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VOLUME 103 ISSUE 59

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009

UF 24   SOUTH CAROLINA 14

Florida finishes SEC slate perfect

■ THE GATORS WON THEIR 20TH GAME IN A ROW.

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

COLUMBIA, S.C. — It has rarely been pretty, but the victory meals keep on coming for Florida.

Urban Meyer won't let his team forget it.

No. 1 UF's 24-14 win over South Carolina on Saturday gave the Gators 20 straight wins, good for sixth in Southeastern Conference history, as well as their first perfect league record since 1996.

"Our team, we have victory meals on Sunday nights," said Meyer, whose .800 winning percentage in SEC games is now tops all-time among coaches of at least five years. "I can't tell you what we eat, but when I hear 'victory meal' it's all good.

"We did not play perfect, obviously. I'm not sure we've played perfect in quite a while."

The offense left plenty of points on the field — three missed field goals and two would-be touchdowns dropped by Riley Cooper were the most obvious. The defense struggled in the first half, allowing 206 yards to South Carolina. The



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF defensive end Justin Trattou returns an interception 53 yards in the fourth quarter of the Gators' 24-14 win against South Carolina on Saturday.

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 15

ON CAMPUS

Show celebrates culture of East, West

By **ALISON SCHWARTZ**
 Alligator Writer

It was an hour before show time — 60 minutes before the stage lit up with the twists and twirls of jewel-toned saris and sequined skirts.

Meera Dave wasn't nervous.

Well, just a little bit, she admitted.

Dave was one of more than 150 performers to celebrate the Indian festival of lights Sunday evening at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts for the Diwali Show, a dance-filled commemoration of the Indian

"It's important to incorporate where we're from [into the dance routines]. It's a fusion of two backgrounds,"

Meera Dave
 UF sophomore

new year.

"You get to bond with other people that share the same background and culture," the UF sophomore said. "It's about heritage."

More than 1,000 people packed the auditorium, some donning traditional Indian outfits, to celebrate the holiday, which was officially last month.

The performance was organized by the UF Indian Student Association.

Prashanth Shanmugham, a UF sophomore and the treasurer of the club, said the performance represents a cultural celebration.

"It's an opportunity for those in the Indian community to really get together and celebrate the festival," he said.

The stage lights danced off rhinestone-dotted fabric, accentuated by the icicle lights

SEE DIWALI, PAGE 8

Group wraps up heritage month

By **ANDREW WYZAN**
 Alligator Contributing Writer

The Reitz Union Amphitheater was filled to capacity with sounds of cheers, laughter and singing for the second annual Asian Arts and Entertainment Festival Friday night.

About 500 students attended the event.

The festival was a showcase of Asian-Americans in the arts, with the three main acts consisting of singer and YouTube celebrity Gabe Bondoc, comedian Steve Byrne and Quest Crew, the winners of the third season of "America's Best Dance Crew."

The festival was the closing event for Kaleidoscope Month, an Asian-American awareness period starting Oct. 5 and ending Friday.

"The goal is to raise awareness to Asian culture at UF," said Theo Urbano, assistant director of Kaleidoscope Month and a junior nursing major. "The reason we decided on these specific acts was because they represent three different aspects of entertainment: singing, dancing and comedy."

Gabe Bondoc was the first of the three main acts, serenading the crowd with a five-song set list that consisted of original

SEE CONCERT, PAGE 8

■ UF center Vernon Macklin (right) struggled in two exhibition games but had a much better showing in the Gators' regular-season debut Sunday, a 74-46 win over Stetson. See Story, Page 13.



South Fla. man says he'll choose pet pig over town

SOUTHWEST RANCHES, Fla. (AP) — Town officials have ordered a man to get rid of his 300-pound pet pig, but the owner says he'd rather leave town than give up the animal.

Rob Falk of Southwest Ranches has a Yorkshire pig named Strawberry, and council members cited Falk's landlord for a code violation in July. Last week, officials gave Falk 30 days to remove Strawberry from the home, saying that the town allows only one Vietnamese pot bellied pig per household. Officials are also worried that the pig will get bigger and grow large tusks.

Falk says the family will move because "the pig is like one of our children."

■ A regional organization collects and gives away more than 200 stuffed animals to cancer patients every week. See Story, Page 5.

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News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

AASU General Body Meeting

Today, 6:30 p.m.
New Physics Building, Room 1002
Join the Asian American Student Union to learn more about issues affecting our community and the different cultures within AASU.

Student United Way General Body Meeting

Tuesday, 7:20 p.m.
Turlington Hall, Room 2305
The Student United Way is a new organization on campus looking for active individuals ready to make a difference in the Gainesville community. The organization aims to increase school readiness and graduation rates, as well as improve access to preventative and diagnostic health care, and increase financial stability. If you are looking for a meaningful club to get involved in, this is it.

Peace Corps Business Globetalk

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
The Hub International Center
Interested in working in business abroad? Listen to Peace Corps volunteers speak about their experiences working with individuals and communities to promote economic and business opportunities at the grassroots level. A recruiter will be available to answer questions pertaining to the application process. E-mail peacecorps@ufic.ufl.edu for questions.

NWL's Consciousness Raising on Housework & the Holidays

Wednesday, 7 p.m.
NWL office at 14 E University Ave. (Vidal bldg.), Suite 204
National Women's Liberation is asking, "Who does the housework in your home during the holidays?" Come learn how this is a feminist issue and how to fight for equality in this and other matters. Women only, please. Visit womensliberation.org for more information.

Miss UF Contestant's meeting

Thursday, 7 p.m.
Alpha Delta Pi sorority house
The first contestant's meeting for the Miss University of Florida Scholarship Pageant will be held Thursday. Please e-mail missuf-director@gmail.com or join the Miss University of Florida 2010 Facebook group for more information.

FORECAST

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
SUNNY 80/55	PARTLY CLOUDY 79/58	PARTLY CLOUDY 79/58	RAIN 80/59	PARTLY CLOUDY 80/57

Alpha Zeta Pancake Breakfast

Saturday 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Applebee's, 1005 NW 13th St.
Enjoy a pregame breakfast at Applebee's while supporting the College of Agricultural and Life Science's co-ed honors fraternity. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased pre-sale or at the door.

RUB Entertainment presents "Julie & Julia"

Friday, 9 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.
Reitz Union Auditorium
Meryl Streep stars as Julia Child and Amy Adams stars as Julie Powell. The film directed by Nora Ephron brings to life Child's novel, "My Life in France" and Powell's novel, "Julie and Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, 1 Tiny Apartment Kitchen." For more info, visit union.ufl.edu/rub.

Got an event?

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

LOCAL

More than 200 turn out for Indian dance festival

Gainesville residents traded in their jeans and T-shirts for saris and kurtas at Friday's Diwali Dance Festival.

Pink, turquoise, purple and gold saris draped women's bodies as men wore embroidered kurta shirts in subtler hues. Guests were as colorful as the Indian culture they came to see.

The festival, hosted by UF's Hindu Cultural Society, was held in celebration of Diwali, which is considered the New Year to some parts of India, and showcased Indian culture to 225 guests through dancing, singing and beat boxing performances.

For \$1 to \$3, guests could sat-

isfy their appetites with traditional homemade Indian food such as samosas, gulab jamun and pav bhaji. Pizza was available for those less daring to sample the spicy dishes.

Onstage performances were broken up by 45-minute intermissions in which guests and members of the Hindu Cultural Society took to the center of the auditorium to dance to blaring Indian music.

The lights were turned off, the music turned up and only multi-colored Christmas lights illuminated the room.

People of all cultures and ages, from children with pacifiers in their mouths to men with gray in their hair, were stomping their feet, swaying their bodies and waving their arms in coordination with the music.

Wearing a bright pink lehnga dress and a big smile, Gainesville resident Maghan McDowell followed the dance moves everyone around her was doing.

McDowell loved the food and music, but her favorite part was the outfit, a traditional Indian dress her friend lent her, and getting to put on cool Indian makeup.

At \$3 a ticket, the event raised about \$1,000, all of which will be donated. Some will go to Seva Bharathi, an Indian NGO that carries out relief work, for the recent flood victims in India. Some will go to the Gainesville Indian Cultural and Education Center and the rest will go to charities for education.

"We really wanted to do something for the flood victims," Dipnarine said. "Forty-five rupees is \$1, so you get an idea of how much we can help."

— MARIA PIQUET

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

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the independent florida alligator

Run benefits strays

■ THE EVENT RAISED ABOUT \$400.

By **MOLLY LARMIE**
Alligator Contributing Writer

About 35 people assembled at the UF Commuter Lot on Gale Lemerand Drive at about 8 a.m. Sunday to run in the Paws for Pet Rescue 5K.

The race benefited Haile's Angels Pet Rescue, a Gainesville animal shelter that finds adoptive homes for dogs and cats to prevent them from being euthanized.

Before the race, participants drank donated bottled water and jumped in place to ward off the early morning chill.

Officers from the University Police Department outlined the route, which circled Lake Alice by way of Mowry, Hull, Radio and Museum roads.

Sasha, a tan and white 2-year-old Basset Hound mix, greeted runners at the finish line. She was brought to Haile's Angels Pet Rescue about

three weeks ago and is awaiting adoption.

Six students in UF professor Stephen LaBarbera's sales management class organized the event.

LaBarbera's class was split into groups and assigned to raise awareness for a pet rescue organization in Alachua County, said Sara Palmer, a marketing senior who helped coordinate the race.

With a \$15 donation, participants registered online or signed up before the race, which raised more than \$400 for Haile's Angels. About \$300 was collected from the 5K participants, and \$100 was donated by Target Copy, an event sponsor, according to group member Alex Baden, a UF marketing and psychology senior.

Ariel, a 14-year-old student at Oak Hall School, has volunteered at the Alachua County Humane Society for a year. She asked her parents to join her in running for the cause.

"I run three miles a day anyway," she said. "Why not run for this?"

Arms raise suicide awareness

By **ALISON SCHWARTZ**
Alligator Writer

Chase Bissell didn't accidentally forget her jacket Friday.

Although the weather was in the 60s, she knew a sweater would have covered up the word she wrote on her right and left arms. The word scrawled in permanent ink was so thick, it would stain her skin for days to follow — love.

Bissell was one of more than 1 million confirmed guests on the global Facebook event page to take part in To Write Love On Her Arms Day, an event organized by fans of the nonprofit organization but not officially affiliated with the organization.

Participants were encouraged to write the word "love" on their arms to spread the message of the organization.

"Everything about To Write Love On Her Arms resonates with me," the UF sophomore said. "It's close to my heart."

According to the organization's Web site, To Write Love On Her Arms is a nonprofit movement dedicated to offering hope and help for people struggling with depression, addiction,

self-injury and suicide.

In the spirit of the event, Bissell explained the message of the organization to the one person who inquired about the word on her arms. She said this single moment was enough.

"She asked me a lot of questions, actually," she said.

"We hope that by reaching out to people, we'll be able to build a strong community."

Erin Villani

UF chapter president and founder

Bissell is the treasurer of UF's chapter of To Write Love. UF is one of only 14 active universities across the nation to have a campus chapter for the organization.

Erin Villani, president and founder of the organization, said the club launched this fall.

"The mission of our chapter is to increase awareness about depression, addiction, suicide and self-injury," said Villani, a UF sophomore. "We hope that by reaching out to people, we'll be able to build a strong community."

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Ana Goni-Lessan / Alligator Staff

Melissa Siver plays the drums for Juliette the Puppet, who is controlled by puppeteer Frances Siver, at the 28th Annual Downtown Festival and Art Show on Sunday morning.

LOCAL

About 100,000 visit downtown art show

Designer aprons, hand-carved wooden spoons and “silverwearable” jewelry were only a few examples of the art displayed at the 28th Annual Downtown Festival and Art Show this weekend.

An estimated 100,000 people wandered through the brick-paved streets of downtown Gainesville from City Hall to the Hippodrome State Theatre, stopping at more than 250 booths showcasing artwork of all kinds.

From paintings and photographs to bird baths and pet accessories, the booths were packed with people craning to take a peek.

“I’ve had a great festival,” said Kay Edenfield, a first-time artist to the festival, “not just monetarily, which was good, but I met a lot of great people.”

Edenfield said one of the things that impressed her the most was the festival was college students she met at her booth.

She said they were all polite, and even though most of them could not afford to buy most of the pieces, they still stopped and complimented her on her work.

Lynzee Marmor, a UF creative photography freshman, volunteered at the Imagination Station, where kids could make various crafts and get their faces painted. She said she got a chance to look around at all of the displays before her shift and was impressed with all of it.

“It’s fun to browse,” Marmor said, “and they don’t make you feel obligated to buy, so it’s not uncomfortable.”

— ELIZABETH BEHRMAN

New Gainesville grocery store offers a taste of Poland

Prices for products range from 80 cents to \$10

By ADAM JALALI

Alligator Contributing Writer

Gainesville residents don’t need to hop on a plane to get a taste of Europe anymore.

The Europe food store, which offers a variety of Polish treats and more, opened its doors to customers on Nov. 4.

The store, 3312 SW 35th Blvd., offers an authentic variety of pierogi, sausages, deli meat, bread, fish, cakes and juices.

“You can’t buy these foods anywhere else,” owner Gosia Krzyszcak said.

Krzyszcak, a UF graduate, moved to Gainesville in 2004 from Szczecin, Poland, and decided to open the store two years ago after

her mother came to Gainesville.

Despite European food being generally expensive, the store’s products are quite affordable, said David Rosenberg, a UF law student. The products range from 80 cents to \$10.

“It’s always nice to know I can try things

I’ve never eaten before without emptying my wallet,” Rosenberg said.

Krzyszcak said that American students who’ve spent time in Europe are frequent customers and say the food brings back memories of their travels.

She plans to add food from other countries, including Russia and Germany, to the store.

The Europe food store is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from noon to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

HOPE FOR HAITI



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■ MORE THAN 200 STUFFED ANIMALS ARE SENT EACH WEEK.

By MELISSA QUINN

Alligator Contributing Writer

In the lobby of the Shands at UF cancer unit, a life-size teddy bear stares out at passers-by. The bear is one of thousands of stuffed animals distributed by the North Central Area of the American Cancer Society's Bears for Cares program.

Victoria Pearson, a social worker at Shands, started Bears for Cares in 2007. Since then, volunteers like Margaret Shaw have collected stuffed animals and given them to adult cancer patients in 11 counties, Shaw said.

Bears for Cares began with just teddy bears, but the group didn't want to reject other animals, so they began accepting all kinds, Shaw said.

About 25 volunteers meet on Thursdays to sort, wash, brush and tag them. They are then distributed to Marion, Alachua, Bradford, Union, Gilchrist, Columbia, Hamilton, Levy, Suwannee, Dixie and Lafayette counties.

Each stuffed animal comes with a card

with information on services offered by the American Cancer Society, including transportation to and from the doctor's office, support groups and help with prescription co-payments, Shaw said.

Each year, thousands of bears are donated to the organization by schools, local businesses, banks and individuals in the community. The stuffed animals can be new or gently used and are cleaned and packed into bags until they can be distributed around North Florida, Shaw said.

Local News Each week, more than 200 stuffed animals are sent to patients.

Shaw said it's common to see grown men walking with the bears tucked under their arms or curled up in bed snuggling with them.

Gwen Carriere, director of the cancer program at North Florida Regional Medical Center, said the bears are a tangible source of comfort. Known as the "Teddy Bear Lady," Carriere, who treats patients in the first year of diagnosis, has distributed more than 400 stuffed animals.

"Patients just love these animals," Shaw said. "I never envisioned that this program would be so popular, and who doesn't love teddy bears?"

Team mentors, collects cans

By ROBERT HILSON

Alligator Contributing Writer

The UF gymnastics team and about two dozen aspiring 2020 Olympians stocked local food banks Sunday with enough canned goods to outweigh a handful of 5-year-olds.

Marching through Gate 4 of the O'Connell Center at noon, grade-school gymnasts and their parents donated about 275 pounds of non-perishables before entering the gymnastics studio for the annual Harvest Food Drive Clinic.

UF gymnasts and coaches guided their little pupils through an obstacle course of separate stations, occasionally acting as impromptu cushions as parents looked on with cameras in hand.

"It's all she's talked about all weekend," said Rachael Smith, 38, of her 10-year-old daughter, Josie, who's been competing for two years. "She was even excited about collecting the cans."

Head coach Rhonda Faehn helped lead warm-up stretching and oversaw the bal-

ance beams. She said that the clinic is just as beneficial to her gymnasts as it is to the children who participate.

"It's amazing to be able to interact with these kids, and it's wonderful to have our athletes become role models," said Faehn, who got into gymnastics as a child on the

heels of her next-door neighbor. "This is a passion for me, not a job. I get to come out here for a good cause and promote physical activity."

Alicia Goodwin, 20, an All-American in the uneven bars, agreed with her coach's sentiment. "It's great to be able to help out the community," she said. "And I coach every summer. It's good to be on the other side."

Nicole Sjoden, 11, who's been taking gymnastics since she was 5, gathered with her friends for a photo with the team after completing the stations. Nicole said her favorite parts of the afternoon were the trampoline and getting to meet the UF team.



Faehn

The Board of Directors of Campus Communications, Inc., publisher of

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announces the openings for the positions

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a paid position as head of the Editorial Division and as an unpaid member of the Board of Directors

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AND

Managing Editor/Online,

Paid positions. Unpaid member of the Board of Directors.

The applications for these positions are available at the reception desk at the entrance of the first floor of *The Alligator* Building at 1105 W. University Ave., **each weekday between 1:00 and 4:00pm from now until November 20.** Please do not call. Further written information is available at the time an application is picked up. Please allow up to 15 minutes at that time to read information you will need for the application process. The application must be returned to the same desk by **4:00 pm, November 23. THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE DEADLINE.** Interviews and selections by the Board of Directors will be held at *The Alligator* offices in a meeting open to the public beginning at **4:00 pm, Sunday, December 13.** Applicants must be present at that meeting to be considered. Applicants must be degree-seeking college or university students. Preference will be given to those who have experience at *The Alligator*.

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Editorial

Road to Nowhere

Obama shouldn't take middle road in Afghanistan

The human cost of the Afghan war has risen sharply in recent months, as evidenced by the headlines that appear all too frequently. But the financial cost of the war, another mounting problem, has received less coverage.

At a time when deficits are measured in trillions, a figure like \$54 billion might seem like peanuts. Yet opponents of the troop surge proposed by Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the top commander in Afghanistan, have latched on to this figure, arguing that it's not a trivial amount by any means.

According to The New York Times, the proposed increase of 40,000 troops will cost an estimated \$40 billion to \$54 billion per year. While part of this expense could be offset by \$26 billion in savings from troop withdrawals in Iraq, the addition could push the overall military budget to \$734 billion by 2010.

That would be 10 percent higher than the \$667 billion peak under the Bush administration. Barack Obama, who made early campaign promises to withdraw from Iraq and eventually scale down military spending, may soon be spending more than Bush ever did.

Herein lies Obama's political predicament: He must balance campaign promises with the realities of a destabilized Middle East. Afghan security is crumbling, the Taliban is resurgent and key Pakistani military sites have been attacked in recent months by militants with Taliban ties.

Opponents of the surge, citing the human and financial costs of the war, support reductions in troop levels in Afghanistan, combined with a "surgical strike" effort aimed at terrorist and militant groups.

So, when faced with two starkly different yet equally difficult options, which will politically savvy Obama most likely choose?

Neither. The strategy discussed by most aides is a modest increase in troops: around half of what McChrystal is requesting. This middle-ground approach may seem politically appealing, and at half the cost it is certainly cheaper.

But if the top commander in Afghanistan has correctly assessed the situation, this option will produce far less than half the results. This is because Afghanistan's massive and dispersed territories are unmanageable without an adequate number of troops. McChrystal cites the success of the Iraqi troop surge in supporting his plan.

But generals always ask for more troops, and to control a diverse set of tribes — even with a massive, long-term military presence — is not realistic, according to prominent opponents of the surge like Vice President Joe Biden. Other critics have called Afghanistan a "graveyard of empires" in reference to the numerous military failures seen in the region, notably the Soviet Union's decade-long war that ended in defeat.

Faced with costs that amount to roughly \$1 million per year for every soldier we put in harm's way (not to mention the cost of lives lost), we believe that this politically palatable plan is not the best option.

Obama may choose to draw down troop levels and focus on targeting terrorist enclaves, even though he'll face fierce criticism at home and the chance that a destabilized Afghanistan could produce terrorist threats.

He may choose to increase the troop levels by the amount McChrystal is requesting, in an attempt to stamp out the Taliban and unite the country. This will anger his political base and has the chance to produce a long, drawn-out conflict.

But by maintaining current levels, or increase troops only marginally, Obama will surely face the downsides of both aforementioned options, while Americans will still be in harm's way and a stable Afghanistan will be just out of reach.

The middle-ground comes at half the cost and has none of the benefits.

Opinions

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Column

US should give terrorists civilian trials

On Sept. 11 we lost not just lives and concrete buildings, but a way of life.

Personal freedoms, or what some considered personal freedoms, were suddenly suppressed in airports. Fear, rampant as the rubble still smoldered in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania, only peaked as letters filled with anthrax made their rounds. Racial profiling, once frowned upon, was suddenly left for debate as if it was an option on the table.

Not all of these things persisted, but a threat that had long existed in our society came to fruition: our apathy. When tales of extraordinary rendition (the transfer of prisoners outside the U.S., where laws governing interrogation are less stringent), illegal domestic wiretapping and torture by our government surfaced, no one took to the streets in sizes similar to the rallies held over the past year. When it became clear that we had waged war on false pretenses, we simply accepted an unbearable fact and moved on. When we were made aware that there was a detention center in Cuba depriving detainees of the very rights we were spilling our nation's blood for, there were few rallying calls heard in the halls of our public conscience.

Tom Junod, Esquire magazine's writer-at-large, once wrote that the decade we live in is the decade of the "Moral Bubble," and that it "will not be pricked until we take responsibility not just for the forty-third president's actions but for our 'inaction' — for all the agreements we've made without awareness, for all the awareness we've come to without vigilance, for all the times we've touched the easy, insulating button of our assent."

It wouldn't be fair to dump any or all of our nation's moral shortcomings squarely on George W. Bush's feet. In times of great crises and challenges, we tend to lose moral high ground as a society. Even Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose head graces our dime, issued an executive order that forcibly relocated around 120,000 Japanese Americans to "war relocation



Matthew Christ
letters@alligator.org

camps" during the World War II.

Yet even when we do freak out, even when we make real Adlai Stevenson's dictum that "it is far easier to fight for principles than to live up to them," we eventually redeem ourselves. It took 40 years after FDR's Japanese internment camps for our government to offer a legal apology to the families of those interned. And

now, in 2009, it looks like we have once again found a way to cope with the shortcomings of our principles in the awful aftermath of Sept. 11.

Recently we have learned that many accused of organizing and implementing the Sept. 11 terror attacks will face trial, not in front of a military tribunal, but in front of a jury in New York City, just minutes from where the World Trade Center towers crumbled.

Every instinct tells me that we shouldn't give those who have confessed to playing a role in Sept. 11 attacks any trial, much less a civilian trial or any other rights they continually wish to destroy. But in offering a civilian trial, we will show that we are no longer steeped in fear, afraid that a courthouse could become a target or turned into a public platform for espousing the wicked credo of those like Khalid Sheikh Mohammed; that we are willing to judge not by whatever extreme fanatical sect of Islam the defendants belong to but by their heinous actions; and that we are willing to disclose any of the rash shortcomings of our principles that we made out of confusion and fear to show we are willing to learn from our mistakes.

This is what a free country does. It's hard, sure, but quite frankly, I couldn't think of a better justice for those who seek the end of our freedom than by showing how resilient we have become since that September morning eight years ago.

Matthew Christ is a political science sophomore. His column appears on Mondays.

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

Reader response

Today's question: Palin 2012?

Monday's question: Should texting while driving be banned?

84% YES

16% NO

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Letters to the Editor

E-cigarettes shouldn't be banned

I support the campus smoking ban and free cessation classes for employees, but proposed regulation UF 2.022 should not ban e-cigarette usage for simply looking like smoking.

While their name and shape make them a fashionable political target, e-cigarettes contain no tobacco and create only generally harmless nicotine vapor instead of harmful and carcinogenic smoke. Pure nicotine's similarity to caffeine likely makes their harm potential closer to that of an espresso, with the only second-hand risk being social: to be seen in the company of a "smoker."

Our peer pressure to reduce smoking should continue, but after watching family members fail to quit smoking for decades, we should realize harm reduction is a worthy principle, too. People deserve more choices than quitting or dying, and compelling even some of the U.S.'s 14 million smokers to switch to non-smoked nicotine sources could yield great public health gains. UF shouldn't promote these devices but simply leave regulation to existing laws. At the very least we should permit very discreet usage, especially for longtime smok-

ers or those who've failed to quit.

Stephen Clay
UF staff member



Obama's hesitation deserves acclaim

An Associated Press article Thursday stated that Barack Obama's hesitancy on Afghan war buildup implies weakness. I wish world leaders had more of that kind of weakness. President Obama does not want to send soldiers into harm's way without a clear goal, a solid plan and an exit strategy.

I know that Americans are used to presidents who play cowboy, who say things like "Bring 'em on" and "Mission Accomplished" without a second thought, presidents who send Americans into battle on falsified weapons reports. But it seems like our current president understands that you don't send soldiers into battle without first nailing down what we're supposed to be doing and why. So hats off to Obama's "hesitation." Soldiers are human beings, not chess pieces. It's about time we get a president who understands that.

Mark Spivey
Gainesville resident

Gay marriage is inevitable

Gay marriage recently suffered a devastating setback in Maine. This loss was made all the worse because it not only amended the constitution to outlaw gay marriage, it was also in a state that previously allowed it.

The self-doubt created from this loss has caused some to look to the federal government — instead of states — for gay rights legislation. This is a mistake. A state-orientated campaign is the only strategy that has any hope for success.

A bill legalizing gay marriage would be "dead on arrival" in the Senate. There would be the inevitable filibuster, and the Democrats would not have the votes to override it. Democrats might have a supermajority in the Senate, but they are not a cohesive bloc. This diversity in the Democratic Party is what has allowed it to take power and is not a bad thing; it's just reality that the Senate will not legalize gay marriage without overwhelming public support. The only other option is to look to the states for gay rights legislation.

Gay rights legislation will happen. The demographics are with us. A recent study by the The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press found that 58 percent of 18- to 29-year-old respondents supported gay marriage.

Nick Miner
Speaking Out

Unfortunately, its support quickly tapers off to 22 percent among those

65 and older. There is a clear generational gap in views on gay marriage. Older Americans are against it while the younger generations are increasingly supportive of it. Conservatives and the Republican Party won this fight, but they have lost the war.

So what is the best short-term strategy? The answer probably lies in Washington state's "everything but marriage" law.

This law gives civil unions all the benefits and protections of marriage without the name. Coupled with this, the same Pew study found 57 percent of respondents nationwide support civil unions.

This suggests that the best strategy is to fight for strong civil unions laws that over time can be expanded to full marriage equality. This gradual change will help to minimize backlash. It will allow conservatives time to adjust to societal changes and see that the world isn't ending. This gradual process, while requiring the acceptance of discrimination for a bit longer, will pay dividends in the end because it will banish opponents to the irrational fringe of society.

Nick Miner is a UF student.

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Juliana Jimenez / Alligator Staff

Students from the Indian Student Association perform a traditional dance at a celebration of the Indian new year, or Diwali, at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts Sunday night.

STUDENT LIFE

Confusion gives grad idea for new condom

By JOEY FLECHAS

Alligator Contributing Writer

One night in 1995, Beau Thompson brought a lady home, with hopes of seeing some action before the night was over.

However, as things in the bedroom began to heat up, he encountered the bane of every sexual encounter — he was taking too long to put a condom on.

"I was trying to be responsible, trying to get one of these rascals on," Thompson said.

With the lights out, he couldn't see the condom and couldn't tell which side was which.

"I just thought to myself, 'There's gotta be a better way,'" he said.

Thompson, a UF architecture alumnus, is the inventor of Sensis Condoms with QuikStrips, a new condom with two polyethylene tabs rolled into it that allows the user to roll the condom on with ease. The two strips peel away, like a Band-Aid.

Thompson, 44, said he has always had a mindset conducive to innovation.

He's been adept with his hands since his youth. Whether it was building a tree house or taking apart and reconfiguring his bike, he had an architect's heart.

His passion for building got him through the architecture program at UF, where he said he was surrounded by intense academic competition that motivated him to succeed.

After graduating in 1988, Thompson started his architecture company, BeauSart Company.

It was after that night in '95 that he

resolved to improve the design of one of the oldest forms of contraception, a task that proved no small feat.

As he paid the bills through BeauSart, he struggled to develop any kind of innovation when, as he was taking out the trash one day, he had an epiphany.

As he pulled the straps of the garbage bag to tie a knot, it dawned on him: Why can't a condom have pull-away straps?

Six months later, he had a design, but no sure way of mass production. After another six months, a prototype for the manufacturing machine was finished.

Pouring his earnings into his invention, he wouldn't even let hunger stand in his way. He had to resort to hunting on a friend's ranch to put food on the table.

For Thompson, a diet of venison, pork and turkey had to suffice.

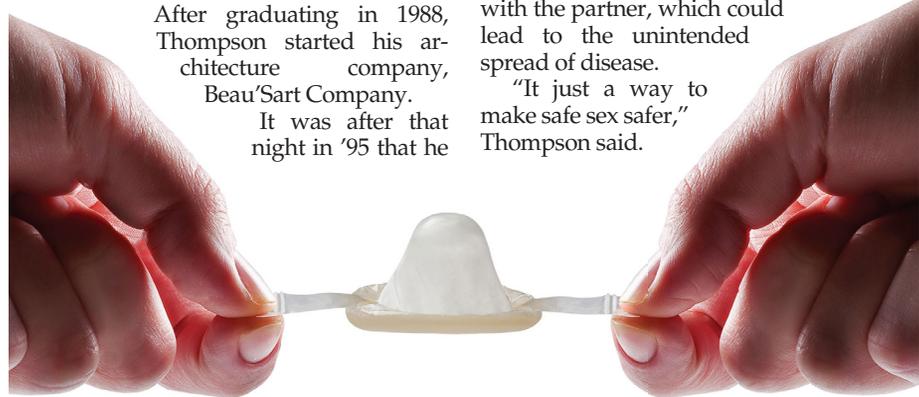
After years of perseverance, his new machine and condom was met with interest by Grove Medical LLC, where the product now has a home and a way to reach markets.

Together with CPA and fellow UF graduate Josh Glick, 37, Thompson is marketing his invention and looking to make a lasting impact on the industry.

"All condoms should have this," said Glick, a Fisher School of Accounting alumnus and a firm believer in the potential of Sensis.

He notes the health factors that make the condom revolutionary, like the prevention of flipping condoms after contact with the partner, which could lead to the unintended spread of disease.

"It just a way to make safe sex safer," Thompson said.



Courtesy to the Alligator

Invented by UF alumnus Beau Thompson, Sensis Condoms with Quikstrips feature two tabs that peel away and make it easier to roll the condom down.

Models wore saris, sneakers

DIWALI, from page 1

lining the stage in a literal representation of the festival of lights.

The performances fused together Western and Eastern culture, putting hip-hop twists on traditional Indian moves. While some performers shimmed under layers of classic Indian attire, others rocked in cargo pants and metallic sneakers, paying tribute to American-Indian fusion.

"A lot of our generation grew up here," said Devesh Goswami, a UF electric engineering graduate student and performer. "But at the same time, we're all South Asian. It kind of represents our generation coming together."

It was Goswami's first time participating in the Diwali Show, a decision he made after years of watching the cultural spectacle as an audience member. He estimated he spent about

30 hours rehearsing for the show.

The show consisted of 17 performances by dance groups including Gator Fusion, Gator Garba, Gator Bhangra and Gator Raas.

The performances were broken up by live skits meant to represent a live Bollywood movie set in the Gator Nation.

On Campus The performance also featured a fashion show, where 96 performers showed off clothing ranging from shimmering saris to formal dress wear. Instead of strutting down a runway, participants danced in pairs, posing between moves.

Dave, who had been a little anxious before the show, said the performance was significant to her cultural roots.

"It's important to incorporate where we're from [into the dance routines]," Dave said. "It's a fusion of two backgrounds."

More than 500 attended the show

CONCERT, from page 1

songs with a few medleys thrown in.

Bondoc was followed by Steve Byrne, an up-and-coming comedian who has appeared multiple times on Comedy Central, including his own special, which aired in 2008.

Byrne performed an almost hourlong routine to the packed amphitheater. Many of his jokes centered on race, relationships and sex.

"Asians are good at math. That's not a stereotype — that's fact," joked the Irish-Korean comedian.

Quest Crew, who headlined the festival, closed with the series of flips, spins,

jumps, kicks and dances that won them the title of America's Best Dance Crew and the adulation of the crowd.

In between the main acts, there was a celebration of UF's Asian-American students, in keeping with Kaleidoscope Month's theme, titled "One."

Two students performed a song to open the show, followed by Gator Fusion, a student dance crew that combines elements of Bhangra, an Indian form of dance, and hip-hop.

Other events held during the month include the Mr. and Miss AASU Pageant, Rice Bowl and the Asian Food Festival.

Urbano would not release the amount of money spent on the acts.



Rayiaz Khan / Alligator Staff

Victor Kim, from the winning dance crew Quest of Americas Best Dance Crew, break dances in front of students at the Asian American Student Association's Kaleidoscope Closing Ceremony at the Reitz Union Amphitheater Friday.

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BRAND NEW REDUCED RATES!
1's, 2's, 3's
* Inclusive Pkgs Available
* Pet Friendly!
* Immediate or Fall Move In
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HPV Fact #12:
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may
not fully
protect
against
HPV.

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hpv.com

20904324(4)-09/09-GRD

2

**For Rent
unfurnished****Walk to Class!**

1brs from \$499 - 150 ft from UF!
Move-in today. FREE parking!
Pets Welcome! No Move-in Fees.
372-7111 * 1216 SW 2nd Ave
12-9-09-75-2

\$399 FOR EVERYTHING
All Inclusive Student Suites
Roommate Match*Feline Friendly!
42" TV*Astroturf Soccer Field
352-271-3131*GainesvillePlace.com 12-9-75-2

Action Real Estate Services
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1-4 BR, Starting at \$450
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352-331-1133

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***Fully Furnished*All Inclusive*
Roommate Matching
2 MONTHS FREE**
Brand New Gated*Upscale 1br-4br*
3000 SW 35th Place

EnclaveUF.com*352.376.0696

12-9-09-75-2

WALK TO CAMPUS
1BRs from \$550 2BRs from \$600
Sun Bay ● Sun Key ● Sun Harbor
352-376-6720 www.sunisland.info
Ask about our new pet policy & other specials
12-9-09-75-2

Wake Up 10 Min Before Class
...AND be on time!
Studios from \$499, 1s from \$575
\$0 M/I Fees, Pet Friendly
371.7777 CollegeParkUF.com
12-9-09-75-2

● Check out our apartments. Priced from \$400-\$525. Close to shopping & university.
● Also 3BR/2BA house available. \$900/mo. No section 8. Call 335-7066 for info. 12-9-09-75-2

FOX HOLLOW

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Ask about our move-in specials!
7301 W Univ Ave
Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 10-2
877-288-2921 352-332-3199
www.cmcap.com/foxxhollow
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REDUCED 1st Mo 1/2 off! 2/2 off of SW 35th Pl, Close to UF & bus route. Great for grad students! Building is 3 yrs old w/ only 1 prev tenant. W/D, D/W, tile & carpet in BDs \$775/ mo Avail ASAP, no smokers. (904) 386-6485
12-2-09-86-2

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Pine Rush
1 bdr. from \$459 2bdr. from \$639
Near UF and Oaks Mall
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SW Archer Rd. Area
Ph. 376-0828 **www.gremco.com**
11-30-09-85-2

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Gator Village
1 bdr. from \$489
Near Downtown and 6th Street
Ph. 372-3826 **www.gremco.com**
11-30-09-85-2

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Sunrise
1bdr. from \$435 \$300 Amex card
Near UF, Shands and VA
Ph.372-4835 **www.gremco.com**
11-30-09-85-2

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Summer Place
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Just off SW 34th St.
Ph. 376-0828 **www.gremco.com**
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WALK & BIKE TO UF
●1BR/1BA \$425
●2BR \$450-\$620 - W/D incl
Gore Rabell Real Estate 378-1387
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2

**For Rent
unfurnished**

ONE MONTH FREE RENT!
1 & 2 bedrooms located near Hilton
Off of SW 34th Str. Close to UF
\$350 SD some w/ W/D or hkups.
Water & trash incl. Call Now!
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3 bed 1 1/2 bath House- \$1725
3 bed 1 bath Apt (incl. utilities)- \$1575
1 bed 1 bath Apt (incl. utilities)- \$645
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

LARGE 2BR/1BA

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 Dec 1st. 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 11-25-09-36-2

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

PET'S PARADISE

\$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR, privacy fenced. SW. 352-331-2099 11-24-09-30-2

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1BR/1BA apt in vintage house. Hardwood floors, tile, renovated kitchen, quiet, blocks to downtown \$575 per mo. STUDIO \$475/mo. 306 NE 6th St. 379-4952 11-23-09-24-2

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Regency Oaks 3230 SW Archer Rd. 352-378-5766	South West Villas 3643 SW 20th Ave 352-336-9000
--	---

We Speak Spanish
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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

\$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

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

2

**For Rent
unfurnished**

\$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

Baxter Cottage
2 blks to UF campus, 1013 SW 4 Ave
2BR/1BA, Bright, clean, completely remodeled, Cent AC/Ht, wood flrs, DW, W/D, NS, NPets. \$650+util. ATucker458@aol.com
11-30-21-2

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Studio from \$439 1bdr. from \$479
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FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Courtney Greens
Totally Renovated 1 bdr. from \$599
1 MONTH FREE! Near Oaks Mall
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FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Ashton Square
2/2 from \$739 3/2 from \$799
1 MONTH FREE! Huge floorplans.
W/D hookup Near Oaks Mall
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COTTAGE 1BR/1BA w/carport
\$500/mo Near university in historic district.
Call 352-332-8481 11-18-09-10-2

1 Block to UF! GREAT LOCATIONS
1BR and 2BR Apts. See our list at
www.merrillmanagement.net
or call Merrill Management Inc
352-372-1494 x10 11-25-09-13-2

3BR 1.5 BA with family Room
Tile Floors, Laundry Room,
Central H & Air, Carport
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\$800/Mo. Call Merrill Management
Inc 352-372-1494 11-25-09-13-2

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Grad II Apts Special: \$675/Mo
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Merrill Management Inc
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1BR 1BA, Grad II Apts
1Blk to UF! Central H & Air,
Carpet, Laundry Fac. On site,
Incls Wtr, Swg, Pst Cntrl &
Garbage. \$500/Mo. 1236 SW
4th Avenue. Call Merrill
Management Inc 352-372-1494 11-25-09-13-2

1BR 1BA Apt, Central H & Air
2 Blks to UF, Carpet, xtra room
1029 Sw 3rd Avenue \$500/Mo
Call Merrill Management Inc
352-372-1494 11-25-09-13-2

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2BR 1BA Apts \$600/Mo
5 Blks to UF, Central H & Air
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2BR 1BA, Carpet, Window A/C,
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1216 SW 3rd Avenue. Call
Merrill Management Inc 352-372-1494
X10 11-25-09-13-2

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1BR 1BA Apt Near Sams
Club. Carpet, Window A/C,
Nat gas ht. Incls Wtr, Swg,
pst cntrl and garbage. \$425/Mo
Rental Refs a must! Call
Merrill Management Inc
352-372-1494 11-25-09-13-2

2

**For Rent
unfurnished****3BR House for rent**

Wood floors, front/back porch. 2035 NW 35th Ave. Close to UF, SFC busline. \$750/mo. Available now. Flex lease. 352-318-8822
11-18-09-8-2

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\$475-Female only for 1/1 in 3/3 Campus View Condos. Furnished living/dining, W/D, 3rd Floor Unit, Newly built. Bedroom furn available. Lease ends July 2010. Walk to campus, shands, VA. 727-776-7098 11-24-10-2

2 BR / 2.5 BTH Townhouse
Kensington North - 3870 SW 20th Ave.
BRAND NEW tile & carpet, W/D, D/W,
INCLUDES utlis & ethernet, pets welcome
Only \$800/mo. Call 561.251.5425 11-23-09-8-2

2 BR 2.5 Bath Townhouse behind UF Hilton off of 34th St. Washer/Dryer \$600 Call 352-860-2202 11-20-7-2

2/2 ROCKWOOD VILLAS CONDO - \$750
Avail Dec. 2009 or Spring 2010.
Gladys or Dan at 786-201-1158 or 305-491-7333. OR gladysazocar@yahoo.com 11-19-09-6-2

● 3BR/1BA HOUSE
819 NW 10th Ave \$850/mo
● 2BR/1.5BA TOWNHOUSE
7209 SW 45th Pl. \$600/mo
No pets. Call Geri 352-538-1114 11-30-09-10-2

Dramatically reduced rent of \$350 for 1 BR downtown townhouse. Sublease could start anytime after mid December. Vaulted ceilings, huge bedroom with private bathroom. Call 352-870-5004 11-30-10-2

Close to UF. Lg rm in a nice NW home. Fenced back yard. 375/mo. Washer/dryer. Cable internet/TV. Mike 352-316-3930 11-19-09-5-4

FIRST MONTH FREE MILLRUN CONDO
Close to UF, cute & clean 2BD/2BA
1000sq ft, storage/laundry room with W/D
hk-ups, pool. Pets considered. Rent \$695/
mo Phone (352) 359-8311 12-9-09-17-2

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Efficiencies starting at \$325.00(walk to Law School), 4 bedroom houses(Close to Campus)from \$795.00, Pay no rent until Jan. 2010. Associates Realty 352-372-7755
12-1-09-10-2

2BR/1BA 7 Blocks E of UF. Cable, water,
internet incl. \$850, FMR free, \$500 SD & LMR. Also for sale \$139K. Bosshardt Realty info@KristenAndRebecca.com 11-20-09-5-2

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 11-20-09-5-2

3

Subleases

New 1BR/1BA in 3/2 for spring/summer - 2 blocks from UF for \$650 negotiable. Female. Easy to move-in w/parking & furn avail. Util, W/D, internet included. Call 954-593-6753
11-16-09-6-3

Rent huge master bedroom at Sabal Palms!
2 blocks from UF!
Private bath, granite countertops,
washer and dryer. \$710.
Available Spring and Summer 407-496-4610
11-23-10-3

DEC FREE: 1br/1ba in 2br/2ba. Female to share in Looking Glass Apts. Walk to campus. Washer/Dryer, Lease to August. \$495/ month + 1/2 utilities. 352-871-0162 11-20-09-8-3

3

Subleases

Sublease 1BR/1BA in a 4/4 at Gainesville Place. \$399/mo. furnished with W/D. Utilities, internet, and cable included. Available January-August
Call (727)804-4765 11-19-5-3

Own bedroom, own bathroom. 3 male roommates. Gainesville Place apartments. \$400/month. January through May. 717-756-2429 11-20-5-3

Female roommate wanted! sublease spring. \$520/mo, 6 bdrm big house, awesome location! 3 min walk to Campus & 5 min walk to Sor. Row! free park spot, 2ba, 2 kitchen, porch, firepl, Lg rm, wd floors. Call (772)216-5773 11-20-5-3

Large 1 Bedroom in 4/2. Spring/Summer 2010. 1.5 miles to campus and on the bus route. Clean house, quiet roommates, washer/dryer, dishwasher, new carpet. Pets ok. \$305/month. call 850-525-4532 11-23-09-6-3

4

Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE
Oxford Manor 377-2777
The Landings 336-3838
The Laurels 335-4455
Greenwich Green 372-8100
Hidden Lake 374-3866
12-9-75-4

1BR INDIVIDUAL LEASES IN FURNISHED 4BR CONDOS. 2 blocks to UF. \$345/mo incl elec, cable tv, internet, pool, laundry facility. 914 SW 8th Ave. 378-4626 11-30-09-55-4

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Near library downtown. \$295-375/rm + utils. Short term. No pets. No smoking. 378-1304
11-23-09-30-4

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 11-23-25-4

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 11-20-09-21-4

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

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

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 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

A clean, professional, non-smoking roommate for a 2/2.5 townhome close to UF and Santa Fe. \$400 + 1/2 of the utilities (cable and internet included), W/D, Bdr unfurnished. Contact Gene at 561-827-4970. 11-20-09-10-4

Female roommate needed, 4/2.5 townhouse, I-75 and Newberry, all included, gated, \$400 baezwp@bellsouth.net 954-557-4769
1-19-09-30-4

\$385-Female roommate needed for 1/1 in 4/4 Univ. Terrace condo with all utilities included, fully furnished, on routes 12 and 35, very clean, for Spring or longer. Call Anu @ 352-262-0628. 11-23-10-4

4 Roommates

Roomate wanted at Madison Pointe furnished 2br-2bath Spring Semester. I am a male 5th year eng. student graduating in spring. Contact for more info at oshea03@ufl.edu or call 352-231-2709. 11-18-5-4

5 Real Estate

SEE ALL CONDOS
WWW.UFCONDOS.COM
Matt Price Campus Realty, 352-281-3551 12-9-74-5

NEW CONDOS -WALK to UF
3 Blks to UF. For Info on ALL 1, 2, 3, 4 Bedrooms for Sale, Call Eric Leightman, Campus Realty at 352-219-2879. 12-9-74-5

AFFORDABLE LUXURY NEW CONSTRUCTION NEAR UF, SHANDS, LAW SCHOOL 2Bed/3 Full Baths + Office. Granite Counters, 2 Direct Bus Stops to UF.
Matt Price, Campus Realty 352-281-3551 12-9-74-5

5 Real Estate

WALK TO UF & DOWNTOWN! THE PALMS - New Ultra-Luxury Condos. Granite, Huge Closets, Pool, Call Eric Leightman, Campus Realty, 352-219-2879 12-9-74-5

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

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

6 Furnishings

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

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400
Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 12-9-09-74-6

BED - KING - \$170 PILLOWTOP
mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Call 352-372-8588. Can deliver. 12-9-09-74-6

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

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

BEDROOM SET. 7pc Cherry, Queen/ king
bed, dresser w/mirror, 2 nightstands, chests avail. Dovetail const. New, in boxes. Can deliver. Retail \$6500, must sell, sacrifice \$1100 (352) 372-7490 12-9-09-74-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather.
Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$2650. Sacrifice \$750. Call 352-377-9846 12-9-09-74-6

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

****BEDS - ALL BRAND NEW****
Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200
Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 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
Still in boxes! 6 pieces include: Headboard, 2 Nightstands, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 12-9-09-74-6

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

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

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10 For Sale

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12 Autos

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Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Heats a bit
6 Movie music
11 Cigar residue
14 Like loud crowds
15 "Family Matters" nerd Steve
16 "I like ___": '50s campaign slogan
17 Striding self-confidently
19 Blender setting
20 Having sufficient skill
21 No-brainer college course
22 Lamp-to-plug link
23 God of thunder
25 Short races
27 It's a virtue, so they say
31 iTunes download
32 Midterms, e.g.
33 Emitted a delighted sigh
35 Beaver or boater
38 Tick off
39 Paid to play
40 Hepcat's jargon
41 Condescending cluck
42 Climbing tool for frozen surfaces
43 TV host Philbin
44 About, in a memo
46 Words while delivering a blow
48 Team supporters, collectively
51 Hobbling gait
52 Tiny pond plant
53 Aired, as a TV show
55 Wolf's shelter
59 Dry gently, as tears
60 Enjoying an extravagant existence
62 Brit. record co.
63 "Maria ___": 1940s song
64 Kitchen tearjerker
65 Pooch
66 '50s Ford flop
67 Part of a Santa costume

DOWN
1 Muted trumpet sound
2 Mideast native
3 Dice throw
4 Provide a schedule slot (for)
5 Indian title
6 Crop yielding a common sweetener
7 PC monitors
8 Gives the nod to
9 Went off the wagon, e.g.
10 Right-angled pipe
11 Shooting for the stars
12 Mini, midi or maxi
13 Whammies
18 Casino sign gas
22 Finish in front
24 "For ___ a jolly ..."
26 Towel holder
27 Saucy
28 Graph's x or y
29 Carrying on conceitedly
30 Bother big-time
34 Six-sided
36 Nike competitor

37 Try out
39 Game in which "bullets" can be whatever card you decide
40 747, for one
42 Nest egg component, for short
43 Sleep lab acronym
45 Org. with dribblers

47 Crowned checker
48 Washed-out
49 San Antonio mission
50 Gutter sites
54 Trig function
56 La Scala solo
57 Operatic prince
58 Tear apart
60 Filmmaker Spike
61 Soft toss

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

D	A	B			M	E	L	S		L	E	A	P		
E	R	A		G	H	O	S	T	S	I	N	D	Y		
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E	P	I	C		I	M	A	G	E	S		A	S	P	
N	O	P	E		C	A	Y	S				G	E	S	

By Nancy Salomon
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Macklin overcomes slow start to lead Florida rout

■ THE JUNIOR HAD 13 POINTS AND EIGHT REBOUNDS IN HIS REGULAR-SEASON DEBUT.

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

Vernon Macklin's regular-season debut for Florida couldn't have started much worse.

In the first 54 seconds of Sunday's game, he had an early layup blocked against the backboard, committed an over-the-back foul and he was subbed out for sophomore Kenny Kadji a little more than two minutes into the first half.

After UF coach Billy Donovan reminded the 6-foot-10 junior center to relax and not try to do too much, Macklin returned to the floor and went on to finish with 13 points, eight rebounds and three blocks in UF's 74-46 season-opening win against Stetson in the O'Connell Center.

Macklin struggled down low against outsized opponents in the Gators' two exhibition games, but he had a meeting with Donovan earlier in the week to talk about some of the things that were bothering him.

Donovan texted Macklin and invited him to watch film, and the two talked about the outside pressure of the center being the team's savior in the post and the added suspense of not having played a regular-season game since the 2007-08 season.

"I just had to relax," Macklin said. "I was trying to go out there and try to do too much instead of relaxing. Once I sat back and relaxed, I felt better."

The resulting tension had Macklin thinking too much

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 14



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF center Vernon Macklin battles Stetson defenders while going for a layup during the Gators' 74-46 win over Stetson on Sunday. He finished with 13 points, eight rebounds and three blocks.

Meyer, Spurrier not to be compared

COLUMBIA, S.C.

It has been almost five full seasons since Steve Spurrier took over as South Carolina's coach, but as I watched his post-game press conference on the video screen at Williams-Brice Stadium, it still felt unnatural.

Spurrier was his usual self (of Justin Trattou's game-changing interception off a deflection, Spurrier deadpanned: "That's not what we were trying to do"), it's just that my first thought upon seeing him is that he's at Florida.

Obviously, I know better, but that split-second of confusion is something that will never really go away, no matter how many wins Urban Meyer puts up in Gainesville.

Spurrier was one of the best players in school history, then took the Gators to new heights and established the program as a national power.

Meyer resurrected the team from mediocrity and is on his way to making it the country's premier football school.

Those are two different accomplish-



Mike McCall
McCall-in' It
Like I See It
mmccall@alligator.org

ments, and there's no comparison for their places in UF history.

As far as wins go, national titles trump all in my book, meaning Meyer is the top dog.

But there's more to this discussion.

It's really about the places these two hold in the hearts of Florida fans.

I can't judge that, but I get the sense that most of the Gators faithful like seeing Spurrier win, even though he coaches a team in the same division.

If Meyer winds up at Kentucky one day (ha!) or Notre Dame or even succeeding Bill Belichick with the New England Patriots, I don't consider it a lock for that to happen.

There's a lot to say for the person who establishes a team or even a business as successful, and that can never be taken

SEE MCCALL, PAGE 14

Hopes of 19th title fade

By **ANTHONY CHIANG**
Alligator Writer
achiang@alligator.org

As the final kill fell on the Gators' side of the net, so did their dreams of winning a 19th consecutive conference title.

On Friday, No. 10 Florida was defeated by No. 19 LSU for the second time this season 3-1 (24-26, 25-23, 25-19, 25-17).

With just three more conference matches remaining, the Gators (20-4, 14-3 Southeastern Conference) have only a slim chance at the conference championship. The loss put them two and a half matches behind SEC leader Kentucky and one and a half matches behind LSU (22-5, 16-2 SEC).

"That was a really good LSU team, probably one of the best SEC teams I have ever played," senior libero Elyse

Cusack said.

The first set was the only bright spot for UF, as they were able to rally from a 16-10 deficit to eventually win the opening round. But LSU returned the favor in the second frame as they trailed 17-13

but still found a way to pull it out.



Volleyball

"Going into the locker room we joked around how we stole the game one and they stole game two," Cusack said. "But we went into the locker room tied 1-1, and we just didn't come out strong enough."

After the first two sets, it got ugly for the Gators — 16 service errors never allowed them to get any sort of momentum. Cusack attributed the errors to the team's attempt to keep the LSU offense out of system with aggressive serves.

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 14

TEERING OFF WITH PHIL KEGLER

■ Patriots coach Bill Belichick performed one of the all-time worst coaching maneuvers Sunday night, deciding to go for fourth and 2 from his own 28 while leading by six with just more than two minutes left. You do that for laughs in Madden, not in the NFL. ... After USC's 18-15 win over Ohio St., how many people would've pegged the Buckeyes as the only team headed to Pasadena?

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■ The UF women's cross country team won the NCAA South Regional with three of the top-four finishers, including a win by Rebecca Lowe. The UF women's basketball team won its season opener against Stetson.

UF SOCCER

Gators season ends in NCAA second round

By TYLER JETT

Alligator Writer
tjett@alligator.org

One miscue made for an abrupt end.

Playing a sport where scores are invaluable, a steal by midfielder Rachael Axon led to an Oregon State golden goal, ending the game and No. 9 Florida's season in the second round of the NCAA Tournament 1-0 Sunday.

"We're all going to be back, and we're going to keep working just as hard," said sophomore Lindsay Thompson, UF's leading scorer this season.

But that news is no consolation for Florida's five seniors, who will never don a Gators uniform again. While the team was dominated by youth with 23 underclassmen, the seniors averaged 62 minutes of action per game.

The class, led by three-time All-SEC First-Team selection and Southeastern Conference De-

fender of the Year Lauren Hyde, will leave Gainesville with four SEC Championship rings.

But it could not provide the answer Sunday.

After Axon stole the ball in Florida's defensive third, she sent a through pass to sophomore Melinda Ingalls inside the box. Ingalls then fired a shot from 16 yards out, beating Gators goalkeeper Katie Fraine to her right in the 99th minute.

"I honestly take responsibility for that goal because that's something I should have saved," Fraine said. "...My job is those shots, and I wasn't set."

After Ingalls scored the game-winner, Fraine sat in front of the goal, throwing her gloves on the ground in disgust while the rest of the team stood in shock.

After struggling early in the year, coach Becky Burleigh put more of an emphasis on team defense, and the backline responded by stringing off six shutouts in seven games leading up to Sun-

day.

The only goal Florida surrendered during that stretch was in a 1-0 loss to South Carolina on Nov. 6, and that score came on a penalty kick.

The turnover aside, UF's defense played well against Oregon State, and Burleigh said the biggest problem was the Gators' attack, as Florida failed to put a shot on goal all game.

The Beavers played with five midfielders and pressured the Gators each time a UF player touched the Florida's youth.

After senior forward Ashlee Elliott suffered a torn ACL in her left knee in just the third game of the season, Burleigh looked to the team's underclassmen to provide offense and UF's top-five scorers were freshmen and sophomores.



Hyde

Unfortunately for the Gators, the inexperienced offensive weapons disappeared in the most important game of the season. The young players, who had surprised conference rivals all year by playing with poise, picked the most agonizing time to experience growing pains.

"Being such a youth-oriented team right now, I think (the loss) will be really good for us," Fraine said.

Florida's underclassmen actually played better as the year progressed and the games became more important.

The last 15 goals of the season were from freshmen and sophomores. With Elliott set to return next season after receiving a medical redshirt, the Gators' attack should be more dangerous next year.

That won't ease the end of this season.

"I would have given anything to keep playing with my seniors," Thompson said.

Parsons' 3 extends 580-game streak

HOOPS, from page 13

on the court, which Donovan said was even visible in the way Macklin stood.

"He's a great athlete when his knees are bent and he's ready to go, and he's an average athlete and average player when his knees are straight up and down," Donovan said. "He can control all the things that are going to make him a good player and help our team."

Joining Macklin in the starting frontcourt, power forward Alex Tyus led the team with 13 rebounds, 10 of them on the defensive end, and added 12 points for the sixth double-double of his career.

Forward Chandler Parsons came off the bench to score a team-high 14 points. His final 3 points, which came with 33 seconds left in the game, kept Florida's 580-game streak with at least one 3-pointer alive.

"I honestly had no idea 'til I walked in the locker room and (UF athletics director) Jeremy Foley told me about it," Parsons said. "I noticed at first that it got really loud, but I'm honored to keep the streak alive."

Parsons' streak-saving three came after UF missed its first 12 from beyond the arc, putting the team's 3-point percentage at 7.7 percent, a far cry from the its 52.5-percent shooting from the field and 11-for-15 performance from the free throw line.

"We had a pretty good opportunity to go 0-fer from the game," Donovan said about his team's poor outside shooting. "Generally, when you struggle like that behind the 3-point line, you have that many turnovers and there's no flow offensively, it can really carry over to the defensive end of the floor."

But the Gators' defense didn't struggle at all against the Hatters, holding them to only nine points in the game's opening 17 minutes and 28.6 percent shooting for the game. UF used its full-court press early and often, forcing 18 turnovers, nine of which came in the first half.

"We were able to force them to go deep into the shot clock, didn't really give up any easy shots coming out of the press and didn't give up a lot of easy baskets early in transition," Donovan said.

LSU first SEC opponent to sweep season series under Wise

VOLLEYBALL, from page 13

Senior opposite hitter Marina Skender was a constant force for the Tigers as she racked up 20 kills on 64 attempts while also digging up 15 balls.

"Marina may in fact be the best volleyball player in the league," UF coach Mary Wise said. "What she does for that team in all aspects of the game is pretty elite."

Another one of the top players in the conference, UF sophomore setter Kelly Murphy, grabbed her eighth triple-double of the season against the Tigers with 13 kills, 29 assists and 15 digs.

However, much of the talk before the match was about LSU's senior middle blocker

Brittnee Cooper, who dominated the Gators in their first matchup. On Friday, she recorded 16 kills to go along with a .500 hitting efficiency. In the final set, she could not be stopped as she knocked down six of her kills on just as many attempts.

"In the fourth game, she kind of took over," Murphy said. "I feel like we kind of contained her in the first two games, but after that, she just went off and we had no answer for her."

The two losses to the Tigers this season marks the first time the Gators have lost twice to a conference opponent in the regular season under Wise.

"LSU is a really tough matchup for us. What they do well, we have trouble stopping," Wise said. "I'm just glad we are done playing them."

MCCALL, from page 13

away.

It's why Alabama coach Nick Saban can't be upset that replicas of Alabama coaching great Paul "Bear" Bryant's hat are worn during Crimson Tide games and sold in grocery stores.

Saban isn't competing with Bryant, just like Meyer isn't

competing with Spurrier's legend at UF.

He can't.

Spurrier gave Florida its place in the landscape of sports, getting it there as much with his wit and persona as with his winning record.

Meyer can't duplicate or better that.

He was faced with a different challenge and began with a different set of resources than

Spurrier.

It's like arguing over the best president of all time. Is it George Washington because he was first?

Abraham Lincoln because he kept the nation from tearing in two?

FDR for serving 12 years through economic crisis and World War II?

There's no real way to decide, and each of them should

be remembered for their unique set of hardships and triumphs.

It's the same way with Spurrier and Meyer.

They represent different things to different people, and while it's perfectly fine to have a favorite, there can't be a broad, quasi-objective champ.

Everyone should be able to agree on one thing though: They both beat the pants off Ron Zook.



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

UF sophomore Kelly Murphy sets the ball during the Gators' 3-1 loss to LSU in the O'Connell Center on Friday.

Florida defense holds South Carolina to 41 yards in second half

FOOTBALL, from page 1

Gators had allowed 210 yards or less in the entirety of four conference games (Tennessee, Kentucky, LSU and Vanderbilt).

That was a big reason why UF (10-0, 8-0 SEC) held only a three-point advantage at halftime — tied with the Mississippi State game for its slimmest lead at intermission this season.

"Seeing what the score was after the first half of this game was pretty much like, 'Man, the season's on the line. We're only up by three points. We're not used to this. We need to come out firing on all cylinders,'" linebacker Ryan Stamper said, "and we did."

South Carolina (6-5, 3-5 SEC) had only 41 total yards after the break, although the game's outcome may have been altered by a single play. After three quarters, the Gamecocks trailed by just three points and faced a third and 3 at the UF 22-yard-line.

Stephen Garcia dropped back and threw a pass intended for Moe Brown, but the pass hit off Brown's facemask and went up in the air.

Florida defensive end Justin Trattou grabbed it and ran it back 53 yards. Tim Tebow ran it in from 1 yard out four plays later, and UF had a 10-point lead with 13:25 to go.

"That was huge. The whole field was tilting," Meyer said. "The field shifted back. Momentum completely swung. You felt it in the stadium. That'll go down in history as one of the great plays."

Now, UF looks to polish itself with three weeks left until a SEC Championship Game date with No. 2 Alabama (10-0, 7-0 SEC) on

Dec. 5.

The offense came out rolling, scoring 17 points on its first three drives, including a

68-yard catch-and-run from Tebow to Cooper. But Florida struggled in the second half, scoring only on the short field after Trattou's interception. The Gators' average second-half starting field position was the Gamecocks' 40-yard-line, and UF had four scoreless possessions that started in South Carolina territory.

Two would-be touchdowns that hit off of Cooper's fingertips didn't help.

"We took the shots down the field," Meyer said. "I'm so tired of seeing balls go off fingertips. We have to (make those). We all know what's coming down the road."

There is, however, something to be said for Florida's ability to find a way to win. Players and coaches alike said after the game that they have come to expect a game-changing play like Trattou's.

So despite the continuing red-zone struggles (UF ranks 94th in the country) and although Caleb Sturgis missed three of four field goals including a 29-yarder in the fourth quarter, the Gators were singing with the band for the 20th straight time Saturday night.

And they feel all these close games — UF has won half of its games by 10 points or less — leave them better off.

"To be battle-tested, to find a way to win that game, as opposed to finding a way not to win that game," Meyer said. "In '07, we found a way to lose several of those games. In '08, we found a way to win them, and '09 we have found a way to win a couple."



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

Defensive end Jermaine Cunningham pressures South Carolina's Stephen Garcia during UF's 24-14 win in Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia, S.C., on Saturday.

Florida 24, South Carolina 14

SWAMP STUDS

Jermaine Cunningham
DE, Sr.

Cunningham continues to come on strong, retaking the team lead in sacks after two in the fourth quarter Saturday. All of the senior's sacks have come in the last six games, and his play was key to a Florida defense that allowed minus-20 yards on 11 plays during South Carolina's final three possessions.

6 tackles (5 solo), 2 tackles for loss (2 sacks), 2 quarterback hurries

Riley Cooper
WR, Sr.

Cooper was two dropped would-be touchdowns from having a performance that would go down in history. Alas, his career-long-tying 68-yard catch-and-run touchdown on a deep slant route gave Florida the early 7-0 and settled down the raucous South Carolina crowd. The senior had his first-ever 100-yard day in SEC play and leads the team with six touchdown catches.

3 rec, 112 yds, 1 TD

Joe Haden
CB, Jr.

Haden contributed in almost every stat category Saturday night, despite having a less-than-stellar first half in which he blew coverage that resulted in a touchdown. He led the team in tackles Saturday night and came back after halftime with a forced fumble and an interception on South Carolina's final drive.

11 tackles (10 solo), 1 tackle for loss (1 sack), 2 forced fumbles, 1 INT, 1 pass breakup

STANDINGS

<p>T. Tebow - 12</p> <p>J. Cunningham - 6</p> <p>R. Cooper - 5</p> <p>J. Demps - 5</p> <p>R. Stamper - 5</p> <p>J. Haden - 4</p> <p>C. Rainey - 4</p> <p>A. Black - 3</p>	<p>B. Spikes - 3</p> <p>D. Doe - 2</p> <p>C. Dunlap - 2</p> <p>A. Hernandez - 2</p> <p>A. Jones - 2</p> <p>C. Sturgis - 2</p> <p>D. Thompson - 2</p> <p>Ja. Jenkins - 1</p>
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TOP THREE PLAYS

Justin Trattou's interception and 53-yard return in the fourth quarter that led to a game-clinching Tim Tebow TD run four plays later.

Emmanuel Moody's 17-yard second-quarter touchdown run, his first career SEC score, on an option pitch from Tebow.

Riley Cooper's 68-yard catch-and-run for a touchdown on Florida's first possession.

TURNING POINT

Trailing by three at the start of the fourth quarter, South Carolina faced third and 3 at the UF 22-yard-line. On the next play, Justin Trattou caught a pass that hit off Moe Brown's facemask and returned it 53 yards to the Gamecocks 26-yard-line. Tebow ran it in from 1 yard out four plays later to seal a 24-14 win.

KEY STAT

41

Offensive yards by South Carolina in its six second-half possessions.

SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Final
UF	10	7	0	7	24
SC	7	7	0	7	14

Jessica Warshaver / Alligator Staff

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Student Government Celebrates its 100th Year on Campus!



We're so excited to be celebrating 100 years on The University of Florida's campus this week! SG has been dedicated to making every student's experience at UF fun and informational; we have been able to provide interesting and controversial speakers with the ACCENT speaker bureau and exciting live concerts with SG Productions. Along with providing the funding for activities like these and others, we also provide the budget for hundreds of other student organizations and RecSports. We invite you to join us in our celebration this week! On Tuesday we will be having our annual General Assembly in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom at 5 pm.

November 18th, 19th & 20th

10 am to 2 pm

Turlington &

Plaza of the Americas

In addition to the General Assembly celebration, Student Government will be having fun games & giveaways in Plaza of the Americas & Turlington this week on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday!

Be sure to check those day's editions of the Alligator for trivia & more information!

100th YEAR

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday in Plaza of the Americas & Turlington from 10 am to 2 pm.



100th YEAR

Redeem this coupon for a surprise gift at either campus celebration locations by 11/20/2009.

Cut or tear coupon and bring to either celebration sites this week for a surprise!



For more information about UF's Student Government and how you can get involved, please visit sg.ufl.edu!