager for the Army.

Recruiting quotas were met within the first few weeks of the year, quickly satiating the armed forces' need for more than 300,000 new recruits each year.

"We've actually had to put restrictions on the amount of people we could recruit," he said. "There's been such a big over strength in the Army as a whole that instead of quantity it went to quality."

Norres, who works with the

UF Army ROTC, said numbers for ROTC have also increased dramatically.

"The seniors are only at 20 (cadets), and the freshman class is at 60," he said. "Every year it increases probably by 15 or 20."

Students who participate in a commissioning program, like Thibeault, are eligible to have their tuition paid for, a book stipend and a monthly stipend that can be used for anything.

"People are looking around now for different avenues to pay for college," Norres said. "People that would have never noticed the Army or ROTC now see the appeal of enlisting."

Students voice concerns over new course-drop policy

■ **DROPPED COURSES WILL NOT BE COVERED BY BRIGHT FUTURES.**

By **ALISON CLARK**

Alligator Contributing Writer

With the Nov. 23 deadline for dropping a class this fall, students with Bright Futures scholarships are concerned about having to pay for classes they drop.

This is the first semester that the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, which aids more than 28,000 UF students, has changed its guidelines, making students refund their institution the cost of any dropped

or withdrawn Bright Futures-funded course, said Ron Anderson, associate director of training and development for Student Financial Affairs.

This time of the year is when classes become more difficult, and some students need to drop a class or want to in fear of lowering their GPAs. With the new guidelines taking effect this semester, any class dropped after the drop-add period will have to be paid for.

Exceptions will be based on a verifiable illness or emergency beyond the student's control. The exception will only be cleared with a recommendation by the financial aid office at the student's university.

Stephanie Ellis, postdoctoral employee

at the UF Counseling Center, said the center will occasionally write letters of support for students who want to withdraw from the semester.

"However, it's very rare that we just do it for one class. We do this when something traumatic happens, such as after the death of a family member, serious mental health issues or a pregnancy," Ellis said.

UF Academics

Patrick Piper, administrative services coordinator at UF's Financial Services, said students who fail to pay the university back will be notified that he or she owes debt and could eventually be sent to collections.

"I don't like the changes at all," said UF sophomore Chelsea Burns. "I worry about every little grade I get not because I plan on dropping every class that throws an obstacle at me, but because I know I don't have that option to drop."

Sophia Carballosa, a sophomore, said she would rather take a bad grade than make her family pay money for a class she had to drop, even if it might look bad on her GPA.

Anderson reminds students to take precautions prior to registration in order to prevent problems with the new guidelines.

"Seek good academic advising. If a class is not your cup of tea, be honest with yourself," Anderson said.

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Students tan more despite risk

Increase seen in winter

By **LAURA MONTALTO**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Despite a growing stigma surrounding tanning beds and recent studies comparing the dangers of tanning to tobacco, hepatitis B and arsenic gas, Gators are still getting their golden glow on this fall.

As the holiday season nears, tanning salons like LAE Tanning & Boutique are becoming more popular because students feel pressure to look good for holiday parties, visits home and football games. Owner Kelley Anderson said LAE has seen business increase dramatically.

Anderson said the increase begins in October and lasts through spring break.

The busiest months are January and February because the sun is out the least then, she said.

But tanning beds aren't the only way Gators get a glow.

Mandi Nazaro, owner of Golden Gator Spray Tanning, said since the store first opened about three years ago, the start of the holiday season has always brought more customers in, especially Halloween, when people are preparing to dress in skimpy costumes.

Nazaro said that during

these busy months business can double, and the store can stay open until as late as 11 p.m. to accommodate the influx of tanners.

"I have never been in a tanning bed or had a spray tan. They don't appeal to me because I am not sure how safe they are. They seem dirty, and I don't want ultraviolet rays hitting my skin so intensely."

Lauren Vargas
UF junior

Appointments normally stop at around 8:30 p.m. during the rest of the year.

"During our summer and not-so-busy months, we only get half as many appointments as we do in the wintertime," she said. "When your demographic is about 80 percent college-aged girls, you are always going to have more people come in around this time of year."

But Lauren Vargas, a junior from Miami Beach, does not see the appeal in any form of tanning.

"I have never been in a tan-

ning bed or had a spray tan," Vargas said. "They don't appeal to me because I am not sure how safe they are. They seem dirty, and I don't want ultraviolet rays hitting my skin so intensely."

She added that the reason she thinks there is such an increase in the use of tanning facilities in the winter is because it is the only way to get dark once the summer months have gone.

As popular as tanning around this time of the year may be, excessive amounts can lead to melanoma, wrinkles and first-degree burns, said Dr. Richard Sadove, plastic surgeon at Dermacare Laser & Skin Care Clinics.

Melanoma, a type of skin cancer, is one of the most dangerous side effects of tanning because it can spread and become deeper and more lethal.

An increased risk of skin cancer has to do with constant exposure to ultraviolet radiation over time, Sadove said.

Sadove explained that while a tan used to be associated with wealth, beauty and fashion, that is not longer the case.

"Tanning may be popular in youth, but wrinkles are not popular in old age," Sadove said.

"It may be a fashion issue, but skin cancer isn't."



Raylaz Khan / Alligator Staff

Stringing It Along

Wolfe Cronin, a UF mechanical engineering junior, lies on a bench next to the "potato" on Turlington Plaza while playing his guitar to pass the time in between classes Monday afternoon.

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Editorial

Public Porn

Students should report lewd behavior

In September, UF spent about \$3,500 to install hand sanitizers on campus. Hopefully Library West is well stocked, because they're about to experience a sharp increase in demand.

Christopher Wallace, 21, was banned from campus last week after police say he was masturbating while looking at porn on a Library West computer. He was served a trespass warning, and said he would not return.

On the bright side, your next wait for a free computer might be less mundane than usual. Watching someone waste computer time writing Facebook messages or beating their all-time high score in Tetris has never seemed so appealing.

Sadly, this is not the first incident of its kind. In January 2008, a 41-year-old Gainesville resident was accused of masturbating in the Education Library at Norman Hall.

Police filed charges of exposure of sexual organs and trespass after warning. We hope Mr. Wallace's warning is more effective.

While the sheer absurdity of these acts and the cleanliness of Library West keyboards might be the first things that come to mind, the real issue is how to ensure the safety of students on such a large, porous campus.

Anyone with their pants on can walk into a UF library (what happens to their pants after entering is another story). Strict security measures are costly and a hassle to students. But there are some inexpensive, commonsense solutions.

If someone is using school resources inappropriately, report them.

While the student who reported Mr. Wallace did so only after the fact, we commend her for taking any action at all. A man masturbating in a room full of strangers is bound to draw attention from more than one student, and it is everyone's responsibility to help protect the safety of their peers.

Death Beds

With winter approaching, sunny skies give way to pale thighs for some UF students. But many trying to hold on to that elusive summer tan take excessive risks to retain it.

Local tanning salons see a huge surge in business around this time every year. The exposed limbs of scantily clad Halloween partygoers don't tan themselves, you know.

So to complement that short skirt or low-cut dress with a summer glow, why not hop into a bed of arsenic?

Stepping into a tanning bed might be just as bad, according to an Alligator article published on Aug. 4. Cancer experts have declared them to be as dangerous as exposure to arsenic gas.

Looking good is important, but cancer (especially life-threatening melanoma) and wrinkles later in life are not worth a fleeting glow.

A World Health Organization report shows that the risk of skin cancer increases by 75 percent for those using tanning beds before age 30.

Because long-term side effects aren't effective in scaring some people away from these salons, think about that unfortunate baked-turkey look you can get if you overdo it.

We know Thanksgiving is only three weeks away, but it's a little early to be basting anything. The alternative might sound grim (and pasty), but there is a reason they call it a summer tan.

If you're still desperate, try spray-tanning. It might leave you looking like a pumpkin — instant costume for Halloween — but at least you'll avoid a carving later in life.

We believe UF students need to tough it out and wait for spring break to bust out that turkey baster, or rather, that bottle of tanning oil.

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Opinions

ALLIGATOR
www.alligator.org/opinions



Column

Social media emphasize individuality

Do you remember LiveJournal?

LiveJournal is a hybrid blogging and social networking service started by Brad Fitzpatrick in 1999. Users could create a blog that usually served as a public diary, and then they could add people they know who also set up LiveJournal blogs as "friends." Friends' blog entries are aggregated on a single page, allowing users to see at a glance what their buddies are up to, like a proto-News Feed.

The service was many people's first experience with a Web 2.0 application, and, in particular, the first for many teens. LiveJournal quickly acquired a reputation as a clearinghouse for suburban, adolescent angst — collections of lengthy, startlingly sincere lamentations of broken hearts, occasionally interspersed with awful, copied-and-pasted Dashboard Confessional lyrics and "Which 'Hey Arnold!' Character Are You?" quizzes. (I always shot for Gerald, but I'd always wind up being Eugene — or, on a good day, Mr. Hyunh. This was a source of mild consternation.)

LiveJournal was, in many ways, a forerunner of much of the purportedly revolutionary social media environment we're in right now. After all, it was started before the word "blog" was even coined and before the phrase "Web 2.0" gained any sort of currency, and it predates both MySpace and Facebook by about half a decade.

It was also among the first social media to receive the same flak that Facebook and Twitter catch on a regular basis now. You know the criticism: It's narcissistic. It's self-important. Nobody really cares how hilarious your cat looks when he's asleep.

But I've never thought that the self-absorption was what we were supposed to take away from social media. And I'll go as far as to say, without any irony, that LiveJournal and its successors have made me sort of a better person.

The most important thing LiveJournal did for me — and I say this as someone who never actually kept one — was serve as a reminder that everybody is living their own lives. That's kind of tautological and not anything revelatory, but it



Joe Dellosa
letters@alligator.org

was useful: It's one thing to be aware of that as an abstract concept, but it's another thing to see it in action — to see heartfelt and emotionally complex outpourings of hopes, dreams and insecurities spill onto the Internet from people who you've mentally filed away as that kid who "sort of is a jack-ass" or "seems like kind of a slut."

That's what I believe the takeaway from social media is supposed to be: The people in our lives are not just characters in our own story, and that everybody, in fact, has their own story — their own aspirations, their own joys and fears, their own private battles that they're quietly fighting. And for every person about whom you probably don't really give a damn, there's probably a parent who wants desperately for their kid to be happy or a person whose heart is getting broken at the news that their best friend is having a rough day.

We don't have to think that everybody has an absolutely fascinating life story for which Ira Glass must be summoned to record. But we should at least remember that everybody does have a story, and we should respect that.

LiveJournal is now a living vestige of the early Web 2.0 era — it still exists, but there are tons of other services on the Internet that can do everything it does better and more easily, and with less ugly advertising. In fact, the service, once on the verge of seeming indispensable to both Internet and teen culture, wound up being sold to a Russian company in 2007.

But its legacy lives on — not just in trivial updates on what someone had for lunch on Twitter or very awkward, very public breakups that play out on Facebook, but in the understanding and compassion that all that nonsense is, weirdly and inexplicably enough, supposed to inspire.

Joe Dellosa is an advertising senior. His column appears on Tuesdays.

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

Reader response

Today's question: Do you go to tanning beds in the winter?

Monday's question: Do you think UF should build a new student union?

32% YES
68% NO
116 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Letters to the Editor

Coverage should have included police reactions at similar parties

In regards to your article covering Sunday morning's violent incident involving Fest goers and local police, I find it extremely interesting that the only perspective on the incident was from the police.

Fairer coverage of the night's events would have included the fact that an identically loud and well-attended party the night before was effectively policed by a half dozen officers employing civility and tact, who rightfully solicited the assistance of the party's hosts in getting hundreds of kids safely out of the street and the party under control.

That a smaller number of officers chose to respond to a similar situation the following night by immediately arresting and Taser-ing drunken but ultimately non-violent party goers seems to me to be the hallmark of stupidity. Who wouldn't have foreseen the violence that followed such an unnecessary use of force?

Unfortunately, it seems as if this incident will be used as an excuse to waste even more taxpayer money to "control" what is already

a beautifully self-regulating community and event. To me, this is just another perfect example of how police, through their own incompetence, create the justifications for their over-inflated budgets.

Skeet Surrency
UF Alum

■ ■ ■

SG should adopt resolution denouncing Goldstone report

Of many issues to be presented at the Student Senate meeting tonight, one is a resolution calling for the Student Senate to denounce the Goldstone report. The Goldstone report is a UN document ratified by 25 of the 47 nations involved in the UN. It was written after a fact-finding mission by Richard Goldstone, the former chief prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda.

The mission that found both Israel and the Palestinian militants guilty of crimes during the recent 2008 conflict in Gaza. This report, however, is exceedingly biased. I'm

not saying that neither side is innocent, but what I am saying is that both sides need equal blame. Israel was admonished for blockading the Gaza strip, and the defense of Israel was intended to "humiliate and terrorize a civilian population." Palestinian militants were reprimanded for launching rockets into Gaza.

I do not claim Israel didn't make mistakes during this event, and that innocent people did not die, but this was a war, and a country has a right to defend itself.

A more complete fact-finding mission needs to be completed to gain my support of any paper putting blame on a nation or group. SG should adopt this resolution tonight.

Jordan Greenberg
3EG

■ ■ ■

Senate should not vote on resolution

The Resolution Affirming Support for the State of Israel that Senate will be voting on tonight is a travesty. Every word of it represents the extremist pro-Israel position, from

the first Whereas clauses that subtly try to deny any right of Palestinians to the land and which gloss over the ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians that took place during the founding of Israel, to quotes from president Ahmadinejad of dubious authenticity and support for sanctions against Iran (not unlike the ones that killed 500,000 Iraqi children in the 1990s), to trying to cover up the slaughter of over 1,300 innocent civilians by Israel in Gaza this December and January.

In all my time I've been coming to Senate, I've never seen a resolution like this that glorifies the misery and death of thousands of people.

Anyone who supports basic human rights should come out tonight at 7:30 p.m., room 282 of the Reitz Union, and strongly urge Senate to say no to such extremist views. This resolution most certainly does not represent the views of most students at this university, and Senate has no right to speak on our behalf about such a controversy from an extremely one-sided perspective.

Justin Wooten
UF Student

Guest column

Congress Republicans must listen through the shouting

Attention Republicans in Congress: You have to start listening to the people you represent. You have to start paying attention to what the voters that elected you are saying.

In the past few months, political factions in Washington, D.C., have become even more pronounced, and most of the divide has been formed by the Republicans in the Senate and the House.

One of the first instances of this divide happened during President Obama's speech to Congress on the issue of health care. Representative Joe Wilson made a fool of himself and his entire party with his racially motivated outburst. I think political outbursts have their place in our government, but not during a speech that is traditionally respected by everyone in Congress, regardless of party affiliation. This was the first time I have seen someone yelling during an internationally televised speech, and it was a disgrace.

It gets worse. Since then, the Republicans have launched a smear campaign against President Obama and anyone to

Paul Murty Speaking Out

the left of their ideas. Lies about health-care have been highlighted, but many others haven't been discussed.

The Republicans decided to hate ACORN when they found out that it had some sort of relationship with President Obama. So, naturally, when two ACORN employees were filmed talking about breaking a law to help out a seemingly poor woman that was simply trying to support herself in life, the Republicans called for the organization's government funding to be cut. Despite the fact that ACORN helps countless families and individuals who need assistance every year, the organization was judged based on two employees.

Had the Republicans consistently held the view that a few employees are representative of a huge organization, it would have been fine. But consider the case of Jamie Leigh Jones, the woman who said she was gang-raped by Halliburton employees. She wasn't allowed to sue the company based on a contractual loophole, and when this came up in

Congress, the Republicans shifted their views completely.

Instead of supporting the Al Franken anti-rape amendment to the government contract, 30 out of 38 Republicans said that the government shouldn't meddle with its own contracts, and that the government shouldn't judge an organization like Halliburton based on a few employees.

Now, Republican Congressmen are again showing their disconnect with the people they were elected to serve. Not only are they reserving support for debate over the health-care bill (even though polls show that Americans want the public option), but they are also still saying the stimulus package was a bust. Granted, on health care at least, some Democrats have to get their act together and at least vote to debate the issue.

Thankfully, Republican governors like Arnold Schwarzenegger are actually in touch with their people and can admit that the stimulus is working. The Republicans in Congress could learn a thing or two from the Governor.

Paul Murty is a UF student.

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After Meth

Drug left Weeks lonely, helpless

By CJ PRUNER
Alligator Writer

The eyes of Donna Gail Weeks tell a story that could rip the toughest leather binding. The whites, chiseled with scraggy red lines, contain two empty black holes that seem to yearn for a world beyond the forbidding confines of prison walls, where she will spend the next 6 1/2 years.

The clanging bar doors only reflect a cold reality.

"It's a slow hell," she said.

For Weeks, 44, the road to hell has been paved with years of fast and loose decisions piled onto a broken spirit.

"I've had to shut myself out from pre-tending the outside world is there," she said. "It's hard."

Before her arrest, she worked as an attorney's legal assistant, striving to provide a stable home for her daughter, Sierra, and enough money to be able to hold her head high at the end of the day — all without any run-ins with the law.

Although she experimented with cocaine in her early 20s, she grew tired of it. She found God, went to church and stayed clean for 10 years.

But a string of broken relationships, combined with a poisonous mindset of never feeling good enough, made her turn to an even more poisonous solution — meth. What started as a weekend habit with a boyfriend morphed into a near-daily habit that feasted on her bankroll, consuming anywhere from \$80 to \$300 dollars a week.

"I'd sit there knowing I had to pay rent or pay bills, but the addiction is so strong," she said.

As powerful as the addiction was, Weeks swore she would never expose her daughter to her dark secret. However, when Sierra, then a pre-teen, noticed something wrapped in tin foil near the sink, she was on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Her mother told her it was for burning incense. Sierra didn't believe her.

"That was rock bottom, losing my daughter," Weeks said.

Lonely and helpless, it seemed that the drug that had taken so much from her was the only thing that could give her any relief.

Then one afternoon in 2001, Todd Brown, a childhood friend of Weeks' boss, walked into the office. Though he was a multiple drug offender, he didn't fit the profile of a criminal: He had a fam-

ily, was respectful to peers and kept a clean appearance. Eventually, Weeks fell for him.

Although Brown told her he loved her, she was convinced he loved meth more.

"He always told me he loved me, but I always asked him, 'How do you know this? Because every time you have said that, you've always been on meth,'" she said.

Their love for the drug became so powerful that they looked for ways to cut out the middleman. With very little income, Brown turned to Weeks to support his drug habit. They cooked the drug using ingredients including Sudafed, drainage fluid and lithium strips.

However, it was the anhydrous ammonia, a substance used in fertilizer, that turned meth into mind-altering dynamite. Brown knew of a farm out in Alachua where there were tanks of anhydrous ammonia that were, seemingly, easy to plunder. Weeks was hesitant about the attempt, but on Feb. 1, they made their way to the meth mecca.

Weeks was to drop Brown off, circle around a few times and come back when he had filled up the tank. But as she pulled up to pick up Brown, red and blue lights flashed in the rearview mirror.

"You got to go!" Brown yelled. Weeks slammed the pedal and blazed through the night.

"We have to stop!" she pleaded to Brown, who was throwing anything suspicious out the car window.

It wasn't enough to save them.

But despite the consequences, Weeks believes that getting caught served some benefit.

"I think this is God's way of getting my attention," she said. "I'm glad it's all over."

Brown started using to stay awake

By EMILY FUGGETTA
Alligator Staff Writer
efuggetta@alligator.org

Todd Brown doesn't miss methamphetamine.

Since February, he has been in the Dixie County Jail, where getting his hands on meth would be nearly impossible. But Brown, 47, wants nothing to do with the drug that he admitted in court to loving more than his family.

Brown is what law enforcement officers call a career criminal, but he wasn't always considered so dangerous to society that a judge may be forced to lock him up for life.

Raised in Thomasville, Ga., Brown went through nearly four decades without touching anything harder than marijuana and alcohol. When he got married in the early 1980s, he stopped smoking and embraced the idea of family life.

He coached little league and made sure his kids had what they needed. As he neared 40, though, he fell in with people who used meth, a drug he had never tried.

"At first I didn't mess with it," he said. "Then I tried it — I shouldn't have — and it's been downhill ever since."

But his first hit of meth — or any hit after that — wasn't a sweet, dizzy pleasure that left every nerve aching for more.

"I didn't like it all," he said. "It kept me up for a couple days."

Brown's first taste didn't make him an addict. A year later, he poured most of his savings into an auto repair business, but inspectors told him he would have to wait more than a year to operate because of zoning.

"I said to myself, 'I can't stay here and make no money,'" he said. So he ran the shop at night to stay under the radar, and instead of installing an espresso machine, Brown turned to the

drug he knew would keep him alert through long nights.

"I bought some from [a friend], and there it went," he said.

Within a month, Brown was spending \$1,000 a week on meth, and what started out as a twice-daily habit became something that consumed him once an hour.

"It was everything," he said. "All day long."

Soon, maintaining the high became too expensive, and Brown began cooking meth in the woods with a friend who showed him how to make it with anhydrous ammonia.

"We couldn't do it inside," he said. "We wouldn't be able to breathe. That stuff'll knock you down."

After nine months of using, Brown began a spiral of arrests that would drag him through probation, jail, rehab and finally federal prison.

Although he was no longer making methamphetamine, jail time and rehab couldn't dampen the romance between Brown and his drug.

While packing after an 18-month stay in a rehab clinic, Brown found about a gram of meth — less than a day's high. He took a hit and confessed to his sponsor, and the find from his jacket pocket landed him an 11-month stay in federal prison.

He was released in January of 2009, and was almost immediately getting high in the bathroom of a halfway house.

Less than a month later, he and Weeks were caught after leading police on ecstasy-frenzied chase.

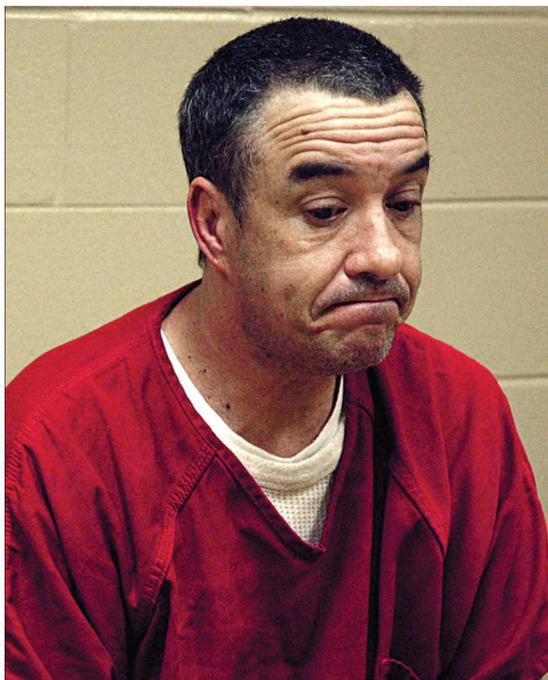
Since February, Brown has waited. He began taking anti-depressants after a mental-health evaluation determined that he suffers from bipolar disorder and thinks the medicine will help keep him clean when — if — he is released.

For now, Brown waits for the axe to fall and determine the rest of his life. He reflects on his tenure as a drug addict, during which he chose to forsake his family in favor of a destructive drug and a woman meth made him believe he loved more than his wife.

But despite the urge to fight for his family, Brown refuses to let his wife be married to a prisoner forever.

"I've told her if I get another 10 or 15, I'm going to file for divorce," he said. "She needs to go on and get over me."

Inconsistent with the drug addict who cried "rock bottom," Brown is saying it for the first time now after eight years of destruction at the hands of a monster named methamphetamine. "I went from Disney world and family vacations to a dopehead," he said. "It's quick. You go down real quick."



Emily Fuggetta / Alligator Staff

Todd Brown, who was arrested for stealing an ingredient used to make methamphetamine, awaits sentencing at the Dixie County Jail. Due to jail restrictions, the Alligator was only able to photograph Brown.

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2 For Rent unfurnished

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Apartments off SW 20th Ave. Close to shop-
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2 For Rent unfurnished

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Near SW 1st & 2nd Ave and SW 12th St.
No dogs (available now or spring semester)
Negotiable lease terms
call 352.337.9600 for more info 11-30-55-2

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to Shands. Only \$550/mo. 1 yr lease. Call
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0420 11-30-09-37-2

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H/AC. 3627 SW 15th St. \$850/mo. Call 327-
2931 or 376-6183 11-13-09-28-2

1BR/1BA apt, \$499/mo. 3320 SW 23rd St.
Each unit has a private gated court yard. On
bus route close to Shands, VA & College of
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2150 or paloverde3320@yahoo.com 11-
30-09-35-2

HISTORIC APTS Pleasant Street Historic
District. 2BR \$850, two 1BRs \$625 & \$575.
one efficiency \$475. Hardwood floors, ceiling
fans, high ceiling & porches. 1st, last, secu-
rity. No dogs. 378-3704 sallygville@aol.com
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09-20-2

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great for grad student or prof. 508 NE 4th
Ave. Avail. now. \$750/mo. 352-379-4952
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****STUDENTS**** 1 bedroom apt in historic
building between UF & downtown. Walk or
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mth. Call 870-2760. Others available 11-
4-09-15-2

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09-30-2

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1BR/1BA apt in vintage house. Hardwood
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2/2 Condo with washer/dryer, screened-
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SW 9th Road, 3rd floor unit. Newly built, w/d,
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\$550/month Large 2/1 Apt close to UF/
Shands W/D hookup, D/W, balcony No pets
625 SW 11th Ln Call 352-231-3002 or
email hodgeproperties@cox.net 11-16-09-
15-2

FAMILY AREA WITH PETS, OK
Two Bd with Two Full Baths, new carpet, just
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\$200 dep. Call 352-8430-0220 to see. 11-
25-21-2

\$550 Roomy 2/1.5 townhalf, Shands
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2 blks to UF campus, 1013 SW 4 Ave
2BR/1BA, Bright, clean, completely remode-
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NPets. \$695+util. ATucker458@aol.com
11-17-14-2

Walk to UF 3BR/1BA house, granddaddy oaks
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4-09-5-2

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2 For Rent unfurnished

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3 Subleases

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br/1 ba in 3br/3ba Stoneridge apt. Inc: wash/
dryer, dshwshr, all essentials! Lg walkin closet!
Walk to Butler plaza. 2 bus rts 12&35.
Gym, pool, bball/tennis crts also. Call 813-
909-6447 11-6-5-3

1/1 apt w/fenced backyard. 2 blocks from
campus near midtown. Pets OK. \$625 OBO.
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where! 813-382-6031 11-6-09-5-3

4 Roommates

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Furn rm avail now. \$200 N/R dep. \$400/mo
or \$100/wk util incl. Laundry/cook/clean svc
avail. Near bus/shops. 30 day notice to va-
cate. Some pets ok. Call 331-0762 11-6-
15-4

1BR/1BA or 2BR/2BA avail Jan 1st.
for responsible mature individual. \$400-\$800/
mo OBO + utils. Brandywine on Archer Rd.
yttek@hotmail.com or 305-332-6566 11-4-
09-10-4

WALK TO UF 1 or 2 rooms in a 4/2 apt.
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all Utl's, W/D, and Swimming pool. Avail Now
\$440. Plus sec. Call Karl 332-5030 11-9-
09-10-4

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at Summit House on SW 16th Ave. Recently
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see. 11-25-21-4

450/mo + utilities (negotiable). At the
house we have all modern working applian-
ces, a fenced-in backyard, a car overhang,
plenty of parking. Located close to shopping
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Pet friendly. M/F O.K. Contact Josh at:
561.676.2662, jbarhill@ufl.edu or Ben at:
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11-3-6-4

Beautifully renovated, furnished
condo, 1 mile from UF, \$399/MO
includes cable, internet, utilities,
pool + fitness room and on bus route,
Female roommate needed, 352 262-2871
11-12-09-10-4

4 Roommates

\$350 FEMALE ONLY
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mad05@ufl.edu 11-4-5-4

Female wanted to share new 3BR/3BA home
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Washer & dryer included. Furnished, except
your bedroom. \$425 plus utilities. Serious,
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Female preferred. Share 2BR/2BA \$445/mo.
Free cable/internet. Archer Rd &
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09-5-5

6 Furnishings

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Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand,
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377-9846 12-9-09-74-6

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7490 12-9-09-74-6



6 Furnishings

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. 12-9-09-74-6

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Sofa \$175 Brand new in pkg 333-7516 12-9-74-6

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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 12-9-74-6

6 Furnishings

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DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box. Never used. 352-377-9846 12-9-09-74-6

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6 Furnishings

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18 Personals

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18 Personals

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Boynton shines in UF exhibition rout

■ HE HAD 22 POINTS IN HIS COLLEGE DEBUT.

By **ADAM BERRY**
Alligator Staff Writer
aberry@alligator.org

As a highly touted recruit who played in more than his fair share of high school all-star games, Kenny Boynton was no stranger to the spotlight before making his Florida debut.

But even with plenty of experience playing in big games in packed arenas, the freshman guard still felt nervous before his first college game.

He overcame the pregame jitters quickly, scoring a game-high 22 points in his debut for the Gators to lead UF past Division-II Saint Leo 95-46 in Florida's opening exhibition game in O'Connell Center on Monday night.

Heralded as the team's savior and an elite scorer before coming to Gainesville, Boynton lived up to the expectations with a hot start, scoring the first five points of the game on a fast-break layup and a corner three.

"To tell you the truth, I was nervous because I didn't know how I was gonna feel when I got out there," Boynton said. "But I got the first point, and after that I just played my game."

Whether driving through the lane or bombing threes from all over the floor, Boynton proved to be UF's go-to scoring option in front of a crowd of 8,804 that included his mother, father, siblings and friends. He shot 50 percent from the floor and was 5 of 9 from beyond the arc.

Although his true strength is his ability to score, Boynton added six rebounds, three steals and two assists.

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 14



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF freshman guard Kenny Boynton goes up for a contested shot during Florida's 95-46 win over Saint Leo in the O'Connell Center on Monday.

Home crowd gets glimpse of four new Gators

First impressions are important in a relationship.

Sure, they're often misleading, shallow or even outright wrong, but it always helps to get off on the right foot.

The new members of Florida's men's basketball program introduced themselves to Gators fans Monday in the first exhibition game against Saint Leo, with mixed impressions left for their future relationships in Gainesville.

Freshman guard Kenny Boynton looked every bit the scorer he was touted as coming out of Plantation American Heritage High. He was quick to get out and run, knocked down five of his nine 3-point shots and led the team with 22 points.



Kyle Maistri
Kyle Points
kmaistri@alligator.org

And his teammates trust him already.

"He always does that, so it was nothing really unexpected for us," junior power forward Alex Tyus said. "He's a great player."

In addition to Boynton, freshman Erik Murphy was rock solid in his debut in

the Orange and Blue. The 6-foot-9 power forward looks a lot bigger than the 217 pounds the team's Web site lists him at — in a good way. He gave UF solid minutes off the bench and was comfortable banging down low, pulling down six rebounds in 17 minutes.

Boynton stole the crowd's heart with his dynamic play, but Murphy sure appears to be a much-needed reliable post player starting now.

"Kenny Boynton, a freshman, and Erik Murphy, a freshman, they're ready," starting point guard Erving Walker said. "They're prepared."

The last first-year player to get in the game was "Hot" Rod Tishman, the 6-foot-

SEE KYLE, PAGE 14

LB Spikes suspended for first half

By **PHIL KEGLER**
Alligator Staff Writer
pkegler@alligator.org

Starting middle linebacker Brandon Spikes has been suspended for the first half of Saturday's Vanderbilt game, Florida coach Urban Meyer announced Monday.

The move came two days after Spikes appeared to eye-gouge Georgia running back Washaun Ealey in a pile during the Gators' 41-17 win.

No penalty was called during the game, but Spikes was caught putting his finger in Ealey's face mask on CBS cameras, and the video was quickly posted all over the Internet.

"I don't condone that, and I understand what goes on in football, but there's no place for that," Meyer said. "That's not who he is. That's not who we are. He got caught up in emotion. I love Brandon Spikes, and our team does (too). We're going to move on, but he has our full support."



Spikes

Saturday's game was filled with chippy behavior between Florida and Georgia players. Five personal fouls were called during the game — three on the Bulldogs and two on the Gators.

"I don't think that we did anything in that game that they didn't do," quarterback Tim Tebow said. "If you go back and look at it and study it, you can see on the film, too."

Meyer did not see film of Spikes' play in the pile until Monday morning. His wife mentioned it to him Sunday night, and defensive coordinator Charlie Strong brought it up the following morning.

He didn't think it was a big deal until he finally saw it. Meyer spoke to Spikes about the incident and suspension Monday morning before announcing it.

"The thing he needs to know is we all understand the game of football," Meyer said. "Some of us have played it. Things happened in that game in particular that

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 15

TEERING OFF WITH KYLE MAISTRI

■ Well, it finally happened. Doug Barron became the first PGA player to test positive for PEDs. What's next? NASCAR? Poker? Competitive eating? ... I love Chandler Parsons' charismatic personality, but he needs to learn to just lay it in. I haven't seen a play as embarrassing as his finger-roll air ball since he got stuffed by the rim on a fast break against FSU his freshman year.

UF FOOTBALL NEWS

■ The Florida-South Carolina game on Nov. 14 will kick off at 3:30 p.m. on CBS. Also, kicker Caleb Sturgis was named SEC Special Teams Player of the Week.

alligatorSports Podcast

■ Kyle Maistri, Mike McCall and host Adam Berry discuss Kyle's questionable pregame UF-UGA column, Mike's lack of faith in Boise State and Adam's thoughts on the basketball team. Check it out on iTunes.

KYLE, from page 13

5 Israeli point guard.

He's obviously not going to get significant minutes right away as he adjusts to the American style of play and coach Billy Donovan's system — if you looked hard enough, you could see him think in between dribbles. Still, his size is a plus, and he might be able to develop into a facilitator off the bench for Boynton and Tyus.

The trio of freshmen were impressive, but not everyone left a good taste in the collective mouth of the O'Connell Center faithful.

Redshirt junior transfer Vernon Macklin is going to have to make up for a lackluster first showing.

The 6-foot-10 center played soft and was anything but the monster in the middle Florida was hoping for.

He didn't block a single shot against the much smaller Lions and pulled down only four rebounds in

23 minutes. The 6-foot-2 Boynton had six.

"There was a lot of hype that this guy was going to cure all of our center problems because we were playing guys at different positions," Donovan said. "You could see tonight, that's not the case."

If Macklin can develop into a steady rebounder and shot-changer in the lane, he will do wonders for this team.

UF doesn't need him to score 15 points per game, especially with Boynton in the lineup.

The Gators only need Macklin to be good enough to provide some tough, defensive-minded minutes at the center position, along with Murphy and sophomore Kenny Kadji.

Regardless of the perceptions the four new guys may have created in only 40 minutes of play, they will have plenty of time to change Gainesville's mind in the coming weeks.

For better or worse.

Walker adds 16 points, nine assists at PG HOOPS, from page 13

"It's a whole other level. I was nervous in the (McDonald's) All-American Game, and I was still in high school then," Boynton said. "In college, you want to give the fans a good outing on your first."

Starting in the backcourt alongside Boynton, Erving Walker scored 16 points and dished out nine assists without a turnover in his debut as UF's starting point guard. Walker helped push the ball up the court all game, allowing the Gators to use their athleticism against the out-matched Lions.

"I don't know if I've had two guys in the backcourt with (Walker) and Boynton that are that fast and are that explosive," UF coach Billy Donovan said. "With those two guys back there,

we definitely want to play more up-tempo."

Ray Shipman, primarily used as a defensive specialist last season, put up 10 points off the bench. After a summer of playing no one other than his teammates, Shipman said he was ready to get back on the floor — even if the game didn't count toward the Gators' record.



Men's Basketball

"We've been playing each other Summer A, Summer B, open gym, practice, going against each other in video games," Shipman said.

"Now, we get to play against somebody with a different name across their chest, and I feel like we just maximized and let all that anger out on them.

"I felt bad for them because we wanted to just destroy them."

HEISMAN WATCH

1 ◀ ▶ **Kellen Moore (16)** 171.02 passer rating, 1,905 yards, 67.4 completion percentage, 24 TD, 2 INT, -9 rushing yards, -0.5 ypc, TD



Moore is the No. 1 player on our list for the second straight week. He still leads the nation in passer rating and is second only to Case Keenum (25 TD) in passing touchdowns.

The Broncos are undefeated for at least another week after a 45-7 beatdown of San Jose State in which Moore threw for 278 yards and three scores.

2 ▲ **Jimmy Clausen (11)** 164.24 passer rating, 2,318 yards, 66.9 completion percentage, 18 TD, 2 INT, -57 rushing yards, -1.4 ypc, TD



Clausen ranks in the top 10 nationally in yards, yards per attempt, passing touchdowns and passer rating. He threw for 268 yards and two touchdowns in a win against Washington

State on Saturday, lifting Notre Dame to 6-2 on the season. With games against Navy, Pittsburgh and Stanford still on the schedule, the junior will have some time to pad his résumé.

3 ▼ **Mark Ingram (9)** 1,004 rushing yards, 6.6 ypc, 8 TD, 19 receptions, 186 receiving yards, 3 TD



Alabama took the week off after a close game with Tennessee two weeks ago, but that didn't stop us from voting Ingram in the third spot on the list. He's having a

great season on an undefeated team and whether he wins the award could come down to how he does against Florida in a possible Southeastern Conference Championship Game matchup.

4 ▲ **Tim Tebow (7)** 153.68 passer rating, 1,323 passing yards, 64.7 completion percentage, 10 TD, 4 INT, 551 rushing yards, 4 ypc, 8 TD



Finally, a good week from Superman. Tebow had previously dropped out of our top five but worked his way back with a tremendous performance against Georgia. He threw for 164 yards and two touchdowns and rushed for 85 yards and another two scores, and perhaps most importantly, he didn't turn the

ball over. If he can play like that the rest of the way, he might just be joining Archie.

5 ▼ **Jacquizz Rodgers (5)** 922 rushing yards, 5.4 ypc, 14 TD, 49 receptions, 371 yards, TD, 14 passing yards, TD



See Quizz run. See Quizz catch. See Quizz throw? Rodgers did it all in Oregon State's 26-19 win over UCLA on Saturday. He rushed for 112 yards, caught for another 92 and threw a touchdown as the Beavers narrowly held off the Bruins. Unfortunately, his team is 5-3 and another loss may be enough to push him off this list for good.

Bobby Callovi

- 1 Kellen Moore, Boise St.
- 2 Case Keenum, Houston
- 3 Golden Tate, Notre Dame
- 4 Jacquizz Rodgers, Oregon St.
- 5 Tim Tebow, Florida

Mike McCall

- 1 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 2 Jimmy Clausen, Notre Dame
- 3 Tim Tebow, Florida
- 4 Kellen Moore, Boise St.
- 5 Colt McCoy, Texas

Phil Kegler

- 1 Jimmy Clausen, Notre Dame
- 2 Kellen Moore, Boise St.
- 3 Tim Tebow, Florida
- 4 LaMichael James, Oregon
- 5 Golden Tate, Notre Dame

Kyle Maistri

- 1 Kellen Moore, Boise St.
- 2 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 3 Jacquizz Rodgers, Oregon St.
- 4 Jimmy Clausen, Notre Dame
- 5 Golden Tate, Notre Dame

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 union.ufl.edu

Butler keeps team sharp with no set starting lineup

By **EUGENIO TORRENS**

Alligator Writer
etorrens@alligator.org

Florida coach Amanda Butler knows cracking the starting lineup may seem like a big deal to some.

But for her, it's all about the end of the game rather than the opening introductions.

With the start of the UF women's basketball season inching closer, Butler still isn't sure who will be in her starting five.

And she wouldn't have it any other way.

"We can change our lineup to try and exploit the weaknesses of whoever our next opponent is," Butler said. "We're not bound to a starting lineup."

While not having a cemented starting lineup may sacrifice a bit of consistency once the season starts, Butler believes the myriad of combinations she can throw out onto the floor on any given night is well worth the possible lack of stability.

"There's a lot of versatility in what we have," center Azania Stewart said. "Whatever looks we want to go: big, small, fast."

If the lineup is shuffled routinely, it should help players stay on their toes because anyone's number could be called on any given night.

"If I'm not starting, when I get in the game, my mentality is definitely to do what I need to do to either get to that starting position or play more minutes," guard Trumae Lucas said. "It's definitely a competition thing."

Butler also hopes the day-to-day starting lineup will prevent the team from flatlining in January or February, when

players become accustomed to who is in what role.

She has used different examples to prove the benefits of competition to her team. Butler has pointed to Michael Phelps' record-breaking swims with opponents nipping at his heels as well as a Bible verse, Proverbs 27:17 ("So iron sharpens iron, one man sharpens another").

In Butler's mind, competition breeds success, and her team is beginning to embrace that concept.

Jordan Jones is one of eight guards listed on the team's roster. Each will be competing for playing time, and some may get time at swingman or point. Jones started at South Carolina her freshman year before transferring to UF and being forced to sit out the 2008-09 season.



Women's Basketball

"No matter what minutes I get, starting, not starting — being able to play again, it's just a huge gift in its own," Jones said.

Butler may start the game with more of a true point guard, like senior Lonnika Thompson or freshman Tessah Holt. Lucas and Jones are likely to see time at point guard as well.

Lucas poses more of a threat to drive to the basket, while Jones is a bonafide shooter who used last year to improve other aspects of her game, including ball handling and driving to the basket.

While point guard may be the best example of depth on this year's squad, it's emblematic of the whole team.

"We can have plan A, B, C and D and on any given night, any one of those plans is going to work," Butler said.



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF coach Amanda Butler will decide her team's starting lineup on a game-by-game basis. She hopes this will keep the Gators from becoming complacent by the end of the season.

BCS Rankings

	Harris Poll	USA Today Poll	Computer Rankings Average
1. Florida	1	1	1
2. Texas	2	2	T3
3. Alabama	3	3	T3
4. Iowa	7	6	2
5. Cincinnati	5	7	5
6. TCU	6	4	6
7. Boise State	4	5	8
8. Oregon	8	8	7
9. LSU	9	9	9
10. Georgia Tech	11	11	10

Doe likely to get second start against Vanderbilt

FOOTBALL, from page 13

were not good for either side, but the bottom line is we're Florida and he's Brandon Spikes, and we expect certain things."

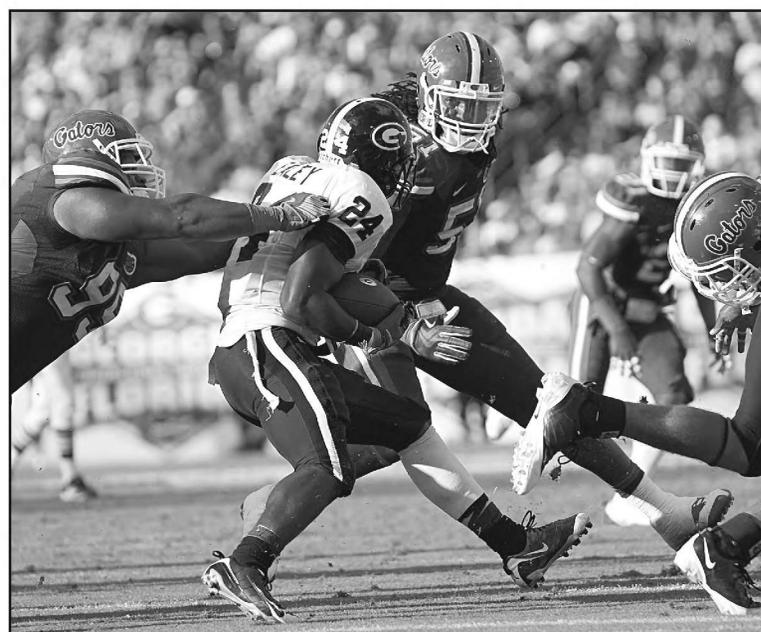
The Southeastern Conference released a statement Monday afternoon standing by the suspension. Meyer said he spoke to SEC commissioner Mike Slive regarding the incident.

"The Southeastern Conference has reviewed and accepted the

"He's very intense and very emotional and very passionate. I think that's what makes him part of the great player that he is."

Tim Tebow
UF senior quarterback

disciplinary actions taken by the University of Florida regarding football student-athlete Brandon Spikes," the statement read. "The



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF's Brandon Spikes (51) has been suspended for a half for attempting to eye-gouge UGA running back Washaun Ealey on Saturday.

university suspended Spikes for the first half of its next game (vs. Vanderbilt, Nov. 7) for an unsportsmanlike act during the Gators' last game (vs. Georgia, Oct. 31)."

Spikes led Florida with 10 tackles against Georgia. Redshirt senior linebacker Ryan Stamper will move inside against the Commodores, and senior Dustin Doe will likely see his second start of the season. Doe got the nod against Mississippi State when Spikes did not play due to a groin injury.

"I accept responsibility for my actions, and I accept the consequences of my actions," Spikes said in a statement. "I would like to apologize to my team and the coaching staff and Washaun Ealey. Football is a very physical and emotional game, but there is no excuse for my actions."

While this incident may not be the best example, Tebow said Spikes' passionate personality is key to his ability as a player and a leader.

"He's very intense and very emotional and very passionate," Tebow said. "I think that's what makes him part of the great player that he is. He brings that fire and people look at him. The defense wants to play for him, and the offense — they want to score so it makes it easier on him. He brings fire, and he brings juice to everybody."

"Without that, he would not be as great of a player as he is, and he would not be even close to the leader that he is."

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