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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF student Victoria Reynolds receives a nasal spray vaccine for H1N1 during a mass vaccination of about 700 students Wednesday at the UF Student Health Care Center.

700 students get vaccine

■ ABOUT 100 STUDENTS WITH APPOINTMENTS DID NOT SHOW UP WEDNESDAY.

UF's first mass swine flu vaccination went off without a major hitch on Wednesday, with about 700 students showing up to receive their doses. The other 100 or so students who made appointments did not show up, said Kat Lindsey, marketing coordinator for the Student Health Care Center. The center has not decided what to do with the extra doses, but director Philip Barkley said UF could have another vaccination day or maybe hold on to the extras until the next shipment arrives.

Student Life

Students who kept their appointments reported no issues with lines and said the entire process took a few minutes at most.

"I just thought it was pretty sweet," second-year UF psychology student Ari Osteen said.

"You just sniff some drugs, and you're good," Osteen joked. He said he appreciated how efficient the process was and that the vaccine was free. He also praised the free plastic back massagers and lollipops doled out by the staff.

The University of Central Florida joined UF this week in administering the vaccine to students. UCF received about 1,500 doses for students and employees, with about 300 doses given out so far, according to spokesman Chad Binette.

— THOMAS STEWART

ON CAMPUS

Dancers prep for marathon

By CAROLYN TILLO
Alligator Writer
ctillo@alligator.org

The music of Michael Jackson and Beyoncé mingled with the chimes from Century Tower's bells as about 45 participants from Dance Marathon at UF lined up and danced on Turlington Plaza Wednesday afternoon.

Members of student and Greek organizations completed 10-minute performances between classes from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The dances were part of the marathon's Dancer Week activities, which help Dance Marathon at UF participants show their spirit and raise awareness for the Children's Miracle Network.

Money from Dance Marathon at UF, a 26.2-hour event, goes to the Children's Miracle Network at Shands UF to help sick children and their families. The marathon will take place on April 10 and 11.

But Kristen Gillis, the overall morale director for Dance Marathon, said the dances are meant to remind people of the children who continue to suffer year-round.

"We can have one event once a year and then focus on it, but Children's Miracle Network de-

mands 365 days of awareness," Gillis said.

Angela Daly, a Dance Marathon morale captain, joined Gillis during a dance at 12:35 p.m. She said the Turlington Plaza dances represented an opportunity for members of Dance Marathon teams to earn spirit points that could help them win awards at the marathon.

"You're doing something beyond yourself. You realize what a good cause it is."

Angela Daly
Dance Marathon morale captain

Daly said participants are required to stand for the entire 26.2 hours to help them understand the pain suffered by the sick children and their families.

Participating in last year's event helped her to realize the impact the marathon has on these families, she said.

"You're doing something beyond yourself," Daly said. "You realize what a good cause it is."

Last year, Dance Marathon at UF had more than 1,500 participants and raised about \$413,000, Brighton said.

Applicants up from '08

By TATIANA QUIROGA
Alligator Contributing Writer

Fraternal twins Erin and Martin Lencki hope to join their two older siblings at UF next year.

The two 17-year-old Jupiter High School seniors are among a pool of 25,098 freshman applicants this year who applied by Sunday's deadline despite a diminishing admission rate.

Students can still apply until March 1 but will be considered on a space-available basis, UF spokesman Steve Orlando said.

As of Tuesday, 25,190 people applied, about 1,300 more than at the same point last year.

Orlando said the football and basketball national championships in recent years may have contributed to UF's increase in popularity.

"We don't know the bottom line, but it could be a factor," he said.

With in-state tuition now \$4,300 a year while the national average for public universities looms at about \$7,000, the price might also attract students.



Orlando

The Bright Futures scholarship program and the short distance to her hometown made UF an appealing option for Erin Lencki.

"More and more people are realizing that an education at UF is a stunning value," Orlando said.

Though UF's applicant pool continues to rise, the number of stu-

SEE APPLY, PAGE 4

■ Linebacker Brandon Spikes (right) has decided not to play against Vanderbilt at all in order to avoid being a distraction to his team. Spikes was originally suspended for the first half. See Story, Page 24.



Man banned for threatening to throw hot coffee on computer users

A local man was banned from all UF libraries Tuesday after Library West employees told University Police officers he threatened to throw his hot coffee on anyone using his favorite computer.

Officers found Roman Schulz, 60, sitting at a computer near the circulation desk on the ground floor of the Marston Science Library, according to the report.

Library West employees told police Schulz had a preferred row of computers

and would pester and threaten others if those computers were occupied.

Schulz admitted he was frustrated with students cutting in front of him to use his favorite computer at Library West, but he stated that the coffee comment was not directed at anyone.

Schulz is banned from UF libraries for at least three years, unless he appeals the warning to UPD's director and chief.

— KATIE KLOSS

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Sunny
78/48

visit www.alligator.org

News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Heroic Monumentalism: The State and Its Architecture in the 1930s

Today, 6 p.m.
Harn Museum of Art Auditorium
This talk by Dietmar Schirmer for Museum Nights answers the question, "Is there a fascist architecture or has it only to do with mass society and culture?"

History and Practice of Ottoman Miniature Painting and Illumination

Today, 7:30 p.m.
Harn Museum of Art Auditorium
Come to this talk by Sermin Ciddi to learn about ancestral painting styles in Turkey today at Museum Nights.

Kaleidoscope Month presents AASU's Got Talent
Today, 6:30 p.m.
Reitz Union Grand Ballroom
Watch and see the many diverse talents of Asian-American Student Union members. There will be an array of solo and group acts. Also, come watch Lydia Paek, of Boxcutterz, and Victor Kim, of Quest Crew, from Season 3 of "America's Best Dance Crew".

African Student Union Pageant

Today, 7 to 10 p.m.
Reitz Union Rion Ballroom
There will be lots of free food so don't miss out. Penny voting for each contestant will end today.

Student Investment Club meeting

Today, 7 p.m.
McCarty C 100
The group presents Dr. David Denslow. He will talk about the Fed, the future of the dollar and its implications for investing and the state of our economy.

Alpha Zeta Fundraiser

Today, 8 to 9 p.m.
TCBY on 34th and Archer
Come to TCBY tonight and support Alpha Zeta, a coed honors fraternity in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Shabbat at Hillel

Friday, 7 p.m.
Saturday, 10:30 a.m.
2020 W University Ave.
Rabbi Aaron Alexander, a UF alumnus and associate dean of the Ziegler School at American Jewish University, will join students for services and dinner, followed by a discussion of the Jewish soul. Services will continue on Saturday morning, followed by lunch and Alexander's discussion of the Jewish concepts of heaven and hell.

Graduate Christian Fellowship Fall Picnic

Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Lake Wauburg
Graduate Christian Fellowship invites all graduate and professional school students to a fall pic-

FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CLOUDY 78/67	PARTLY CLOUDY 78/67	THUNDER STORMS 78/67	RAIN 78/67	SUNNY 78/67

nic at Lake Wauburg. Burgers and chicken will be provided; please bring a dish to pass. See our Facebook group, GCF at University of Florida, for more details.

Gator Society for Human Resource Management Information Session

Monday, 6 to 8 p.m.
Career Resource Center Library
GatorSHRM is a new student organization for human resources offering networking, leadership, volunteer and resume-building opportunities. Students from all majors are encouraged to attend the information session. Free refreshments provided. Please RSVP at GatorSHRM@gmail.com. Learn more about HR at shrm.org.

Team Save Something Cute fundraiser

Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m.
Gelato Company
The group is raising money for the Humane Society and would really appreciate any participation. There will also be a cookbook fundraiser, which can be found at tropical eats.com.

IDEAL Fall Open House

Nov. 12, 7 to 9 p.m.
Do you have what it takes to be an official ambassador for the Reitz Union and Center for Student Activities and Involvement? Come to the IDEAL Fall Open House in the Arredondo Room and meet members who love helping students on campus find where they belong in involvement. Become a part of the IDEAL family and become an involved leader on campus. Make sure to be there for the presentation at 8 p.m.

Hindu Cultural Society Diwali Dance Festival

Nov. 13, 7 to 11 p.m.
India Cultural and Education Center
Showcasing Indian dances such as Raas, Bollywood, and Bhangra. Entry fee is \$3 for all UF students. Also selling Indian food, dandiya sticks, diyas and T-shirts. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Karnataka flood victims in India.

Got an event?

And want to post it in this space? Send an e-mail to bkelley@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.

CORRECTION

An article in Wednesday's edition of the Alligator incorrectly stated that the College Senate at Santa Fe College is made up of SFC faculty. The body is actually comprised of faculty, administrative and professional staff.

NATIONAL

Gay leaders blame TV ads, Obama for loss in Maine

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Stunned and angry, national gay rights leaders Wednesday blamed scare-mongering ads — and President Barack Obama's lack of engagement — for a bitter election setback in Maine that could alter the dynamics for both sides in the gay-marriage debate.

Conservatives, in contrast, celebrated Maine voters' rejection of a law that would have allowed gay couples to wed, depicting it as a warning shot that should deter politicians in other states from pushing for same-sex marriage.

"Every time the citizens have voted on marriage, they have always sided with natural marriage," said Mathew Staver, founder of Liberty Counsel, a Florida-based Christian legal group. "Maine dramatically illustrates the will of the people, and politicians should wake up and listen."

Gay activists were frustrated that Obama, who insists he staunchly supports their overall civil rights agenda, didn't speak out forcefully in defense of Maine's marriage law before Tuesday's referendum. The law was repealed in a vote of 53 percent to 47 percent.

"President Obama missed an opportunity to state his position against these discriminatory attacks with the clarity and moral imperative that would have helped in this close fight," said Evan Wolfson of the national advocacy group Freedom to Marry. "The anti-gay forces are throwing millions of dollars into various unsubtle ads aimed at scaring people, so subtle statements from the White House are not enough."

The White House, asked about the criticism, had no immediate comment.

The marriage debate is simmering in at least a half-dozen states where a same-sex marriage bill is pending or where a court ruling or existing law is being eyed by conservatives for possible challenge.

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.

alligator

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Locals react to vote against gay marriage

■ MAINE WOULD HAVE BEEN SIXTH STATE TO LEGALIZE UNION.

By JARED MISNER
Alligator Writer

Ricky Carter almost cried when he heard the news early Wednesday morning — his fight for equality just got tougher.

A blow was dealt to Carter, UF Pride Student Union's promotions director, and the LGBT community Tuesday when Maine voters approved a referendum that defined marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

With 87 percent of precincts reporting, 53 percent of Maine voters approved the measure to repeal same-sex marriage in what would have been the sixth state to legalize such unions. So far, supporters of same-sex marriage have lost every battle when put to the test at the ballot box.

"There's a lot of broken hearts and painfully affected people who did not expect that could ever happen," said Mark Sullivan, spokesman for No on 1, Protect Maine Equality campaign.

Reactions to the same-sex marriage defeat resonated in the same way among many in Gainesville, more than 1,300 miles away.

"It sounds stupid, but I almost cried because we just have so few things going on for us," Carter said.

He compared the struggles of the gay rights movement to the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

Other Gainesville residents reacted differently to the news.

"A Bible-believing Christian would never change their belief that marriage is ordained by God to be between a man and a woman and no other way," said Steve Michaels, campus minister with Chi Alpha.

Michaels also expressed personal concern that despite the rejection of same-sex marriage in Maine Wednesday, such unions might eventually be legally recognized, a move that he said goes against God's Word.

For more local reactions to Maine voters' decision, including Pride Community Center co-President Terry Fleming and UF College Republicans chairman Bryan Griffin, visit Alligator.org.

National News



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

Carnivorous Cookout

Morgan Long, left, serves chicken to Carrington Saddler and Sara Beth Christensen at the "People Eating Tasty Animals" barbecue held by the UF College Republicans on the Plaza of the Americas. For the story on the barbecue, visit Alligator.org.

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the independent florida **alligator**

STATE Lake City woman collects post-Halloween pumpkins

By HOLLY FRISOSKY
Alligator Contributing Writer

A barefoot, gray-pigtailed woman marks her home with an orange cone on a country road. But that's not all that is orange on her property.

Pamela Faith, 60, an artist and resident of Lake City, has collected rotten pumpkins for her 130-acre property for about a decade.

"I've collected a good 1,000 pumpkins this year," she said. "They cover about an acre of land."

She took three trips on Saturday with a 2-ton dump truck to pick up

the last batch.

"It gets pretty orange around here about this time of year," she said. "I hate to admit it's not my most favorite color, but you would never know it."

Faith uses the pumpkins for a few reasons. The chickens that roam her yard like to eat them, as do opossums, raccoons and foxes, and she puts them right inside the chicken coop.

Faith's family even eats them.

"I make bread, soup, cookies, cake and muffins with the pumpkins," she said. "Pretty much anything you can make with apples, you can make with pumpkins, and I certainly do."

"It's important to me to live my life as close to the Earth as I can."

Pamela Faith
Artist

Some pumpkins are put underneath plant beds and decorate her yard. She said they are great mulch and compost material.

But Faith said she enjoys decorating with them before they rot away.

"I love to decorate and just play," she said, sitting at her kitchen table, which is covered with pumpkins.

Faith grew up during the hip-

pie era, when she said people cared more about the Earth and the environment. The mentality has stuck with her.

"It's important to me to live my life as close to the Earth as I can," she said.

The pumpkins do omit a putrid odor, but it's worth it.

"I don't mind getting stinky if it lets me reuse something," she said.

Phillip Faith, 53, said while enjoying a dinner of baked pumpkin that he thinks his wife's pumpkin collecting is a bit extreme.

There was a time when he worried about their car's tires because she loaded it with so many pumpkins that it was barely off the

ground.

However, he does think it adds a little something extra to their home.

Anne Gay, who works at the First United Methodist Church's pumpkin patch, said that she is grateful that Faith picks up all of the pumpkins.

"I'm a person (who) believes in not wasting anything," Gay said. "It's just wonderful to me that she can do this."

And Pamela Faith is happy, too. "The art of my life is decorating, cooking, gardening," she said. "Pumpkins let me do it all."

To see photos of Pamela Faith's pumpkins, visit alligator.org.

Increase in number of applicants credited in part to sports championships

APPLY, from page 1

dents accepted has been steadily declining.

Two years ago, the target population for the incoming freshman class was 6,600.

Last year it was 6,400 and this year, it's

6,200, Orlando said.

A year and a half ago, UF set a goal to cut undergraduate enrollment over the next four years by 4,000, he said, partially in response to a \$150 million decrease in the state-funded portion of UF's budget.

"We had to make choices. We had to re-

duce the number of students we're accepting so we don't reduce the quality of the education," he said.

UF Academics

Decreasing enrollment also might help lower the student-faculty ratio, which is 20 to 1 at UF, he said.

Roughly 10,000 people will be admitted this year.

"I'm kind of iffy about it," Martin Lencki said, adding that UCF is his second choice.

"I know my grades aren't the best, but I think overall it will be OK."

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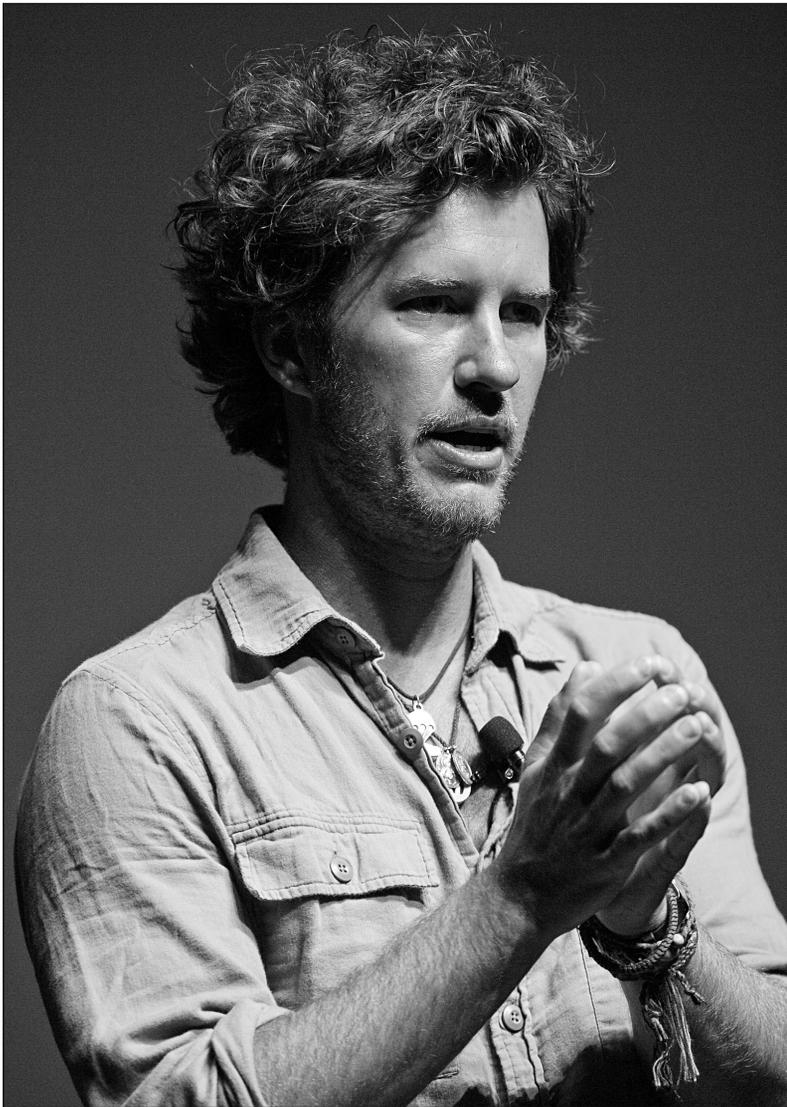
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Ana Goni-Lessan / Alligator Staff

Blake Mycoskie, the founder of TOMS Shoes, speaks at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts on Wednesday night.

TOMS creator discusses mission

■ HE SPOKE TO ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE.

By **CAROLYN TILLO**
Alligator Writer

Blake Mycoskie went to Argentina to play polo, take tango lessons and sip red wine.

He didn't expect to come up with the idea for a company that would change his life.

Mycoskie, the founder of TOMS Shoes, which gives a pair of shoes to a child in need for every pair it sells, told his story and offered advice about starting businesses to an audience of about 1,000 at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts Wednesday night.

Mycoskie said he came up with his idea after tagging along with a group of volunteers doing a shoe drive in Argentina.

He watched the volunteers get onto their hands and knees and place used shoes collected from wealthy families onto the feet of poor Argentinian children.

"I remember just feeling so touched by the passion and the compassion they had for these kids," Mycoskie said.

But Mycoskie realized that charity alone would not be able

to fund new shoes for these children.

He said relying on business would offer a better long-term solution.

He eventually returned to Argentina and spent three weeks with a friend making 250 pairs of the original TOMS Shoes.

Mycoskie said TOMS is short for tomorrow, representing the company's idea of selling a pair of shoes today in order to give a pair away tomorrow.

"I remember just feeling so touched by the passion and the compassion they had for these kids."

Blake Mycoskie
Founder of TOMS Shoes

Coverage in the LA Times, Vogue, People and TIME helped boost the profile of TOMS, which began with Mycoskie and three interns in his apartment and now has factories in Argentina, China and Ethiopia.

Mycoskie said the company hands out shoes in about 13 countries to children who need them for school or have foot diseases.

Mycoskie said his experience with TOMS has shown him the power an idea can have.

He told the audience about the benefits of having a business model focusing on giving back rather than making a profit.

Mycoskie saw a woman wearing a pair of TOMS at JFK International Airport in New York. When he asked her about the shoes, she started telling him the company's story, not realizing he was its founder.

"Literally she was telling me my life story word for word," Mycoskie said.

He said seeing the passion in this one customer showed him that his company did not need advertising in order to spread its message and could instead rely on its customers as its main marketers.

Mycoskie also said that having a service-oriented business attracts dedicated, experienced employees looking for jobs.

TOMS offers an experience that employees can get passionate about and feel as a cause or a mission, he said.

Mycoskie told students in the audience that companies look for employees who have a passion for volunteering and service.

His company's philanthropic mission has also helped to attract business partners, including Ralph Lauren.



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Editorial

No Right

Gay rights activists should look to federal government

The most notable result of Tuesday's election was not the Republican wins in New Jersey or Virginia, but the continued push in voter initiatives rejecting same-sex marriage.

Voters in Maine passed a referendum defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, similar to Florida's Proposition 2, which passed last fall. This makes Maine the 31st state to reject same-sex marriage by voter referendum, according to the New York Times.

While the margin of victory was significantly smaller in Maine than in Florida (53 percent in favor, compared to Florida's 62 percent), the fact that any state in the liberal bastion of New England would pass a measure like this is surprising to some, and sends a message to gay rights advocates nationwide.

The National Organization for Marriage, a Christian conservative group that successfully campaigned against same-sex marriage in Maine and elsewhere, argues that the message sent to activists is: "Americans are not on board with this gay marriage thing."

By overturning a law passed by the Maine Legislature, which granted same-sex couples the right to wed, conservative groups hope that the referendum will serve as a warning to politicians pushing for similar laws in other states.

While it is not difficult to draw a narrow conclusion like this from such disappointing election results, we believe the message sent to gay rights advocates is slightly different: It's time to escalate your campaign.

In classic tyranny-of-the-majority style, states, one by one, are restricting the rights of their citizens. Because a slight majority of voters in Maine rejects the idea of same-sex marriage, this means that gay people in Maine should not be granted the same rights as others?

Parallels are inevitably drawn between the same-sex marriage debate and the struggle for civil rights of decades past. It is hard to imagine success for that movement in a state-by-state effort to secure equal rights.

Some states might still have Jim Crow laws on the books without federal civil rights legislation. Interracial marriage might still be illegal in parts of the country, were it not for a 1967 Supreme Court decision granting all citizens the right to marry (except those seeking same-sex marriages).

Gay rights advocates must look higher than state legislatures and state supreme courts. The only way to accomplish the goal of full rights for same-sex couples is to demand action at the federal level.

The movement to legalize same-sex marriage has the money behind it. In Maine, it raised \$4 million, overshadowing the \$2.5 million raised by the opposition, according to the Associated Press.

They also claim many would-be friends in the federal government, if only these officials were pressed to act. Notable among them is President Obama, who received overwhelming support from the gay community in the 2008 elections.

Activists were upset with Obama's reluctance to weigh in on the issue before Tuesday's referendum, also finding his lack of action on the promise to end "don't ask, don't tell" troubling.

By allowing this inaction to go unchallenged, gay rights advocates may be giving up their best chance ever to secure federal legislation in support of their cause. If civil rights activists had not kept up the pressure on President Johnson, the country would likely be a very different place today.

the independent florida
alligator

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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



Column

Pirates should become sea protectors

As an unabashed supporter of all things pirate, news about pirates fighting the Mafia has left me nothing short of ecstatic. Additionally, as a shaper of public opinion and a veritable wellspring of brilliant ideas, I have an actionable plan that solves a pressing global issue in one fell swoop.

Somali pirates should be enlisted by the world to save the oceans.

For years, Somalis have sworn that someone was dumping hospital garbage, chemicals and toxic waste into the Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean. This, as well as rampant overfishing of the ungoverned Somali waters by huge commercial boats from Europe and Asia, was the main impetus behind the formation of a pirate renaissance in Africa. The United Nations investigated these claims a few years back and found a bunch of really sick people and radioactive beaches, but nobody had any real proof — until last month.

An Italian mobster dying of terminal cancer flipped in September, admitting he personally sank at least 10 ships filled with toxic waste in the waters between Italy and Africa. Keep in mind: This is only one man in one crime family. Euro authorities are in a mad scramble to clean up what could be among the biggest man-made environmental disasters of modern times and sprint as fast as they can from legitimate questions about the real cost of European energy policy.

Mafia-run waste disposal is almost as clichéd as smelly Europeans sipping their iceless water and looking down on gauche American tendencies, but to see that both concepts are intrinsically linked gives new and ironic profundity to the term Eurotrash. Of course nuclear power buttressed by solar and wind generation is the answer, you fat Yankees



Tommy Maple
letters@alligator.org

— just give all your spent isotopes to the Mob and fuhgeddaboutit.

Seen in this light, our pirate friends come off as a ragtag navy fighting to save the environment from organized crime and industrial excess. I smell a Disney movie, preferably in CGI, with voice work by top Hollywood talent. In fact, I

have already had my script for "Small-E: Open Seas-on" optioned by DreamWorks, and Jamie Foxx is eyeing the lead role of the gruff yet good-natured captain.

The much-maligned Somali pirates may hijack passing ships and generally upset Western corporate interests, but like all scalawags worth their salt, the Somalis live by a strict code of conduct. Fair to a fault, all ransom money is shared evenly among the crew, and hostages are protected to the nth degree. Sexual assault and theft are explicitly forbidden, and their strict disciplinary structures make the pirates among the most well-governed and accountable military forces operating in Africa.

Because only a world governmental authority could conceivably police all the oceans and everybody is scared of a global government, let's just make these known criminals our ocean authorities and allay the fear of the unknown. Fighting overfishing and waste dumping, the pirates would be too busy to hijack cargo ships with their expanded role as sea protectors. We need to act quickly on this because the oceans are a precious and vital part of our fragile world — and I already started writing the script for the sequel.

Tommy Maple is a graduate student in international communications. His column appears on Thursdays.

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

Reader response

Today's question: Did Maine mess up?

Monday's question: Do you think it is dangerous to cross Archer Road?

91% YES

9% NO

122 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Guest column

'Remember the 5th of November'

Four hundred and four years ago today the infamous Gunpowder Plot to blow up the English Houses of Parliament was foiled, and co-conspirator Guy Fawkes was consequently executed. Though I do not condone acts of violence, this event serves as an important reminder for us all to stay vigilant in the face of tyranny. During the pre-revolutionary era in America, colonists celebrated Nov. 5 to express their anger toward the authoritarian government back in England, providing the foundation for the American Revolution. Today it is celebrated to express opposition to an increasingly belligerent government that not only puts our liberties at risk but also undermines the very principles this country was founded on.

Throughout the last century, it has been a common practice for the federal government to take power beyond the authority afforded it by the U.S. Constitution. This usually occurs during times of crisis and uncertainty when politicians are more likely to gain public support. Such was the case during the Great Depression and shortly after Sept. 11. We are now seeing the same grab for power in the wake of the recent economic collapse. Unfortunately, the American people are lulled into a sense of indifference by the snake oil salesmen in Washington who claim that these actions are necessary for the "good of the country." I guess Thomas Jefferson was right when he said, "The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground."

But there is hope yet. Despite being in debt more than \$12 trillion with more than \$59 trillion in unfunded liabilities, Washington is spending money more than ever, and people are starting to notice. Americans are finally fed up with politicians who continue to follow the failed policies of interventionism and Keynesian economics, realizing that government corporatism is the real culprit in our economic troubles. Americans are realizing that controlling the

Daniel Rood
Speaking Out

markets through central banking, currency manipulation, regulation, subsidies and bailouts is detrimental to the economy.

Opposition to the government's aggressive foreign policy is greater now than ever before because people are starting to see the futility of maintaining an overseas empire in places we shouldn't belong. Americans are starting to believe in the Jeffersonian notions of peace, commerce and friendship with all nations and entangling alliances with none.

Apathy toward the two-party system is starting to take hold as thousands of Americans are leaving the Democratic and Republican parties. People are beginning to look for candidates who promise to reduce the size of government and support the basic principles of freedom our Founding Fathers believed in. The American people are re-evaluating the role of government, noting that it does not exist to take care of them but rather to protect their individual freedoms. They are rediscovering the principles of classical liberalism that provided the foundation for this country. Americans are starting to understand that individuals, not a collective society, are the ones who make their own choices and determine their own fates.

I urge you all to support the cause of freedom. But for those of you who continue to support these detrimental government policies, I will leave you with this quote from Samuel Adams: "If ye love wealth greater than liberty, the tranquility of servitude greater than the animating contest for freedom, go home from us in peace. We seek not your counsel, nor your arms. Crouch down and lick the hand that feeds you. May your posterity forget that ye were our countrymen."

Daniel Rood is a UF student and vice president of Students for the Preservation of Freedom.

Letters to the Editor

Some Republicans 'condone rape'

In response to Wednesday's letter to the editor written by James G., you failed to understand an important point, James. I agree with you that Paul's claim of racism in regard to Joe Wilson's remarks is unfounded and silly. I also agree that Paul's slander of the Republican Party in reference to ACORN was unjustified. But when it comes to the issue of Republicans being rapists for not passing "some bill," you showed a complete lack of knowledge about the subject.

Al Franken did propose a bill that bans firms like Halliburton from doing business with the government if they retain contract stipulations that prevent employees from suing the company (even if raped by co-workers). The only people who voted against the bill were 30 Republicans. Their reason for voting no was based on their misguided idea of what Congress' job is. There is no debate for this issue, James.

If the Republicans who voted against that bill aren't rapists, then they most certainly condone rape. The Republicans don't need Paul's smear campaign. They've done a fine job smearing themselves. So yes, James — because Republicans didn't vote for "some bill," they do support rape.

Erik Nyberg
Santa Fe College student

Students should vote to bring Weezer to UF

Alligator, let's get serious. First, I complain about your lack of coverage

on Spikes' eye gouge like the troublemaker I am. Then, of course, you go and provide me with coverage on Spikes' eye gouge as if he's Buddy Holly or something. Now, I'm faced with news stories on relevant topics, opinion columns that are audacious yet thought-provoking, and yet I have to ask myself one question: Where, Alligator, is Weezer? The answer is tragic. Right now, Florida State University is winning a T-Mobile online voting contest for a free Weezer concert. Say it ain't so!

And what of UF? We're second — not the best situation. Second in the nation. All it would take is for a fraction of the Student Body to do what's right. Vote for Weezer to come to UF. It's not my favorite band; I mean, I really, really hate them. Nevertheless, FSU cannot win, because FSU is not a winning school. And although Weezer has not been a winning band for the last 10 years, it still doesn't deserve to suffer the tragedy that is Tallahassee. So put down your hash pipe and vote!

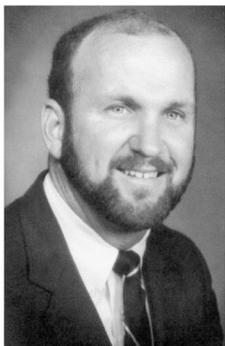
Elliot Morgan
UF student

UPD officer responded well to stolen wallet

I would like to thank University Police Department Officer R. Howard for his assistance after my daughter's wallet was stolen. The most important item missing from it was her UF-Georgia ticket. He called the ticket office, and she was able to purchase another ticket. Many thanks from both of us.

Tina Reddick
Gainesville resident

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Cristiano Migliore, one of the guitarists in Lacuna Coil, spoke to the Avenue about the new album, "Shallow Life," and the band's evolving music. Lacuna Coil will play Friday at The Venue during the Hard Drive 2009 Tour. Tickets are \$17 in advance, and the show begins at 7 p.m. All That Remains, Maylene and the Sons of Disaster, From Sword to Sunrise and Taking Dawn will also be performing.

Photo courtesy of Chris Denner

THIS WEEK:

PG 9: A column about entertainers showing American ideology and a Q&A with the creator of PostSecret
PG 12: An interview with the creator of a PETA cookbook and a column on racism

www.alligator.org/avenue

REGULARS:

SEX: The effects of hollering, page 12
MUSIC: An overview of the best shows during The Fest 8, page 11

COMING UP:

The Avenue interviews Bayside, who will be performing for free at the Reitz on Nov. 13 at 8 p.m.

A-LIST

As the weather is getting cooler, now is the time to grab a coat and scarf and head outdoors. Take a walk on the Bolen Bluff trail in Paynes Prairie or go for a bike ride on the Hawthorne trail. The weather is also perfect for a romantic picnic, complete with a tablecloth and basket. Hurry up before it gets too cold!

band

Lacuna Coil transforms gothic sound into mainstream

By **NICOLE LA HOZ**
avenue contributing writer

Lacuna Coil has never been a conventional band.

Singers Cristina Scabbia and Andrea Ferro have clean voices, yet juxtapose each other with haunting Siren vocals and grittier male intensity.

Marco Coti Zelati's thick bass, Cristiano Mozzati's battering drums and the potent guitars of Marco "Maus" Biazzi and Cristiano Migliore mesh instead of clash.

The Italian rock band Lacuna Coil will play Friday at The Venue during the Hard Drive 2009 Tour presented by Rock 104 and Glory Days Presents!. Tickets are \$17 in advance, and the show begins at 7 p.m.

The band will be touring for the next few months with All That Remains, Maylene and the Sons of Disaster, From Sword to Sunrise and Taking Dawn.

Lacuna Coil is touring with its new album, "Shallow Life," the fifth release from the band. It departed from the gothic metal genre and made it to No. 16 on the Billboard 200 Chart. It's an honor that took the band "a little while to realize," Migliore, one of the guitarists, wrote in an e-mail.

"We're definitely proud. We love all these new songs. We wrote in such a relaxed way and there was no pressure at any time," he wrote.

Renowned producer Don Gilmore ensured Lacuna Coil was comfortable during recording for "Shallow Life." He flew to Italy after receiving demo tapes and discussed songs with the members. Migliore said Gilmore never pushed and took time to understand the band's history.

"This music really represent(s) what Lacuna Coil is today and we're glad that people like it," Migliore wrote.

Even after trotting around the

globe, playing festivals from Germany to Australia, Migliore had only positive remarks.

"It's just a matter of following your heart and write stuff that you really enjoy playing and listening to. If that wasn't the case, we wouldn't be doing this anymore."

CRISTIANO MIGLIORE
guitarist

"We never did a tour that we didn't like being on. We always met great people and tried to make the best out of every situation."

"I Like It," the second single off of "Shallow Life," epitomizes that ambience. In the music video, Scabbia

tries out as a singer for comical stereotypes, ranging from grill-wearing rappers to pyro-worshipping metalheads. As Scabbia and Ferro sing "I'm free to be what I like, I'm celebrating my life" in uplifting tones, tinges of an Italian accent slip out and Zelati, Mozzati, Biazzi and Migliore accompany them with revitalizing simplicity.

"The music always kinda gives you a certain feeling... it's all a very abstract thing, and it's also very personal. But we always try to make sure they both (lyrics and music) work together."

Lacuna Coil does not believe in repeating the same musical formula in every album, though. Since their self-titled extended play in 1998 – years after meeting in a Milan metal pub – Migliore said each release has been different.

"Shallow Life," with a grenade perfume bottle on the cover, delves into the superficiality of today's world.

"When we started writing the music for 'Shallow Life,' the whole concept about today's superficiality wasn't even there yet," Migliore wrote. "Andrea and Cristina came up with the idea at a later time and tried to adapt the lyrics they wrote to the music we wrote."

Members adapted to their changing influences, pairing eerie riffs with refreshing and catchy rock on some tracks and gothic beginnings with mainstream vibes on others. Dark undertones are present, and as the album progresses, more harmonies, cleaner vocals and tighter playing appear.

"We always try to go further, to go beyond our limits and try new solutions," Migliore wrote. "It's just a matter of following your heart and write stuff that you really enjoy playing and listening to. If that wasn't the case, we wouldn't be doing this anymore."

Kanye promotes change

By **JON SILMAN**
avenue writer

Maybe Kanye West is a genius after all. We are in the midst of a large ideological shift in America. Where the Bush administration left a lingering sense of disgust with the condition of American humanity on the pages of history, our new ideals are not opposite ones, but realistic ones. We are realistically gauging our misdeeds and trying to actively combat them. Carl Jung called it the animus. In "Star Wars," it's called the dark side. Genesis 8:21 says "the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth." With President Obama winning the peace prize (deservedly or not), it is evident that the world is taking notice of our ideals once again. America has done bad things. We waged a war that was proven to be based on false information. We let our greed corrupt us to the point where our economy exploded, and we have jeopardized the future of our youth with short-sighted decisions about the environment. Yes, we have given in to the dark. But something is happening, and it is clear that we can't turn back time to make things right, but we can fight back. The beauty of our culture is that it can mirror our ideals, or nudge us in new directions of action. There are some current works by popular American entertainers that illustrate our new ideology more than any words ever could.

Kanye West, "We Were Once a Fairytale" A short film by Spike Jonze

This film features West in a club acting boorishly. He's the golden child, caught in drunken wonder over the fact that his song is playing through the club's speakers. He bumbles around, annoys people and has anonymous sex with a sexy female stranger. He ends up laid out on a tile bathroom floor, spent. He vomits. Flowers spew out of him. He finds a knife and cuts himself open. He pulls a demon puppet out of himself, and hands it a mini knife that was attached to his bigger one. The demon commits suicide. West is America. Full of promise, but selfishly squandering potential through bad deci-

sions. We want him to succeed, but how many chances can we really give him? He's fighting the dark, though. Are we?

Brand New, "Daisy"

Brand New is a rock band from Long Island. "Daisy" is a follow-up to "The Devil and God are Raging Inside Me," a brilliant album drenched in personal torment. "Daisy" is darker, moodier and more ominous. Singer Jesse Lacey has tapped into something so raw and pure and he's screaming bullets at it. Lacey writes songs that make gray clouds explode with thunder storms and then drizzle. In "Sink," he sings, "How darkly the dark hand met his end. He was withered and bony, exposed for a phony. But we heed the last words that he penned. Haste to disgrace the traitor. Do not wait til later."

Michael Moore "Capitalism: A Love Story"

I do not profess to be a Moore fan. I do not necessarily agree with his politics, but he does know how to make a good movie. What he really brings to light is the culture of disgusting greed that has mutilated and decimated our society/economy. While the rich get richer, the poor get laid off. Our society was built on the idea that we could work hard and get somewhere. Not the idea that we should refinance our houses and buy shit. How much money do we really need? What happened to altruism? That money isn't going to fit in a suitcase when you die. Michael Moore, in his own special way, is fighting the darkness. So you see, enough with giving in to selfish, dark desires because they seem natural. Enough of accepting the dark without question. Fight. I'm not talking about religion, I'm not talking about spirituality. I'm talking about responsibility. A responsibility to get our shit together and be the person we wish to see in the world. A responsibility to change things. Thanks, Kanye. You sure get the point across.



Q & A with Frank Warren, creator of PostSecret

By **JOE DELLOSA**
avenue contributing writer

The Avenue speaks with Frank Warren, the creator of PostSecret, about postcards, religion and his new compilation, "Confessions on Life, Death, and God."

◆ **AVE:** Why do you think PostSecret resonates with so many people?

FW: I think some people want to read a funny story or maybe find some voyeuristic pleasure — there's some titillation from a sexual secret. But sometimes the postcards have artwork that is really painstakingly created or words that read like a poem; they've been so carefully chosen to express a secret, and I think for those people there's something much more meaningful being expressed on the card. I think sometimes people can recognize a secret they might be hiding from themselves articulated by a stranger on the postcard, and you make a connection like that.

◆ **AVE:** Do you think that there is something about physically creating and mailing the postcard that adds something to PostSecret that makes it more meaningful for the people who are sending the secrets?

FW: I've always been a big fan of postcards my whole life, and I think there's something magical there about what they do. But I also think the process, the ritual, of putting a secret of yours on a postcard — using the words to express it and writing it out — is physically letting go of that postcard in the mailbox to a stranger who you'll never see, who will never judge you once they read your secret. I think that process may be cathartic, or maybe even therapeutic, or help the person maybe on a longer journey to deal with that secret in their life in a way that's appropriate to them.

◆ **AVE:** The latest PostSecret compilation is called "Confessions on Life, Death, and God." Looking through the secrets in the book, there's certainly a strong spiritual theme among the postcards in the book. Why did you choose this theme?

FW: Well, as the project has continued, the secrets have, I think, become more philosophical or spiritual, so the new book has secrets that are silly and hopeful and painful and shocking, just like all the others, but it also has this added dimension of these soulful secrets.

◆ **AVE:** Do you consider yourself a religious person?

FW: I think I'm a spiritual person. My faith is evolving.

◆ **AVE:** Do you have any strong beliefs about life, or death, or God? Anything that, in particular, is important to you?

FW: I think one of my most important beliefs that I think I learned through PostSecret is the idea that the parts of our lives that in our past that have caused us the most pain and suffering and loneliness. If we can face them and get through them and share them with others, they can not only heal us but they can enlighten the whole community.

In my own life, the parts of my life as an adult now that give me the greatest sense of purpose and mission, I think, are tied directly to the parts of my earlier life with the greatest struggles.

◆ **AVE:** Many fans of PostSecret say that the project has helped them feel less alone. Do you think that we're more isolated and more alone nowadays?

FW: Yeah, I think that's one of the paradoxes of modern life — that there's never been a greater number of people on the planet, yet at the same time, there's never been a greater sense of loneliness.

◆ **AVE:** How did you get the idea for PostSecret?

FW: I think I had had secrets in my family growing up that I knew about but never knew the details to, and that kind of got me thinking that other people might have these secrets, too. And I was curious about them, so I wanted to try to create a space where we could have a clearinghouse for those secrets.

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THE GUIDE TO DINING OUT

AMERICAN

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FROZEN TREATS

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For more info on the guide to dining out, contact Brittany Fayne, alligator advertising, 376.4482

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music

Bands impress, surprise fans at Fest 8

By J. HUNTER Sizemore
alligator staff writer

The Fest 8 was like Disney for punks — a dazzling array of attractions made less enjoyable by long lines and low-capacity venues.

For a standard Fest pass holder, seeing a popular act meant arriving at the venue long before the band played, a strategy that causes headaches when the lineup throws several great bands in a row.

A perfect example was Sunday night at The Kickstand: The Emotron, O Pioneers!, Bomb The Music Industry! and Defiance, Ohio.

In the statement "If you like X band then you will like Y band," all of these acts are X and the venue reached capacity hours before Defiance, Ohio took the stage.

But the crowds were there with good reason. The Fest provided a whirlwind tour of up-and-coming undergrounders from every genre with ties to punk. All three days had incredible moments of fan dedication and artistic impressiveness.

On Friday, the metalcore band Coalesce was ferocious on the Common Grounds stage.

At moments, their trance-like states were hard to watch, appearing more like intensely personal religious experiences than public performances.

"We're here to f***in' play a punk rock show and have a good time,"

bassist Nathan Ellis said after the show. "What's important to us is getting the soul out."

Folk-punk outfit Andrew Jackson Jihad ruled Saturday with their impromptu show following a set inside the Civic Media Center.

Fans outside, who were held because of capacity, crowded around the center's entrance and started chanting, "Play outside! Play outside!"

Not wanting to disappoint, Andrew Jackson Jihad played several songs in the parking lot, with the guitar only barely audible under dozens of fans singing along.

On Sunday, Samiam, a major headliner of The Fest 8, was without their bassist, who had missed his flight to Gainesville.

To make sure the show would still happen, two local musicians involved with Fest learned the bass lines to Samiam's set and played in the show on Sunday night.

Those who saw the show said it went off seamlessly.

"That was really awesome to see Gainesville pulling together to help this band out," said Tony Weinbender, founder of The Fest. "Where else can you see that pulled off?"

For more of Weinbender's take on the Fest and a wrap-up of Fest weekend coverage see Alligator.org/blogs/fest.



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

Sean Ingram (left) screams Friday night while on stage with his band Coalesce at Common Grounds during The Fest 8. Sean Bonnette (below), singer and guitarist of Andrew Jackson Jihad, plays in an impromptu show in a parking lot outside of the Civic Media Center on Saturday afternoon.



Q & A with PETA about a vegan cookbook

◆ PETA'S VEGAN COOKBOOK STEMS OUT TO MEET COLLEGE LIFESTYLE

By **ALLISON BANKO**
contributing avenue writer

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has planted its newest target on college students. No worries, there won't be activists on Turlington Plaza splashing buckets of red paint on our coats. Instead, the group has made becoming vegan easier than ever by tailoring to students' fast-paced, budget-bearing lifestyles through a new cookbook, "PETA's Vegan College Cookbook: 275 Easy, Cheap, and Delicious Recipes to Keep You Vegan at School." The book meets every college student's needs, so excuses for not becoming vegan are as non-existent as the meat in veggie burgers.

Starza Kolman and Marta Holmberg wrote the book in a style that's both amusing and down-to-earth. In a fashion worthy of a few chuckles, they address the definition of veganism and collapse the common misconceptions and stereotypes, such as the berry-picking hippies we so often associate vegans to be. They acknowledge that college students are not necessarily the Betty Crockers of the world and thus have made all of the recipes microwave-friendly — no stove needed. Better yet, the bulk of the dishes take less than five minutes to prepare with slim ingredients that won't bust your budget.

Sifting through the 275 recipes is surprisingly intriguing due to the hilarious names each recipe bears, like the "WTF? Wings" or the "Booty Shakin' Bagel". The recipes range

on a large scale of mouth-watering deliciousness, varying from "F-U Tacos" to the "Fruity Frat-Tootie Smoothie." There are even special sections of recipes dedicated to variations on one food, like the budget-friendly Ramen noodles.

The book stays true to its mission, keeping sight of veganism facts, and benefits through little "did you know?" blurbs splattered throughout the book. Holmberg offered The Avenue more insight into veganism and the behind-the-scenes making of "PETA's Vegan College Cookbook: 275 Easy, Cheap, and Delicious Recipes to Keep You Vegan at School."

Marta Holmberg is the co-author of the vegan cookbook, as well as the street team coordinator for peta2- PETA's youth focused division.

◆ **There are many different reasons why people become vegan, such as environmentalism, animal rights, nutrition, etc. What's your reason?**

I am definitely a vegan for the animals. At age 4, I became a vegetarian after I realized that meat was actually an animal. Then, when I was in college at San Jose State in California, I made the switch over to being vegan.

◆ **Obviously college students live on a tight budget and yet eat out a lot. What advice can you give to college students on maintaining veganism in such circumstances?**

Beans are a vegan-friendly product that is a lot cheaper than meat at the grocery store. In the book, we have a lot of recipes dedicated to Ramen noodles, which are also fairly inex-

pensive. As for eating out, you just have to be specific with your restaurant orders. Request to have cheese and meat left off. Even at places like Taco Bell, just substitute beans for your meat in the taco. There are vegan options everywhere; you just have to look for them.

◆ **All 275 recipes in the book don't require a stove. There is even the "I'm, Like, So Easy! Blueberry Pancakes" that are made to eat in a mug. Won't many of the dishes look a bit funky when they come out of the microwave?**

I'll admit I was skeptical when we decided to make only microwavable meals. But there aren't any stoves in dorms so we made it work. It was about a year-and-a-half process of collecting and testing vegan-friendly recipes from PETA staff, interns and supporters. We received about 400 recipes and then cut it down to 275 dishes. There were definitely some snafus, but we put the dishes in the cookbook that we liked ourselves and that got the best responses from.

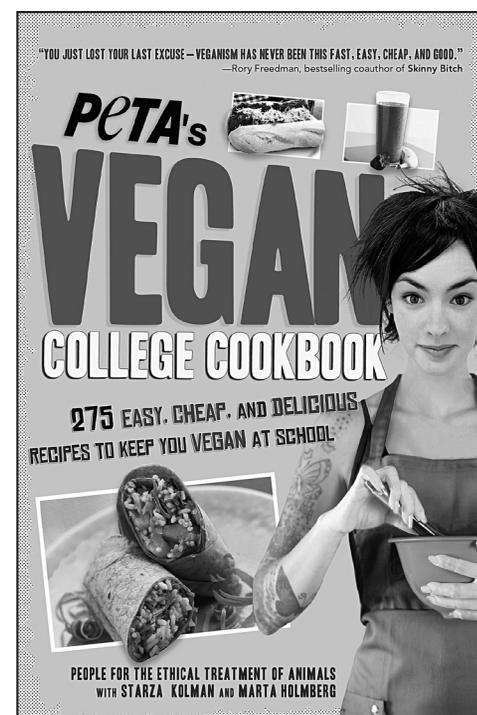
◆ **Most people think that being vegan doesn't allow many food options. What advice do you have to those scared to switch to a vegan lifestyle?**

You have to approach veganism with an open mind. There may be vegan dishes you don't like, but that doesn't mean you won't like some other vegan dish out there. It's not a scary transition. Some people can just jump into being vegan, but most just have to take it step by step. Start out small by substituting soy milk in with your cereal. Use applesauce

instead of eggs. Don't overwhelm yourself.

◆ **With dishes ranging from "Chocolate Dorm Cake" to "Stalker Fruit Salad," how nutritious are the recipes in the book?**

We wanted to make sure that we tailored to every type of college student's eating habits with the cookbook. We made sure there were dishes for everyone from the health nuts to the junk food junkies.



For picking up women, hollering not effective

By **MEAGAN MCGONE**
avenue writer

About two weeks ago, I bought a new bicycle. I can be seen spastically maneuvering around campus, maxing at 10 mph and periodically falling flat on my uncoordinated ass. The whole experience has been exhilarating, but it became enlightening a few days ago when I took a trip to Walmart.

On my way there, a truck slowed next to me and an old man hung out the passenger's side. He released a catcall so loud that I almost toppled off my seat and into the bushes. As I kept pedaling with the wind smacking my red cheeks, I wondered what provokes men to make these ridiculous gestures.

Say I ignored the fact that the man looked older than my father and that the truck's bed could easily conceal a dead body. Did this stranger actually think that hollering at an unexpected woman would be an effective way to pick her up?

Although this is America, not everything is as convenient as a Burger King drive-thru. When it comes to getting women, you have to at least get out of your car to have it your way.

A guy once told me that he keeps crumpled papers with his name and number scribbled on them on the floor of his car. When he passes a hot woman on the

street, he throws one at her.

I didn't stay friends with him long enough to discover if his method was effective.

Honking, whistling and tossing debris at female pedestrians will not only alarm them, but it will make you look like a baboon howling out of a car window. Or even worse — a creeper. Plus, I'd argue that 99

percent of the time you'll either receive a dirty look or a middle finger, and you will drive away without any hope of a potential hookup.

Maybe hollering brings men the same thrill that I get while I'm on my bicycle. I'm not trying to ruin your fun. I just want you to

know that there are better ways to show your approval that don't involve me crashing into a tree or you getting sprayed with Mace in the eyes.

So next time you crack your window open because you see something you like on University Avenue, roll it back up, because Gwen Stefani said it best when she confirmed that she "ain't no hollaback girl."

And the girl you are about to whistle at probably isn't either.



Meagan McGone
Columnist

social issue □

Racism becomes more subtle, complicated

By **ERIK VOSS**
avenue writer

Whenever I hear the word "racism," I think back to a friend I had in second grade named Christopher. Christopher, it turned out, wasn't big on black people. One afternoon, the two of us were playing on a jungle gym when two black boys asked to join us.

To Christopher, if the jungle gym integrated, it was only a matter of time before the slide and swing set toppled as well. This required swift action.

"You can't play with us," he snapped coldly. "You're different."

Unlike Christopher, I actually paid attention to my teacher's explanation of how Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks effectively ended racism in America. As an enlightened intellectual, I hoped to distance myself from the bigoted bumpkin next to me.

"Come on, Chris," I said. "Martin Luther King..."

I intended to complete the sentence, but no more words came out. All I remembered about Dr. King was that he had a dream and scored us a day off of school, neither of which seemed relevant on the jungle gym.

It didn't matter. The two black kids shrugged and walked away, and the 7-year-old Jim Crow nodded with the resolve of an elderly juror.

How could I let this happen? If this were

the real world, I assured myself, Christopher and I would surely be thrown in jail along with the child molesters and puppy killers. Grown-ups just didn't do that kind of thing.

I avoided Christopher after that experience. I preferred not to be the lieutenant of the second-grade skinheads.

For me, the jungle gym episode stands out as an example of racism because of its simplicity: an oppressor, a victim and an ignorant bystander.

Today, racism is a subtler, more complicated demon, surfacing in inappropriate jokes, hiring practices and reality television casting.

Now that I'm older, I like to think I understand the history of the Civil Rights Movement and the battles fought by the African-American community. But I've never fought those battles.

When I was ostracized on the playground, the reasons cited were lack of athleticism and a tendency to rat out the kids with cigarettes — not my skin color.

I'll never know why Christopher didn't want to play with those boys or what was running through their minds as they walked away.

I'm still just as clueless as I was on that jungle gym. It's just now I'm aware of it.



Erik Voss
Columnist

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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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Tile floors, except BRs. Covered patio. Close to Shands. Only \$550/mo. 1 yr lease. Call 352-372-3131 12-9-09-41-2

SERENOLA PINES APTS
Off SW 34th St. near post office. 1BR \$560; 2BR \$635 Call for daily specials 352-335-0420 11-30-09-37-2

WOODLAND TERRACE APTS
Off SW 34th St near post office. 2BR \$560; 1BR \$520. Call for daily specials. 352-335-0420 11-30-09-37-2

HOUSE avail now. 3BR/2BA, 1.5 miles to UF, near the Landings Apts. On UF bus rte. Bike to UF. Fenced backyard, fireplace, cent H/A/C. 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 Vet Med. Pets <50lbs arranged. 352-377-2150 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, security. No dogs. 378-3704 sallygville@aol.com 11-5-09-20-2

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First Month Free! Beautiful, spacious 3/2 condo, centrally located 1.5 miles from UF. VERY LOW UTILITIES! Pool, W/D. Quiet; no pets, please. Reduced to \$975. Exit Realty Producers 352-316-6842. 10-20-09-7-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

Move in Special: No Security Deposit
2/2 Condo with washer/dryer, screened-in porch, newer condo, near UF. Shands, located off 34th & Archer Rd. 2 units available \$750 per month. Call 317-5060 11-5-09-10-2

1/1 in 3/3 in Campus View Condos. 1235 SW 9th Road, 3rd floor unit. Newly built, w/d, new appliances, Females only please. \$515, from January to July 31st. Can move in early. Please call 727-776-7098. 11-6-10-2

\$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 painted, new refrigerator. Fenced in back yard, patio, and large W/D room plus storage. Avail Nov 1st. \$660. Only \$50 Sec, with reference. Call Karl 332-5030 11-9-09-10-2

Working at Shands or VA- nice 2/1 @ Summit House across the street. \$700/mo + \$200 dep. Call 352-8430-0220 to see. 11-25-21-2

\$550 Roomy 2/1.5 townhalf, Shands area, laundromat plus wd hookup, adjacent to Ag campus, city busses, your fenced yard, quiet, nice, affordable..900 s.f. 386-972-4115. Moritae@yahoo.com 11-18--09-15-2

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COTTAGE 1BR/1BA w/carport
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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 11-12-09-5-2

3 Subleases

\$280/mo+util. Sublease nxt spring/sum. Lg 1 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. Available spring & summer. Walk everywhere! 813-382-6031 11-6-09-5-3

3 Subleases

1/1 in a small, quiet complex off 34th st. Avail. Jan 2010-end of Jul 2010. W/D and D/W included, pets allowed, gated private patio, ceramic tile floors. \$739/mo. Negotiable terms. Jenna 863-860-4834 jennadg@ufl.edu 11-10-5-3

avail. Dec 1st 2/2 in Treehouse Village with w/d, gym, pool, on bus line.
Mary Seales: 352-372-3096 or seales@vanrooy.com ref: L202 11-12-5-3

4 Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE
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The Landings 336-3838
The Laurels 335-4455
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1 month free-Share 2B/2B MH in Cornerstone. 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 vacate. 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 11-13-09-16-4

WALK TO UF 1 or 2 rooms in a 4/2 apt. Ind. leases end 7/31/10. \$295/month/room. No pets. 1740 NW 3rd PL Call 352-231-3002 or email hodgeproperties@cox.net 11-16-09-15-4

SWEET 2/1 HOUSE
Prime location, 708 NW 10th Ave. includes; all Util's, W/D, and Swimming pool. Avail Now \$440. Plus sec. Call Karl 332-5030 11-9-09-10-4

Walk or bike to UF, Shands or VA. Roommate needed for nice 2/1, \$350/mo + half utilities at Summit House on SW 16th Ave. Recently renovated. \$200 dep. Call 352-843-0220 to see. 11-25-21-4

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

\$350 FEMALE ONLY
1/2 of utilities, FREE WATER! 786-797-2778 mad05@ufl.edu 11-9-8-4

Female wanted to share new 3BR/3BA home near campus (SW area) 2400sf. On bus route. Washer & dryer included. Furnished, except your bedroom. \$425 plus utilities. Serious, non-smoking students only. 813-610-1698 11-20-15-4

Female preferred. Share 2BR/2BA \$445/mo. Free cable/internet. Archer Rd & I-75. Master suite, walk-in closet, W/D. Quiet, private, wooded view.
Pool, gym, Common area furn. 1 cat. Lease thru Aug '10. 352-339-0502 11-6-09-5-4

Female roommates needed. Live in a big new house w/ bus stop to UF, quiet/relax area, fenced yard, private pool. 520/month all inclusive. Joyce 941-724-0961. Must see House Pics: tinyurl.com/mbs77r 11-25-15-4

5 Real Estate

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Gator Getaway -Exp old Florida. 20 acre lot 4 miles south of Archer. Century old live oaks, high & dry, beer & turkey. 15 mins from Gville. Investment priced \$6500/acre. Certified appraisal as of 9/8/09. 352-528-2406 Ten 11-30-09-30-5

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1br/1ba by Regal Cinemas & UF
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5 Real Estate

4bed/3Bath home in Savanna Pointe, just off the Prairie. \$479,500. Rural setting yet urban proximity. MLS#308127. Dawn Realty Visit VernonClouser.com for all the Details. Off Williston Rd, just West of Country Club 11-17-8-5

6 Furnishings

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 12-9-09-74-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 12-9-09-74-6

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Ahab	Hook	Kidd	Of industry
America	Hornblower	Marvel	Picard
Bligh	John Smith	Midnight	Von Trapp
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6 Furnishings

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

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

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

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 Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 12-9-74-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 12-9-74-6

Bed- All New King! 3pc Orthopedic pillowtop mattress set. Brand NEW, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$200 352-333-7516. 12-9-74-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
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FUTON - \$60 Solid Oak Mission Style. With plush mattress \$160. All brand NEW still in box. Can deliver. 352-333-7516 12-9-74-6

6 Furnishings

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

SOFA \$185 Brand new! Love seat \$150 still in pkg. Can del 352-333-7516 12-9-74-6

7 Computers

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9 Bicycles

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10 For Sale

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12 Autos

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 96 Chevy Cavalier \$1499 cash
 352-338-1999 12-9-40-12

92 Honda Accord \$1499 cash
 96 Lincoln Mark 8 \$1999 cash
 97 Mazda Millenia \$1999 cash
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92 Chevy Camero \$1999 cash
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 98 Chrysler Cirrus \$1999 cash
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

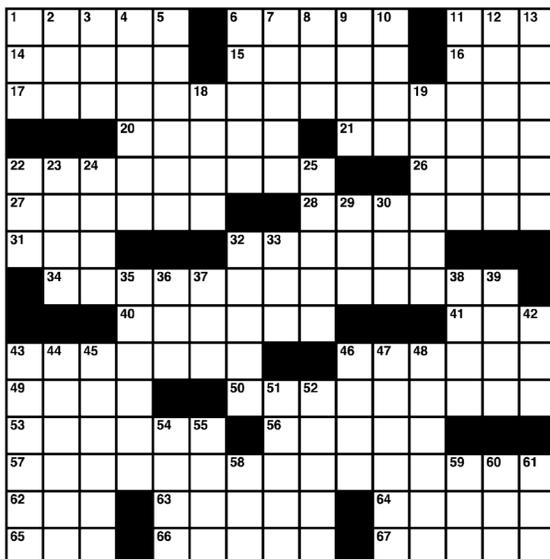
- ACROSS**
- 1 Thumper's buddy
 - 6 La Scala production
 - 11 Cap seen on a brae
 - 14 Render weaponless
 - 15 Ad target
 - 16 "If you ask me," in chat room shorthand
 - 17 Non-speaking line?
 - 20 "___ at 'em!"
 - 21 Spill the beans
 - 22 Non-speaking line?
 - 26 Word after pig or pony
 - 27 State of rest
 - 28 Little women
 - 31 Aurora's Greek counterpart
 - 32 Romantic hopeful
 - 34 Non-speaking line?
 - 40 Vital anatomical passage
 - 41 George Gershwin's brother
 - 43 Blankety-blank type
 - 46 Jaime Sommers, TV's "___ Woman"
 - 49 The Phantom of the Opera
 - 50 Non-speaking line?
 - 53 Magnetic inductivity units
 - 56 Soda size
 - 57 Apt adage for this puzzle
 - 62 Summer drink
 - 63 Too trusting
 - 64 Prefix with surgery
 - 65 Smidgen
 - 66 "Li!" guy
 - 67 Bygone anesthetic
- DOWN**
- 1 Mooch, as a ride
 - 2 "___ questions?"
 - 3 Start to practice?
 - 4 Under-the-sink brand
 - 5 Gets moving

- 6 President with a Grammy
- 7 Not as diluted
- 8 Look over
- 9 Remaining part for Vatican City
- 11 Attack à la Don Quixote
- 12 2001 French film starring Audrey Tautou
- 13 Cover girls, e.g.
- 18 Hook's right hand
- 19 Worn things
- 22 Fury
- 23 Cat call
- 24 Lhasa ___: Tibetan dog
- 25 Like much Thai cuisine
- 29 Greek "H"
- 30 High point
- 32 Attach, as a patch
- 33 Country where Häagen-Dazs H.Q. is
- 35 Continue to irritate
- 36 Accomplished students
- 37 Some coll.
- 38 Diamond source
- 39 Celtic land
- 42 Behave
- 43 Goes after
- 44 Tater Tots maker
- 45 Like theaters
- 46 Five-time Wimbledon champ
- 47 "Later, bro"
- 48 Brunch staple
- 51 Source of edible oil
- 52 Crime planner
- 54 "Happy tune" whistler of Broadway
- 55 Picketer's bane
- 58 "Ich bin ___ Berliner!"
- 59 "How could I miss that?!"
- 60 Before, before
- 61 Negative conjunction

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 11/05/09



By Xan Vongsathorn
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14 Help Wanted



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The Business Office at The Alligator has an open position for an Accounting Clerk. Applicant must be a currently enrolled student, preferably in Accounting or Business Administration. Duties include operating Quickbooks accounting system to work with accounts receivables and accounts payables. Other duties consist of manipulating Excel spreadsheets, answering phones, and general office duties. Organization and a great attitude is a necessity. Candidate should be able to work 10-15 hrs per week and commit to a 1 year term. Please send resume, along with a cover letter to: Business Office, The Independent Florida Alligator PO Box 14257, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257. Email: mbell@alligator.org AND tcarey@alligator.org, or Fax: 352-376-4556. No phone calls please.

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Magic maze
Answers
CAPTAIN

Spikes decides to sit out entire Vanderbilt game

By PHIL KEGLER
Alligator Staff Writer
pkegler@alligator.org

Florida linebacker Brandon Spikes will sit out the entire Vanderbilt game Saturday, coach Urban Meyer and Spikes jointly announced Wednesday.

Meyer and Spikes spoke to the media for roughly 30 seconds each.

Neither took any questions.

The senior All-American was originally suspended Monday for only the first half by Meyer. The penalty came in regards to an incident Saturday where Spikes put his hand in the facemask of Georgia running back Washaun Ealey.

"Brandon came to see us last night. Coach Strong and myself and a lot of the negative things out there are really weighing heavy on his heart right now," Meyer said. "And so we thought, as a group, we decided it would be best interest just for the team to not play him Saturday, but it's a group decision and we're doing it out of respect to our team so we can try to focus on trying to win

our ninth game. We think it's the right thing to do.

"We support Brandon fully. We look forward to him getting back and finishing the season the right way."

Spikes led the Gators in tackles Saturday after sitting out the previous seven quarters with a groin injury.

"I really don't want to be a distraction to the team. I want the guys to prepare without any negative things going on, and I feel like if I would play it would be a big thing going on."

Brandon Spikes
UF senior linebacker

"I really don't want to be a distraction to the team," Spikes said. "I want the guys to prepare without any negative things going on, and I feel like if I would play it would be a big thing going on."

"I'm just trying to stay out of the way, just motivate the guys. I'm pretty sure the (coaching) staff's got my back, and my teammates really support me in this decision."



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF linebacker Brandon Spikes will not play Saturday after the senior All-American decided he did not want to be a distraction to his team.

Gators slip by Vols in double OT

■ LINDSAY THOMPSON SCORED THE GAME-WINNING GOAL IN THE 1-0 MATCH.

By TYLER JETT
Alligator Writer
tjett@alligator.org

The No. 1 seed cleared its first test, albeit in a heart-stopping fashion.

No. 10 Florida (15-4-2), the regular-season Southeastern Conference champion, needed a golden goal in double overtime to sneak past Tennessee (8-9-3) 1-0 in the first round of the conference tournament Wednesday.

The goal came after midfielder Erika Tymrak recovered a Tennessee clearance at the top of the Volunteers penalty box. Tymrak carried the ball to the right wing then, with three defenders marking her, the freshman crossed it to Lindsay Thompson on the left side of the penalty box.

From there, Thompson was able to put the ball in the upper-right corner of the goal in the 102nd minute.

"We'd been so close the whole game," Thompson said. "We were really taking it to them. To finally end the game felt amazing."

Thompson has been the go-to scorer for the Gators all year, and Wednesday marked the fifth time this season that she scored a goal to put UF ahead for good.

Coach Becky Burleigh said she thought the team had plenty of good opportunities, something the scoreboard did not reflect.

"(Tennessee) plays really hard, and they put a lot of pressure on you," Burleigh said. "We did a pretty good job of keeping our composure in that circumstance."

The Gators could have ended the game in the 81st minute, when Volunteers goalkeeper Molly Baird was caught out of position. After a Thompson pass, forward McKenzie Barney had a wide-open net to shoot at, but defender Ali Hall put her body in front of Barney and deflected the shot.

UF recorded its fifth-straight shutout, although UT had a few opportunities to score midway through the



Soccer

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 18

Nelson reaches out with scholarship fund

A year and a half ago, I had the pleasure of interviewing Stacey Nelson for a feature story, and she told me about her love for Africa and helping people.

"I don't know why I'm so interested in Africa, but I am," Nelson said in 2008. "I took Swahili. I was hoping to go over there in the Peace Corps, but they don't send people to East Africa anymore because it's too dangerous. I just wanted to get involved because of all the people struggling over there."



Kyle Maistri
Kyle Points
kmaistri@alligator.org

Nelson finished her last season as a Gator as the school's leader in every meaningful pitching category and the best player on UF's first-ever trips to the Women's College World Series, including a heart-breaking loss to Washington in last season's finals.

Wednesday, I had the pleasure of sitting down with Stacey Nelson again, and the subject matter of our conversation didn't change a whole lot.

Except she's no longer speculating about her future

SEE KYLE, PAGE 20

TEeing OFF WITH MIKE McCALL

■ Here's to hoping Tim Tebow can outperform Tyler Hansbrough in commercial acting after his college career ends. First, Psycho T was tracking down a lost dog. Now, he's in a super-awkward Acura commercial. You can do it, Tim! ... Be afraid, Florida fans. ECU defensive coordinator Greg Hudson is a possible replacement for Mickey Andrews at FSU. If his swashbuckling defense makes it to Tallahassee, it'll mean big trouble for UF.

UF CROSS COUNTRY NEWS

■ Redshirt sophomore Rebecca Lowe was named SEC Female Cross Country Athlete of the Year, and coach Todd Morgan was named Women's Coach of the Year.

UF FOOTBALL AWARDS UPDATE

■ Tim Tebow (Maxwell Award, top overall player), Brandon Spikes (Bednarik Award, top defensive player), Joe Haden (Thorpe Award, top defensive back) are all semifinalists for their respective honors.

Trio of Gators face challenge of indoors

By **GREG LUCA**
Alligator Writer

Allie Will, Alex Lacroix and Antoine Benneteau will have to compete not only with 32 of the nation's best players but also with an unfamiliar set of elements at the ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships this weekend.

The second leg of the collegiate tennis grand slam, which will be held at Yale in New Haven, Conn., is the first tournament of the season that will be held entirely indoors.

Making the necessary adjustments can be tricky for some, but nothing a little extra practice time can't remedy.

"I have some issues with my eyesight," Will said. "I see the ball a little differently indoors. It's something I have to adjust to."

Will's coaches suggested she take a couple days off after her win in the ITA Southeast Regional finals Oct. 26, but Will, the tournament's No. 6 seed, chose to limit her rest to just a day to get as much indoor practice time as possible.

Typically, indoor courts play a great deal faster than outdoor, as players have an easier time lining up their shots without any wind interference.

"The biggest difference is you don't have to factor in any outdoor elements like wind, the sun, cold, or heat. It's more neutral than outdoor," men's assistant

coach Jeremy Bayon said.

The change in arena has forced the players and coaches to make slight alterations to their original strategies.

"Indoor tennis is a lot faster and more powerful, so (Lacroix and Benneteau) just need to be aware and take the first strike often and be aggressive," men's coach Andy Jackson said.

In addition to a change in practice venue, the UF players took the trip up to New Haven a day early to get used to the unfamiliar environment.

"Indoor tennis is a lot faster and more powerful, so (Lacroix and Benneteau) just need to be aware and take the first strike often and be aggressive,"

Andy Jackson

UF men's tennis coach

"Alex and Antoine went up a little early and got to practice (Tuesday) night and practice (Wednesday) so they'll be perfectly acclimated," Bayon said.

Women's head coach Roland Thornqvist is equally confident in Will's ability to make the transition seamlessly.

"The lighting is great, and she hit the ball very, very well (Wednesday), so we're not worried at all about her getting acclimated," Thornqvist said.

UF to face South Carolina in next round

SOCCER, from page 17

second half.

After Florida goalkeeper Katie Fraine tried to boot the ball deep, a UF player mishit a header, and Tennessee forward Emily Dowd carried the ball unmarked into the Gators' defensive third.

Fraine approached Dowd to cut off her angle at the goal, but Dowd was able to sneak the ball past Fraine. The shot slowly rolled toward the net but ultimately ended up wide to the left.

"That was the scariest situation of the night," Fraine said.

Dowd, a Gainesville native, terrorized UF's back line again 10 minutes later, outthrusting a Gators defender for the ball in the left corner and crossing it to forward Jayden Barrett.

Barrett had an open look at the left side of the goal but hit the ball awkwardly on the side of her foot, sending it wide left.

UF has one day off before playing South Carolina (16-3-1) Friday night. After such a long game Wednesday, Burleigh said the team will do pool workouts to rejuvenate before getting back on the pitch.

"That's the nature of this tournament," Burleigh said. "You're going to have to play hopefully three games that are really hard in a row."



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF midfielder Lindsay Thompson (18) scored the game-winning goal in Florida's 1-0, double-overtime victory over Tennessee in the first round of the SEC Tournament.

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The Alligator will not be publishing Wednesday, November 11 due to the Veteran's Day Holiday.

The DEADLINE for Thursday, November 12 is Monday, November 9 at 4 p.m.

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These deadlines apply to both Display and Classified advertising.

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SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

Alabama-LSU matchup will play key role in SEC West

By **PHIL KEGLER**
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One of the teams in the Dec. 5 Southeastern Conference Championship Game has been set. The other could be decided Saturday.

Florida clinched the SEC East with its 41-17 win over Georgia on Saturday combined with South Carolina's 31-13 loss at Tennessee.

Now, No. 3 Alabama (8-0, 5-0 SEC) and No. 9 LSU (7-1, 4-1 SEC) will face off in Tuscaloosa at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, with control of the SEC West up for grabs. A Crimson Tide victory would give them the division title and a ticket to Atlanta. If the Tigers prevail, they would control their own destiny — win out, and LSU would play in the SEC title game.

LSU has won five of the last six games in the series, although Alabama won 27-21 in Baton Rouge last season.

The Crimson Tide and the Tigers enter the game ranked No. 2 and No. 3, respectively, in the conference in scoring defense.

"It's hard to figure out exactly scores, but I suspect both offenses will move more slowly than they'd like," LSU coach Les Miles said.

Another crucial matchup will be Alabama receiver Julio Jones against LSU's

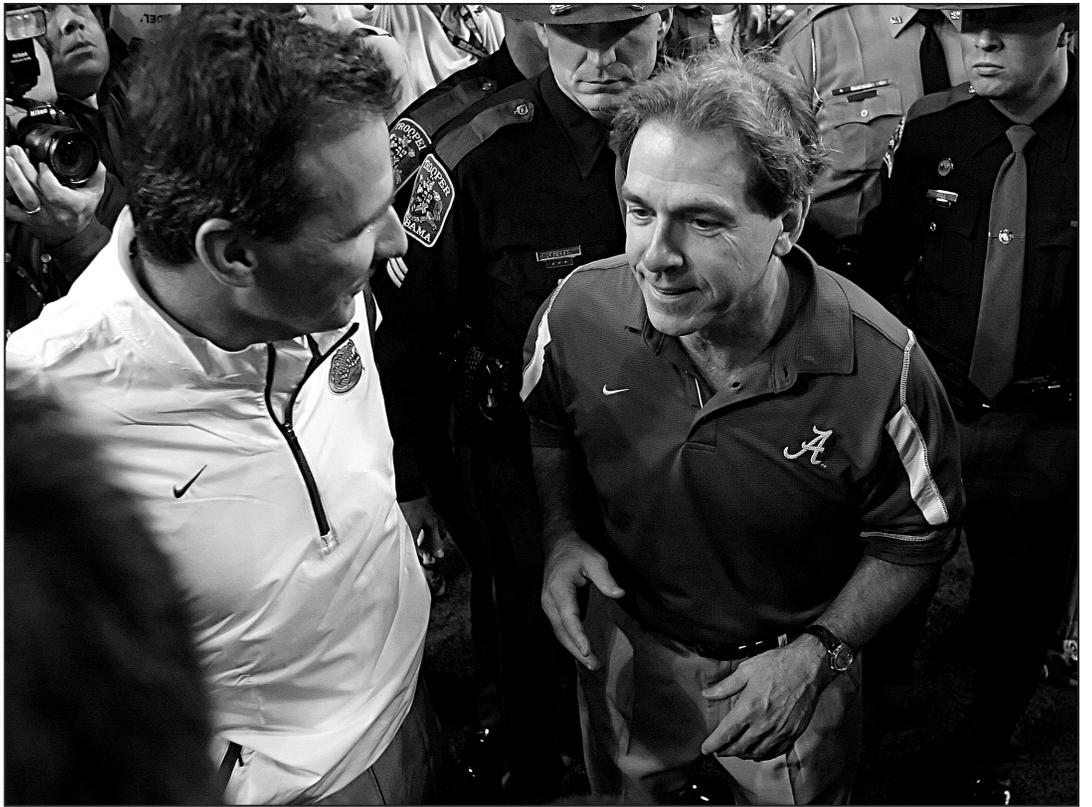
secondary. The sophomore has been plagued by injuries this season after a freshman campaign in which he ranked third in the SEC in receiving yards per game.

"I think he's 100 percent healthy, playing faster, more confident," Alabama coach Nick Saban said. "He's a guy that needs to make plays for us. He's got a lot of talent and a lot of ability. He's got great size and speed, and he's a great competitor. He's gotta become a part of the offense for us."

FATHER-SON CLICKING: Through eight games, Tennessee is only 4-4, but the Volunteers' defense has come together quite nicely under coordinator Monte Kiffin, father of coach Lane Kiffin.

"He's done such a phenomenal job," Lane Kiffin said of his father. "To be in the first year of a system and to have so many injuries to work through — (the play) has been great."

"I had not thought about the recruiting as much, but it's been unbelievable. When kids come here and meet him and he sits down with them and shows them how he can coach them and how he can get them to the next level, the reaction has been unbelievable by high school kids. We've even started putting our offensive recruits with him because they're just so blown away by him."



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

Alabama coach Nick Saban will be facing his former LSU team for the third time this Saturday. A win would clinch the SEC West for the Crimson Tide.

2B Iwamura believes Pirates can become a contender soon

■ HE WAS RECENTLY
TRADED FROM THE RAYS.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Akinori Iwamura apparently didn't check the standings after being traded from the Tampa Bay Rays to the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Iwamura, acquired to be the Pirates' starting second baseman, is hoping his new team can be a contender soon.

"I know, of course, about Roberto Clemente and that it is a great organization," Iwamura said after being traded from Tampa Bay to Pittsburgh on Tuesday night.

While Iwamura made it to the World Series with the Rays in 2008,

he might want to rein in his expectations a bit. The Pirates lost 99 games during a major league-record 17th consecutive losing season this year, and they've averaged nearly 96 losses during the last five seasons.

Iwamura might be basing his optimism on the fact Tampa Bay went from winning 66 games in 2007 to

winning 97 and the AL pennant in 2008, but the Rays had far more promising players ready for the majors than the Pirates currently do.

The Pirates are gambling \$4.85 million, plus right-handed reliever Jesse Chavez, with the hope that Iwamura will heal from the torn ACL in his left knee that sidelined him for three months this season. Iwamura, 30, played the final month

of the season despite not being fully healthy.

"It feels very good, but it's still not 100 percent," Iwamura said, speaking through interpreter Yoshi Hasegawa, his agent. "But I proved last year I can still play at a high level. I think I can play just like I did in the World Series. It will be fine next season, completely healthy."



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Adams takes over as Vandy's QB after injury to Smith

■ SMITH TORE HIS HAMSTRING AGAINST GEORGIA TECH.

By **KYLE MAISTRI**
Alligator Staff Writer
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Redshirt senior Mackenzi Adams led Vanderbilt to a road victory over then-No. 6 South Carolina in his first career start in 2007.

He peaked early.

Since then, Adams struggled to hold off Chris Nickson as the team's starting quarterback while passing for 1,925 yards, 14 touchdowns and 14 interceptions in his sophomore and junior seasons combined.

Sophomore Larry Smith usurped him as the Commodores' starting signal caller this year and showed signs of promise as a passer and runner.

But Smith tore his hamstring last week against Georgia Tech, and Adams will once again be Vanderbilt's starting quarterback this weekend against Florida.

"Somebody has to step up

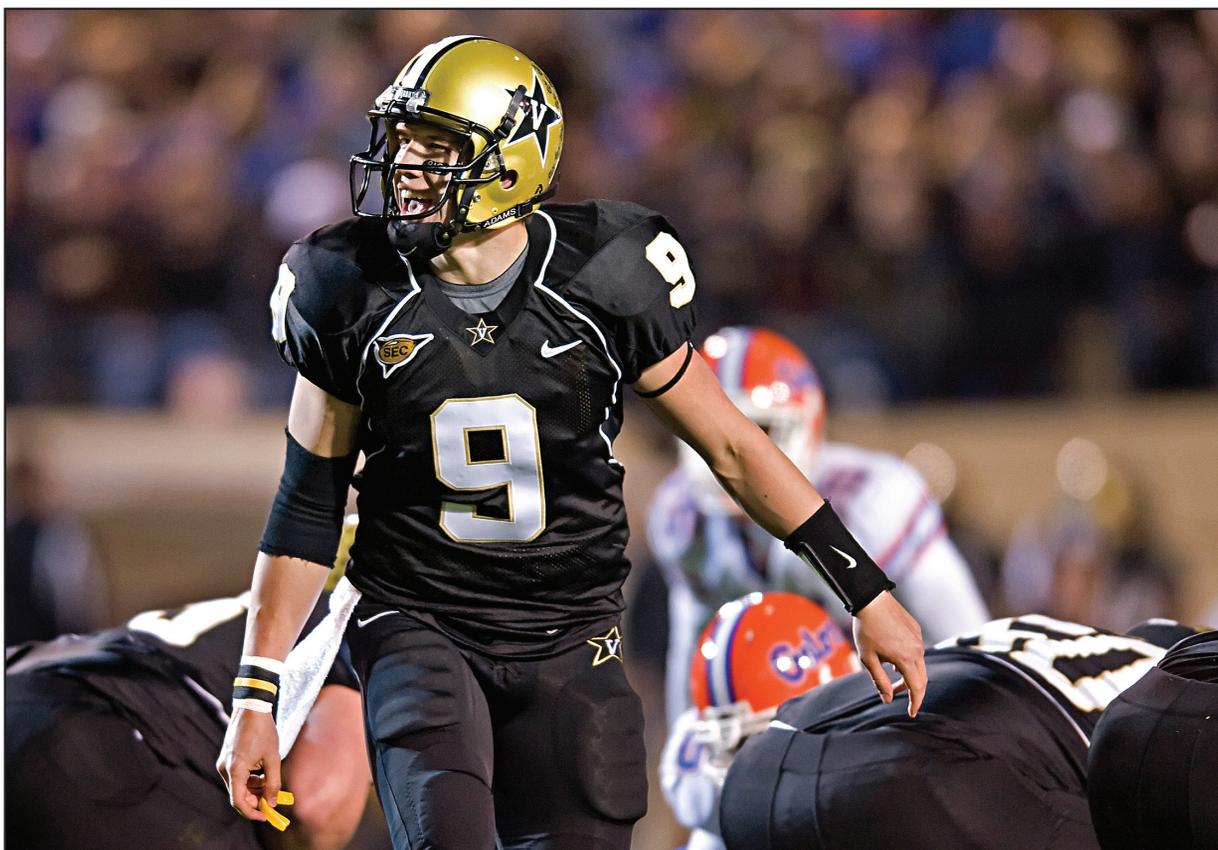
and take the place of those players you were counting on," Vanderbilt coach Bobby Johnson said. "You have to prepare them the best you can when that happens and try to dig deep down in your depth, or lack of depth whatever you want to call it, and try to get some players ready to go."

The Gators boast the Southeastern Conference's toughest passing defense, as they have surrendered 138.8 yards per game through the air.

In two career games against UF, Adams has completed 21 of his 40 passes for 206 yards and three interceptions, though he did rush for two touchdowns in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium in 2007.

Florida coach Urban Meyer said Adams brings some familiarity to the game, but his team won't have to make any last-minute adjustments.

"(Smith) was a tremendous athlete, a big athlete," Meyer said. "(Adams) is a very good athlete. We've played against him before. We're not changing our game plan. I don't think they'll change their offense."



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

Vanderbilt quarterback Mackenzi Adams will make his first start of the year against UF, which has the SEC's best pass defense. In two games against Florida, Adams is 21 of 40 for 206 yards and three interceptions.

Murphy's recent success aided by teammates' play

The sophomore has seven triple-doubles in '09

By **ANTHONY CHIANG**
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More times than not, there is someone else to thank for one's success.

In sophomore setter Kelly Murphy's case there are 14 women to thank — her teammates.

It is easy to notice all of the things she does to help No. 9 Florida (18-3, 12-2 Southeastern Conference) win, but the impact the other members of the team have on her performance often goes overlooked.

Murphy is asked to do a lot for the Gators, as she leads the NCAA in triple-doubles with seven and also plays two positions, opposite hitter and setter.

But UF coach Mary Wise made it clear that

most of her accomplishments are due to the play of her teammates.

Her setting and hitting stats are helped by the excellent libero play of senior Elyse Cusack because of the importance of first contact, while the middle blockers are to thank for Murphy's high dig numbers, Wise said.

During the recent six-match win streak, Murphy has excelled. In that short stretch, she has tallied three triple-doubles while posting a .463 hitting efficiency.

"A lot of it has to do with our passing," Murphy said. "We've been passing really well lately and that just makes everything else easier. I have to credit my teammates a lot."

However, it goes both ways. Her versatility has helped take some of the load off of her teammates. In just her sophomore year,

Murphy has broken all kinds of records while helping the Gators rebound from losing two starters last season.

Not even Cusack, who has played with six All-Americans, can remember playing with such an all-around talent.

"Anytime you have a player like Kelly who can set and hit, it is kind of unique," Cusack said. "I've never played with a player as dominant as she is."

Playing two drastically different positions, it is essential that Murphy has different mindsets while playing at different spots on the floor.

"You know when you rotate to the front row it's different, you have to score points and

kill balls," Murphy said. "In the back row, it's more about digging balls and setting up the other teammates."

The numbers that really stick out to Wise are the sophomore's kill and dig statistics because the amount of attempts she has at each is restricted due to her constant rotation from the front row to the back row.

If that has affected her game, it hasn't shown. She is still knocking down three kills per set while also having the second most digs on the team this season.

But if something is going to limit her game, it will be the play of her teammates, Wise said. So far, though, they have only helped take her to new heights.

"You can make the argument that Kelly is most talented player in this league based on all that she does for our team," Wise said. "But she is only as good as her teammates allow her to be."

KYLE, from page 17

in humanitarianism — she's acting.

Nelson, who is still living in Gainesville while she finishes up her undergraduate degree, has started Stacey Nelson's Get Educated, Get Rewarded! Scholarship Program.

"My plan is to give out scholarships to high school Juniors who respond to a challenge following a presentation on the current humanitarian crisis in Northern Uganda," reads a statement on Nelson's Web site.

She gave her first presentation Wednesday and will be focusing on four Gainesville-area high schools: Buchholz, Gainesville, Eastside and Oak Hall.

Any high school student may apply and write an essay demonstrating his or her understanding of the current crisis in Uganda.

Needless to say, I doubt very much I would be able to qualify for her scholarship.

Nelson has already raised enough money through private donations to award one \$500 first-place scholarship, and depending on how much money she is able to raise, there will be multiple second- and third-place scholarships worth \$250 and \$100, respectively.

Her work to both develop and put into effect a scholarship in her name is incredibly impressive in its own right, but it doesn't stop there. Nelson, who hopes to earn a law degree in international humanitarian law, has made a habit of giving back.

Last spring, the softball team hosted Swing for Cancer, and Nelson mowed down Florida athletes and coaches from inside the circle in the name of charity.

On Oct. 23, she decided athletes and coaches weren't enough and teamed up with former Gators pitcher and current UF med student Stacey Stevens in striking out students to raise money for Project Heal, a group that takes a medical outreach trip to Ecuador each spring break.

Later this month, Nelson will travel back to Japan — one of the stops she made as a member of Team USA over the summer — to strike out Japanese athletes and celebrities for a cause yet to be determined (last year, it was physical disabilities).

Evidently, mowing down overmatched batters in the name of helping others in the Western Hemisphere wasn't enough.

"It's kind of a snowball effect," Nelson said of her constant involvement. "It feels good to do good."

She plans to use her spring semester — the one she would be taking "off" between undergrad and law school — to finally make her trip to Africa for a few weeks as a teaching volunteer for children.



Volleyball

Giving back to the community — be it local, national or global — is just as much a part of who Nelson is as softball. In fact, more so.

"I never wanted to be looked at as just a softball player," she said. "I wanted to be looked at as a girl who played softball."

Perhaps the perfect attitude for a public figure to have.

Athletes don't ask to be thought of us as role models, but they are just the same. Luckily for Nelson, and everyone her hard work touches, she happens to be a role model first and a dominant pitcher second.

It's incredibly easy for an athlete, or any college-age person, to sit in an interview room and talk about giving back to the community later in life. Too often, we are all guilty of starting ideas we never have the wherewithal to close.

Nelson will forever be remembered in Gainesville as one of the greatest starting pitchers UF has ever seen.

And she's making one helluva a push to be remembered as one of the greatest closers, as well.

Off the field, of course.

If you would like to donate money to or get more information about Stacey Nelson's scholarship program, you can contact her at sn.geteducated@gmail.com or visit her Web site at plaza.ufl.edu/staceyn. Or join her Facebook group: Stacey Nelson's Get Educated, Get Rewarded! Scholarship Program.