



ACLU files suit defending anti-Islam shirts

By **CJ PRUNER and EMILY FUGGETTA**
 Alligator Writers

the Alachua County school district's policy against anti-Islamic T-shirts intrudes upon the wearers' freedom of speech.

The shirts, which read "Islam is of the devil," raised controversy when students were sent home from local elementary and middle

schools for wearing them.

The church's families said the shirts are protected by the Constitution under the First Amendment as religious expression.

Alachua County School Dis-

trict spokeswoman Jackie Johnson said the district will stand by its decision to enforce the dress code and prevent students from wearing items that are "disruptive to the learning environment and offensive to students."

But according to ACLU of

Florida executive director Howard Simon, the messages are protected under the First Amendment, which the Supreme Court has done a good job of outlining in terms of public schools.

"The shirts' message isn't about

SEE SUIT, PAGE 8

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a federal lawsuit Monday on behalf of the Dove World Outreach Center claiming

Local News

ON CAMPUS

Student arrested for using counterfeit bills at Moe's

A UF student was arrested and banned from campus Sunday after police say he used counterfeit money at a campus restaurant.

Maxime Sparfel, UF industrial and systems engineering junior, used a counterfeit \$10 bill to pay for his meal at Moe's Southwest Grill at the Student Recreation and Fitness Center, according to a University Police Department report.

After receiving his change, he asked the cashier for two \$5 bills in exchange for another \$10 bill.

According to the supervisor on duty at the time, the cashier sensed something was wrong because Sparfel was visibly nervous.

She marked the bills with a counterfeit detection pen and showed them to her supervisor, who then called UPD.

Police found 15 additional \$10 bills in Sparfel's pockets and backpack, according to the report.

All the bills had the same serial number and failed the counterfeit bill pen test, according to the report.

Sparfel, a French citizen, was arrested and charged with one count of possession of 10 or more forged bills and two counts of passing a counterfeit bill, all third-degree felonies.

UPD has consulted the United States Secret Service, which handles counterfeiting cases, for assistance.

Sparfel was released from the Alachua County Jail Monday afternoon.

— KATIE KLOSS



Lindsay Wadelton / Alligator

Men In Black

Junior Ishan Kulkarni, a newly inducted brother of Pi Delta Psi Fraternity, sounds off with fellow pledges in the Reitz Union Amphitheatre during the fraternity's class probate on Monday night. See Story, Page 2.

Food banks fight rising hunger

■ THE COUNTY PLANS TO EXPAND LOCAL FOOD PROGRAMS.

By **EMILY HANSON**

Alligator Contributing Writer

Ray Howard was known as the guy with the loud laugh by his colleagues at Santa Fe College, where he worked as a private tutor.

To his doctors at Shands Health Care at UF, he was known as a fighter battling brain cancer.

And even with a college degree, he ended up living outside an abandoned steakhouse on Archer Road and was discovered by a police officer and former classmate.

With the economy in shambles and unemployment rates at their highest since the

early 1980s, the face of hunger is changing in Alachua County.

The faces are starting to look more like Howard's.

"The problem is that food is harder to get."

— **Anne Voyles**

Bread of the Mighty Food Bank director

The hungry include educated citizens with homes and families caught in an economic rip current that haven't yet made it to shore.

Alachua County has published a plan to reduce hunger that includes ideas like expanding the customer service capabilities of emergency food programs, increasing the

SEE FOOD BANKS, PAGE 5

■ Notre Dame might fire Charlie Weis after the season, but Florida fifth-year coach Urban Meyer (right) said Monday he plans to stay at UF "as long as they'll have me." See Story, Page 13.



NYC tavern owner says he will unveil 100-proof turkey Monday

NEW YORK — You'll need to be 21 to take a bite out of this Thanksgiving turkey.

New York City tavern owner Paul Hurley said he'll unveil what he is calling the nation's first 100-proof turkey on Monday.

A spokesman for the owner of O'Casey's Tavern in Midtown Manhattan said that the bird is infused with fruit-flavored and 100-proof Georgi vodka for three days before being cooked.

The flavors of vodka include peach, rasp-

berry, cherry and apple.

The gravy is also laced with the distilled liquor.

Out of concern for the danger of drinking-and-driving, the tavern will be offering free taxi ride home to anyone who orders the turkey.

It was not immediately clear how much money it would cost to have some of the boozy bird.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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visit www.alligator.org

News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Engineers Without Borders
General Body meeting**

Today, 7:30 p.m.

Rinker Hall, Room 110

All majors are welcome. The group will be hearing a short presentation by a guest speaker and updates on all the recent happenings of the club.

Project Yucatan fundraiser

Monday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Gelato Company

Project Yucatan is an interdisciplinary health outreach program that sets up medical clinics in under-served communities in the Yucatan peninsula during Spring Break. The group is student-run and self-funded and is trying to raise money to purchase the medications it will need for its clinics. The group needs to raise \$20,000 to sustain its trip.

**UFSIFE Sustainable
Entrepreneurship Forum**

Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m.

Bryan Hall, Room 232

The University of Florida Students in Free Enterprise (UFSIFE) would like to invite you to attend its Sustainable Entrepreneurship Forum. In this forum, you will have the opportunity to hear from and network with entrepreneurs who have incorporated environmentally friendly practices in their business. Students will also learn about how to turn any business into a sustainable one. Spots are limited, so if you would like to attend, please RSVP to sife.entrepreneurship@gmail.com as soon as possible.

**Florida Education Association
Meeting**

Dec. 1, 7 p.m.

NRNA G518 (Computer lab under the Norman library)

FEA will be hosting a technology workshop. Guest speaker Jeff Boyer will present various types of technology that teachers can use in their classrooms. There will be food, fun and giveaways. Contact Laura Roberts at laura.roberts@ufl.edu with any questions.

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 in this section is limited, and inclusion of event postings is up to the discretion of the Editorial Department.

STATE

**Rocket with commercial
satellite launches in Fla.**

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — An Atlas 5 rocket has launched from Florida with a satellite expected to provide high-powered video and data to much of the world.

The rocket lifted off into a clear sky Monday just before

FORECAST

TODAY

RAIN
74/59

WEDNESDAY

RAIN
72/55

THURSDAY

CLOUDY
73/44

FRIDAY

SUNNY
64/40

SATURDAY

SUNNY
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2 a.m. from Cape Canaveral after several weather delays. The Intelsat-14 is a commercial satellite but also has components for the Defense Department's Internet Router in Space program.

Once in place, the satellite will be able to provide video and data services to customers in the western hemisphere, Europe and Africa.

Its scheduled Nov. 14 launch was scrubbed after an electrical glitch.

The Intelsat-14 has an expected 15-year life span.

NATIONAL

**Police: RI teen skipped
school, robbed bank**

WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — Police say a 17-year-old Warwick boy who skipped school to rob a bank has been arrested after leaving fingerprints on the threatening note he passed to the teller. Warwick police Capt. Sean Collins said the boy handed a note riddled with misspellings to a teller Thursday, demanding money or "everyone will be shot."

The teller at Coastway Community Bank gave the teen money, but he didn't have much time to spend it. Police said his image was captured on surveillance cameras, and his fingerprints were found on the note.

Police said the teen was arrested six hours after the alleged theft and faces a first degree robbery charge. The teen, whom police declined to identify because he's a juvenile, was being held at the Rhode Island Training School.

**Woman seeks funds for
turkey's eye surgery**

REHOBOTH, Mass. (AP) — A Massachusetts woman is seeking donations from fellow pet lovers to help pay for eye surgery for her turkey named Jerry.

Lyndsey Medeiros and her husband adopted 3-year-old Jerry and another turkey from a Rhode Island farm last week.

But Jerry has cataracts, and the eye problems mean he can't eat independently or join his female companion, Penelope, in flying.

Medeiros has posted an ad on Craigslist seeking donations for the surgery. She said the procedure could cost up to \$2,600. Her farm in Rehoboth, Mass., cares for other animals with health problems.

INTERNATIONAL

**Peruvian police: Gang
killed people for their fat**

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Police

say a gang in the Peruvian jungle has been killing people and draining fat from the corpses to sell on the black market for use in cosmetics, although medical experts say they doubt a major market for fat exists.

Three suspects confessed to killing five people, but the gang may have been involved in dozens more, said Col. Jorge Mejia, chief of Peru's anti-kidnapping police. He said one suspect claimed the gang wasn't the only one doing such killings.

Mejia said two of the suspects were arrested carrying bottles of liquid human fat and told police it was worth \$60,000 a gallon (\$15,000 a liter). The fat was sold to intermediaries in Peru's capital, Lima, and police suspect it was then sold to cosmetic companies in Europe, Mejia said Thursday, but he could not confirm any sales.

**Fraternity unveils new
members to crowd of 400**

They walked onto the fog-filled stage wearing black masks. When the masks came off, the crowd cheered as the newly inducted members of Pi Delta Psi revealed themselves to the Greek community.

Pi Delta Psi, an Asian cultural fraternity in the Multicultural Greek Council, unveiled its new members to a crowd of about 400 at the Reitz Union amphitheater Monday night. The crowd included members of Greek organizations and student organizations.

Jin Wang, a UF sophomore, was one of the newly inducted members. He said the organization gives Asian Americans the chance to learn about their Asian culture and promote cultural awareness.

As a member, he hopes to make the organization more well-known at UF and help it spread across the U.S.

Loc Nguyen, the president of Pi Delta Psi, said the organization also strives to promote scholarship, loyalty and friendship among its members.

Nguyen said watching the new members perform brings him back to his own introduction and makes him reflect upon his own journey in the fraternity.

"It's a really big thing for us," Nguyen said. "It's a really big thing for them. It's definitely a life-changing event."

— CAROLYN TILLO

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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UF Voices

A season for gratitude

Each day we are fortunate to wake up and go to work for one of the largest, most-respected public universities in the country – filled with students who infuse this campus with their energy and optimism. And as our friends up north will soon be reminding us, you cannot beat the weather. What a wonderful place to call “work”!



Paula Varnes
Fussell

UF is grateful for you, too, and seeks to demonstrate that gratitude through the variety of benefits it offers its employees. Beyond its outstanding health and retirement plans, the university offers a range of programs to improve your life and well-being.

This year, as you make your New Year's resolutions, keep in mind the health-related programs offered through Living Well, Healthy Gators 2010 and the Employee Assistance Program. Broaden your horizons by signing up for a training program, taking a college course through the Employee Education Program or by visiting the UF library.

I hope you will join me this holiday season in pausing for a moment of gratitude for the abundance that surrounds us.

Paula Varnes Fussell
Vice President for Human Resource Services

Carillon plays 30 years of campus music

The University of Florida carillon is nestled atop perhaps one of the most iconic sites on campus, Century Tower. The carillon's bells and chimes resonate throughout campus when played by live performers at 12:35 p.m. each weekday, and by an automated system at each quarter hour.

In its 30 years at UF, the carillon has transitioned from the center of controversy to a cherished campus icon.

At the carillon's dedication in 1979, numerous protesters disputed the use of student funds for the instrument. Hand-held signs read “Education, Not Decoration,” as the students marched near Century Tower.

The sound of the carillon is now an integral part of campus life. It is as much an icon as the tower that houses it.

Dani Gretz, sophomore biology major, is a member of the carillon studio, which consists of eight students who play the afternoon programs. She said the studio plays each day so the campus community can be involved and listen to the carillon.

“The carillon and its music is an icon of UF's campus because it is a big part of UF's history,” Gretz said.

A carillon is a European instrument with a minimum of 23 bells and at least two octaves. UF's carillon consists of 61 bells and five octaves, and is among the largest university carillons in North America. It is played on a keyboard from the tower's 11th story in a small, dimly lit room just below the bell chamber.

After Thanksgiving break, listen for holiday carols ringing from the tower as Laura Ellis, associate professor of music, or a member of the carillon studio plays the 12:35 p.m. program each weekday.

A member of the studio will play holiday music prior to the UF College of Fine Arts School of Music's annual Sounds of the Seasons program on Dec. 6. The carillon recital at 3 p.m. on Dec. 13 also will include holiday melodies.

Ellis said, “There are not that many universities that have carillons. I think that in itself makes UF stand within a unique crowd.”



Courtney Blethen

Did you
KNOW?

UF's Century
Tower is
157-feet tall.

Jill Mendoza (left) and Dani Gretz play a duet on the carillon. The keyboard wires pull on clappers, striking the bells just above the performers.

Create holiday cards for pediatric patients

The annual Hearts for the Holidays program, presented by Friends for Life of America, will provide an opportunity for University of Florida students, faculty and staff to make holiday cards for pediatric cancer patients. Card-making stations will be located at Turlington Plaza and the Reitz Student Union Colonnade from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dec. 1-4.

Friends for Life is a student-run non-profit organization that seeks to provide educational, emotional and financial support to pediatric cancer patients and their families.

Bernadette Guzman, UF senior and president of the club, said she hopes Hearts for the Holidays will collect at least 2,500 cards to be sent to at least one hospital in each state. Friends for Life will provide materials, including stickers, glitter, paint, paper, stencils, markers and more.

Guzman has been involved in the club since her freshman year. “Although our club is small and intimate, I think we make a huge difference in the lives of cancer patients,” she said.

Fact

Alumnus Steven Cohen founded Friends for Life of America in 1997.

UF Calendar

Nov. 25

UFPA presents **Yamato, The Drummers of Japan** at 7:30 p.m. in the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Nov. 30

The O'Connell Center presents **Daughtry** featuring **Theory of a Deadman** and **Cavo**, 7:30 p.m. in the O'Connell Center. Admission fee required.

Dec. 9

Fall classes end.

Dec. 10

Poinsettia Open House and Sale, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the IFAS greenhouses off Hull Road.

Jan. 5, 2010

Spring classes begin.

Recurring Event

Florida Museum Exhibit: **Butterflies and Moths in Contemporary Zuni Art**, on display through Jan. 3, 2010. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

This is a sampling of events from the electronic UF calendar. For more event details, or to submit an event to the calendar, click “UF Calendar” at www.insideuf.ufl.edu.

Note This

Spring-break travel offered

Florida Alternative Breaks (FAB) is looking for student participants for its spring break trips. FAB offers week-long trips of community service. For more information, visit <http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/studentorgs/fab/>.

View, buy poinsettias

Both traditional and unique varieties of poinsettias will be at the 2009 University of Florida/IFAS Poinsettia Open House and Sale.

The annual event will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the IFAS greenhouses. The greenhouses are located off Hull Road on the west side of campus.

Event admission is free. The price of red-variety plants is \$9; white and pink varieties cost \$12. For more information, e-mail kara3415@ufl.edu or smdevos@ufl.edu.



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for faculty, staff and students
Editor - Susan Stewart
November 24, 2009

faces of
GAINESVILLE

Local artist turns hobby into career after injury

■ HUDSON LEARNED TO CARVE WHEN HE WAS A MERCHANT MARINER.

By **CLARE LENNON**
 Alligator Contributing Writer

With his brown hair, gray sweatshirt and Philadelphia Eagles baseball cap, Pete Hudson seems like any other guy. He lives in Gainesville and calls himself a Gators fan.

He also has two titanium cages, two rods and six screws in his back — a setback Hudson used to propel a hobby into a new career.

Hudson is an artist who carves wood into figurines and has recently decided to carve a niche in the Gainesville market by creating wooden alligators.

Hudson had to give up his long-time job as a merchant mariner because of an accident, during which he broke his back when he was hauling debris from the Sept. 11 attacks on a barge in January 2002.

"Ruined my whole life, just like that, because someone wouldn't take five minutes to tighten a nut," he said. "It's crazy."

While he was confined to a walker between the accident and his 2003 surgery, Hudson would sit in his garage and carve wood.

He originally picked it up from the captain of one of the ships he worked on with the merchant marines.

Hudson said that after watching the captain carve ducks with just a

knife and Dremel, he began carving in his early 30s.

"I started doing fish, then whales and bullnosed dolphins, then turtles," he said.

The Hudson family moved to Gainesville in May 2008, and this past October, Pete Hudson carved his first alligator head at the suggestion of his son Matt. It is currently on display and will be raffled off at Tutoring Zone.

Meanwhile, Hudson is working

on two smaller alligator heads and said he has a customer who wants a set of three for Christmas. Like the carving that is already finished, the set will include a Florida State Seminoles spear snapped in half inside the gator's mouth.

"It's all been word of mouth," said Hudson, who also paints seaside scenes and repairs and refinishes antique furniture. "I can't show you any of my pieces because they've all sold. They're all over."

Hudson hopes to turn his carvings into a steady business.

"I'd like to see my e-mail light up. That would make my day," he said.

"It keeps him busy, and it also adds to our income," said his wife, Judy, noting that her husband's only regular income right now comes from disability checks because of his injury.

"I went from making in a week what I make in a month, and it hurts," Hudson said of his injury.

He plans to keep carving and hopes people will become interested in his work.

The couple has showcased the pieces at craft fairs in Satellite Beach and plans to start attending art shows in Gainesville, he said.

"I do enjoy doing it, especially now that we're starting to get a change in the weather. It's nice," said Hudson.

He said he enjoys when his 16-year-old daughter, Katie, helps him sand or perfect details like the gators' teeth.

Judy said the couple have discussed building a workshop for Hudson if business picks up. Hudson set up a Web site for his work, www.gatorgrowlcarvings.com, and encourages anyone interested to e-mail him at pghudson13@yahoo.com.

"I'll carve anything," Hudson said. "I'd like to do a whole gator."

For more photos and an audio interview with Hudson, visit alligator.org.



Emily Fuggetta / Alligator Staff

Wood artist Pete Hudson, 54, sits in his outdoor workshop where he creates wooden alligator sculptures.

Look for...

SPORTS MONDAY

...Every Monday!

Sports Monday Emphasis:

- Scoreboards for College and NFL Football
- Game analysis and coverage
- Recap for other weekend sports

the independent florida
alligator

TUESDAY

November 24th

Stephen C. O'Connell Center

Swimming & Diving vs. FSU @ 5 PM

- * Enter to win a pair of FSU football tickets!
- * The first 150 fans to bring (2) canned food items will receive a free hot dog and soda!

BILLY BALL

vs. FSU @ 7 PM

- * Bring a used cell phone to donate to the Verizon Wireless Hopeline program and receive a 2-for-1 general admission coupon to the Presbyterian game on 12/30.

FLORIDA Women's HOOPS

vs. UAB @ 4:30 PM

- * First 200 Rowdy Reptiles will receive turkey sandwiches and the first 1,000 will receive a t-shirt!

GATORZONE.COM

SUN SPORTS UF & Shands

ON CAMPUS

Jazz Spiritual Lounge combines music and God



Lara Hickox / Alligator

Members of Campus Advent Lecelle Clarke and Sylvester Lionel perform at the organization's first Jazz Lounge at the Orange & Brew on Monday night.

By JOEY FLECHAS

Alligator Contributing Writer

Under the colored lights of the Orange & Brew stage, Nilson Ramirez told a crowd of about 50 that he still loved his second-grade teacher.

"If God chose tonight to bleach my life, she would still be the highlight of it," he pined.

The UF junior recited a self-penned, semi-serious poem about love and education as part of UF Campus Advent's first annual Spiritual Jazz Lounge.

Campus Advent is a student group associated with the Seventh-Day Adventist church.

According to master of ceremonies Paola Ortega, the show was about combining an open mic atmosphere and a God-centered message.

"We just wanted to have a way for people to express their God-given talents," she said.

UF junior and Jazz Lounge organizer Lecelle Clarke said that as a huge fan of jazz and its artistic approach, she thought it would be a creative way of getting Campus Advent's name out there.

Performers were recruited by a committee of Campus Advent members, with one criterion at the center of the process.

"It had to be a positive message," Clarke said.

Ramirez recited two poems, the aforementioned ballad about his unrequited love for one Ms. De Leon and another about growing up with his mother's caring love.

"Our purpose is to minister and be able to reach out to students."

Paola Ortega

master of ceremonies

An a capella hymn, two Spanish guitar solos and a Gospel-infused saxophone solo kept the night moving, as audience members raised their hands and snapped their fingers to show their appreciation.

Ortega was happy that the night fit right in with the idea of Campus Advent.

"Our purpose is to minister and be able to reach out to students," she said.

About 27,000 in county get food stamps

FOOD BANK, from page 1

amount of healthy food available in assistance programs and educating the community about the government programs.

John Skelly, Alachua County's Poverty Reduction Program director, said about 27,000 people in the county already receive food stamps as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. He estimates that number is only one-third of the people who qualify.

Skelly said government programs are just a Band-Aid for the problem.

"Charity is filling in the gap where there's a lack of justice," he said.

Bread of the Mighty Food Bank is a food pantry trying to fill that gap.

"The problem is that food is harder to get," said Anne Voyles, the director of Bread of the Mighty Food Bank.

She said that during this time of year, with Thanksgiving and Christmas approaching, the charity receives a large amount of personal donations.

The organization tries to help about 400 people on Thanksgiving Day but can't always feed the largest amount of people possible because it has to save food for regular days too.

Bread of the Mighty Food Bank also helps smaller groups with their own Thanksgiving meal projects.

"Everybody wants something to be thankful for," she said.

Voyles said she gets calls from people who have never had to ask for help before.

When callers ask her to forgive them, she said she reminds them that one day they will be back on their feet and can return the favor.

It could be someone like Howard, who spent four months living on the street, suffering from seizures caused by his brain cancer and eating only by the kindness of strangers.

"To be on the other end of that is quite a wake-up call," he said.

"If there's anything I learned from being homeless, it would be that you don't give up when you're in a bad situation."

Local News

Magazine gives law school 'super' ranking

■ UF'S LAW SCHOOL RANKS EIGHTH NATIONALLY.

UF has produced a lot of Super Lawyers in its day, but they don't wear capes.

Law & Politics magazine recently released law school rankings based on the number of high-caliber lawyers, or Super Lawyers, produced.

UF's Levin College of Law placed eighth overall nationally, fourth among public schools and first in Florida.

Nationally, UF's law school beat those at Yale University, Boston University, Boston College, Cornell

University, UCLA, Stanford University and Duke University.

In order to be nominated as a Super Lawyer, lawyers undergo a vigorous selection process. The candidates are formally nominated by other lawyers.

After a candidate is nominated, he or she is added to the pool of potential winners and evaluated by the Law & Politics research department. Following the research phase, candidates are evaluated by their peers.

Robert Jerry, dean of UF's Levin College of Law, believes the ranking is a testimony to the students and professors at the college.

— JENNIFER BATE

THE SWAMP RESTAURANT



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\$4 Top Shelf Martini Night; Live Music 4–close

WEDNESDAY

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Daily Lunch Specials!

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Editorial

Preachy Keen

ACLU is right to defend church's freedom of speech

When the Dove World Outreach Center, a local church, chose its name, the story of Noah must have come to mind.

After the great flood, Noah released a dove, which returned carrying an olive branch, revealing that somewhere there was land. The dove has since symbolized peace.

But don't let this church fool you — its message is not even close to one of peace. On the contrary, it was probably another part of the flood story that attracted this church to its name: the drowning death of the wicked, corrupt masses.

Yes, this church hate-group doesn't stick to run-of-the-mill Internet hate speeches. You know, the tried and tested (yet somehow consistently vile) "Abortion is murder, homosexuality is sin" stuff. That's certainly part of the church's platform, but they take their mission to "preach and challenge" to an entirely different level.

The church's Web site plainly states that followers must "take a stand against Islam," which is actively "leading people to hell." They encourage all Christians to take this message directly to the people (and the sinners).

Which is exactly what some church members did at a Gainesville high school football game in early October. Along with their children, these weekend crusaders wore matching shirts that read "Islam is of the devil." School officials and police, understandably perturbed by this visible hate speech, demanded that the parents and students leave school property.

Unfortunately, this is a somewhat familiar story. But something is missing.

Enter the ACLU.

Not those whiners, you might be saying to yourself. The same thought crossed some minds here at the Alligator.

Now, we hate hate-speech, probably more than these phony "Christians" hate people with different beliefs.

But we were (somewhat reluctantly) pleased to hear that the ACLU filed a federal lawsuit on Monday on behalf of the church. The suit claims that the school intruded on these crusaders' freedom of speech when it removed them from the football game. The suit also seeks to reverse the Alachua County School District's decision to bring disciplinary action against students who wear similar shirts to school.

How can the Alligator defend this hate-mongering, especially when the church seeks to send its message out on the chests of children?

We can, and we must, because without absolute freedom of speech, we might not be able to call the Dove World Outreach Center a bunch of crazy assholes.

Were it not for the freedom of the press and other freedoms we enjoy as Americans, we might not have the opportunity to share views about this church or other contentious issues.

The First Amendment is designed to protect the thoughts and opinions of everyone, and by necessity, it must include those fringe elements of society that we all wish would just shut up.

While we doubt the church will be successful in its efforts to spread its message through the schools, as the Supreme Court has routinely ruled that students give up many rights when entering school doors, we defend their right to do so. Further, we applaud the ACLU for taking on the difficult job of representing them.

The Alligator supports civil dialog, controversial discourse, and downright belligerent argument (we especially like arguments), even when we painfully disagree with others' viewpoints.

So don't censor the hate-groups. Just hate them back — publicly.

the independent florida
alligator

Kristin Bjornsen
EDITOR

Brian Kelley

Jennifer Jenkins

MANAGING EDITORS

Will Olsen
OPINIONS EDITOR

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

Holidays create 'Garden State moments'

For many first years, the Thanksgiving holiday is the first real opportunity in the semester to go back home. And thus, it's often the first real opportunity to have what I call a "Garden State moment."

An obligatory disclaimer: Even after the post-"indie flick becomes popular" backlash and the trendy hate for Zach Braff, I still unabashedly love the movie "Garden State," and it still means a lot to me. I know that doesn't make me unique — at least half of your friends born between 1986 and 1991 probably feel the same way.

One of the more resonant scenes in the movie for me is when Zach Braff's character talks about the point in your life when you realize that "the house you grew up in isn't really your home anymore." And that's the Garden State moment — the moment you feel that something with which you grew up that seemed so significant, comforting or protective just isn't all that relevant to your life anymore.

That can certainly involve your home. Living away in your own place (even if "your own place" is a tiny dorm room lined with Tila Tequila posters) creates a reasonably close approximation of being all grown-up and independent (even if you're not paying your own cell phone bill). The feeling of going back home can resemble that of going back to your old high school after graduating: It's familiar and nice, but it seems like it's an artifact from your personal history. You might not even take off your shoes at the front door.

But more often than not, Garden State moments involve seeing your friends for the first time back home and wondering if they're still relevant to your life — or if you're still relevant to theirs.

It sneaks up on you — you call your old circle of friends from high school and figure out who's coming home for Thanksgiving break, and you make plans to hang out, just like back in the old days. Then something goes awry.

You might try to recreate an old tradition — Friday movie night, followed by midnight bowling — only to find yourself



Joe Dellosa
letters@alligator.org

wondering why you thought this was fun enough of an idea to do this every damn week during senior year as you halfheartedly chuck your bowling ball down the lane with a plastered-on smile.

Or you might grab some coffee with a friend with whom you've always had long, meaningful conversations, only to discover that the only things

you have to talk about are memories that you've hashed and rehashed several dozen times — in the same conversation.

Or you're just hanging out with your best friend as they talk about their college experiences and how many cool, new people they've met, and you realize, with creeping minor horror, that they've kind of moved on from their old life and, despite their insistence to the contrary, you're not their favorite friend anymore.

Or, you know, none of this could happen and you'll have a really nice holiday catching up with some good buddies.

But Garden State moments do happen, and it can be a really awful feeling when they do. Nobody usually expects to be someone's best friend forever, but the hazy phase of quasi-adulthood can be intimidating enough without having to go through it in the middle of an uncertain economy and an unsure future. Old friends are supposed to offer stability in unstable times, and the notion of friendships becoming vestigial — "being friends only because we're friends" — can be scary.

It's very easy for a friend to slip out of relevance — time and geography has a way of doing that — but fighting to protect a friendship means finding new relevance if it's there, and, appropriately enough, being thankful for what the friendship was if it's not.

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

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

Reader response

Today's question: Should the ACLU defend Dove World Outreach Center?

Monday's question: Do you think UF should cancel classes on Wednesday in order to prevent traffic accidents and allow students to spend more time with their families?

81% YES

19% NO

176 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Letters to the Editor

Dems should be cautious with reform

Thank you, Editorial Board, for writing the "Party Poopers" editorial in Monday's paper. You were dead on. Those stupid, cautionary senators, Ben Nelson and Joe Lieberman, need to keep their mouths shut so we liberals can ram through health care legislation we think is appropriate. If any Democrat questions whether it's financially sound, screw 'em! They can join those loser Republicans, who for eight years got to be fiscally irresponsible. Well, now it's our time, damn it. Who cares if we're in a recession?

For all you moderate Democrats out there, or you Liebermanites, you're Judases for not wanting the government to take control of the health care industry, like it took over the automobile industry or the banks. Get out of our way, because we won't stop until government controls everything.

Jenna Kilic
UF theater and English student



Many Christians share liberal values

This is in response to Monday's article, "UF study shows religious left more active." I am glad that someone has finally said something. I have been waiting to hear this for a long time. It is true that not all Christians are Republican. Many of the Christian students I know are conservative when it pertains to issues such as abortion and gay marriage but are as interested or more in historically liberal-leaning causes, such as better health care and education for this nation's poor. One of the Ten Commandments is "Thou shall not kill." I believe there are other ways to kill that are just as important as the abortion issue, ways that are completely ignored in the Republican arena.

There is a tendency in the popular media to link all Christians under a conservative Republican banner. Conservative Democrats have always existed and now, due to the health care debate, are called by name.

There is something inherently wrong with claiming to be a Christian and supporting abortion and gay marriage. But there is also something inherently wrong with being a Christian and not recognizing other social ills that kill Americans. I believe the latter ideal is what college students identify with more.

Ashley Stringfield
UF political science senior



Regulation should be left to states

This is in response to Monday's editorial about the Environmental Protection Agency

and nutrient limits for Florida's rivers and lakes. In case you didn't know, FDEP (the Florida Department of Environmental Protection) has passed down this year nutrient limits for nitrogen and phosphorus present in Florida waterways like the St. Johns River.

The goal is, of course, to reduce the very algae blooms of which you speak.

So this is not some problem that no one is taking care of. This is a state issue being handled by a state agency. Why are you looking to get the EPA involved in Florida's waterways when the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is already there?

Caitlin O'Conner
UF journalism junior



US must engage Cuba to spark change

This letter is in response to Dayme Sanchez's recent opinion piece, "Cuban embargo should remain in place."

While Sanchez's historical facts are well-documented, her support for the Cuban embargo draws upon questionable analysis.

First off, Sanchez argues that lifting the embargo would be the equivalent of supporting Cuba's numerous human rights violations.

However, as can be seen in the case of U.S. diplomatic overtures to China and the former Soviet Union, simply opening diplomatic and economic channels with another country does not mean the United States supports said country's ethical shortcomings. If the United States were to base all of its foreign policy prerogatives on a regime's adherence to moral principles, our nation might as well slap embargos on 80 percent of its trade partners.

We must also pay attention to the fact that the Castro regime has lasted long after the collapse of its largest benefactor, the Soviet Union. While Cuba's economy has undoubtedly suffered as a result, the continued persistence of the Castro regime is a testament to its ability to draw upon the strong feelings of anti-Americanism that run deep in the minds of Cuba's population.

So long as the embargo is in place, the United States cannot expect Cuba to change its opinion.

Only through a policy of engagement can the United States hope to foster better relations with its island neighbor. Consistently ignoring more than 11 million Cuban citizens right on our doorstep is a fallacy that has persisted for far too long.

Recognizing the Castro regime's existence as the current authority in Cuba is the first step to acknowledging a hard-to-swallow, but nonetheless present, reality. That acknowledged-

ment, however, does not imply moral callousness on our part. We remain committed to our principles, but we cannot hope to spread those values by overlooking every nation that has slighted us in the past. The United States, after all, is too mature to cut off relations with another country just because it doesn't like that country's government.

Ultimately, supporters of the Cuban embargo want it both ways. They wish to see domestic change within Cuba, yet at the same time they are unwilling to acknowledge the necessary steps the United States must take to help foster that goal.

So long as we treat diplomatic recognition of Cuba as anathema, then Cuba's unfavorable opinion of the United States will continue in perpetuity. So long as that feeling survives, Cuba will never see any need for reform, and any progress we may hope to have with our neighbor will remain in stasis.

Kevin Weng
UF political science and history junior



People in spotlight face more scrutiny

In response to Nicole Martingano's letter yesterday, I can only say that I wholeheartedly agree that anyone can be a drunken driver. After all, the first thing you learn in driver's ed is how the immediate effect of alcohol is not the slight dizziness so many students seem to enjoy, but the lack of judgment. (Drunken texting, anyone?)

If you choose to be in the spotlight in good times, however, prepare to be in the spotlight in bad times as well. Kristen Gillis knew, better than anyone, the responsibilities and obligations for which the Student Body elected her. Asking for her case to get the same attention (or lack of) as any "regular" student is like asking Fox News not to demonize Obama were he to be found drunken driving, even though he represents us all as a country.

Furthermore, if you choose to campaign against drunken driving, or any other cause, make sure you practice what you preach, or face the consequences. Regarding Martingano's claim that UF doesn't have enough amazing students like her friend: I completely disagree. I have only been here for one semester, yet I have met so many people that make me smile every time I see them. Just because you are a Greek "celebrity" on campus or you publicly announce how dedicated you are to a cause doesn't make you better than everybody else. On the contrary, humility is a value that is rather lacking nowadays.

Michel Schoemaker
UF physics freshman

UF should spend on education, not pride

With the current stimulus plan showing few signs of creating real economic stability, maybe the leaders of the free world should take a look back a few centuries.

In 1790 Edmund Burke's scathing attack on the French Revolution ignited what would become centuries of debate.

He argued the justification for wealth was found through the hope it brought to the poor.

More than 200 years later, the same ideas hold true.

UF, which is just one of the many universities struggling with severe budgetary constraints due to the economic downturn, has plans to plug \$70 million to \$80 million into the Reitz Union for an "expansion/renovation" project.

Though funded by Student Government, the administration fully supports the measure, which will likely charge students a fee in order to cover around \$56 million of the cost. Back track to pre-Revolutionary France — Burke argued that large and commanding cathedrals emphasized the hope of a better tomorrow for those in the streets, and it further served to signify to the nobles that they had an up-to-par partner in government.

In Burke's world, this translates roughly into the following:

The university playing the role of the clergy — the students as the paupers, and the 46 schools ranked higher than UF as the nobility.

Status is as still as big a part of our world as it was in Burke's, just as universal in nature as the principle of inevitable inequality.

Therefore, if renovating a building, regardless if there is real need or not, regardless of a hiring freeze, regardless of creating a new student fee, regardless of the recent hike in tuition cost — if the building increases pride, power or prestige — build it.

Now, in an age of debt and deficits, the stimulus funds given to state universities may be seen by some as "free" money.

But — and nothing but respect toward Burke — if that same institution is forced to lay off professors and cut tens of millions of dollars from the budget, and if that same institution strives to produce students with civic responsibility to have a positive impact on society, maybe it is sending the wrong message by spending money on pride rather than educational tools with tax dollars.

Then again, perhaps it is only fair to spend money obtained by fiscally irresponsible means on fiscally irresponsible things.

Brittany Fox
UF political science major

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October home sales increase 23 percent in South

■ **MEDIAN SALES PRICES IN THE SOUTH FELL TO \$151,100.**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

October home sales in the U.S. South vaulted 23 percent from last year as buyers scrambled to grab an expiring tax credit and wrestled for lower-priced homes, the National Association of Realtors said Monday.

Real estate agents from Texas to Maryland credited sales increases to low mortgage rates, affordable prices and the tax credit of up to

\$8,000 for first-time buyers.

The incentive was set to die Nov. 30 before Congress extended it into next spring and added a \$6,500 credit for current homeowners who move into another property.

Median sales prices in the South did fall to \$151,100, a 6 percent decline from last October. Strong demand from first-time buyers in Florida and Washington, D.C., led to some bidding wars over low-priced homes, including foreclosures, said Vicki Cox Golder, president of the Realtors group.

Nationally, October sales of existing homes were up by one-fifth compared with last year,

without adjusting for seasonal factors.

The median sales price dipped 7 percent to \$173,100.

Resale of houses and condominiums increased in all 18 Southern metro markets covered by The Associated Press-Re/Max Housing Report, also released Monday.

National News

Fourteen Southern markets saw prices fall on a year-over-year basis. Foreclosure-heavy Miami posted the steepest drop — a 30 percent decline to \$150,000. Little Rock, Ark., Birmingham, Ala., and Houston recorded

price increases from October 2008, while New Orleans held steady, the AP-Re/Max report showed.

The AP-Re/Max report analyzed sales transactions in the metropolitan statistical areas recorded by all real estate agents, regardless of company affiliation.

While prices in Miami are down, sales rose 28 percent in October, compared with the same month last year.

Miami's real estate market not only benefited from the tax credit, but also from Canadian and European buyers taking advantage of a relatively weak dollar and affordable prices.



AP Photo

Put A Scarf In It
Susan Boyle twirls her scarf during her appearance on the NBC "Today" television program in New York Monday.

Jones says other churches should follow Dove's lead

SUIT, from page 1

sex or drugs," he said. "It's about [the students'] views on politics, religion and history."

Simon said the district's decision to forbid the students from wearing the shirts crosses a line that shouldn't be set by the school system, which is allowed to forbid certain clothing based on its offensiveness.

He said if every school restricted freedom of speech based on offending others, the freedom wouldn't exist.

Simon said the students were not sent home from school the first day they wore the shirts because there was no disruption, but the schools later decided to forbid the shirts because of their message.

While the shirts' message is distressing, Simon said, their appearance should have sparked school-wide discus-

sions about religion and politics, being used as a learning tool.

"Rather than restricting speech," he said, "it should have opened the door to more speech."

A spokesperson from the DWOC declined to comment on the case but referred to a statement from the Rev. Terry Jones, the church's senior pastor.

"What we are doing is what every church should be doing," part of the statement from Jones reads, "but the churches in America and in Gainesville have become cowardly. The church's job is to stand up and speak out on issues...and warn against false religions like Islam that masquerades itself as a religion of peace. Their desire is to destroy America, Israel and western civilization and to institute Islamic law."

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DEADLINES

The Alligator will not publish on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

The deadline for Monday, November 30 is TODAY at 4 p.m.

The deadline for Tuesday December 1 is Wednesday, November 25 at 4 p.m.

These deadlines apply to both Display and Classified advertising.

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Enormous Screened Patio!
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Two Jacuzzis! Business Center!
Billiards Room! Fitness Center w/ Free
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Close to UF, Shands, I-75, & Shopping!
1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms for NOW & Fall!!!
GREAT SPECIALS!!!
1/1-\$684 2/2-\$512w/all util 3/3-\$399w/all util
2330 SW Williston Rd.
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12-9-09-75-2

Huge Private Dog Park
1's from \$499 * Waive all fees
Close to UF, Shands, Butler Plaza
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12-9-74-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

1's, 2's and 4's
AS BIG AS A HOUSE!
Great School Districts
Free Personal Training
75 SW 75th Street Call 332-7401 12-
9-75-2

No Move-In Fees
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FREE Tanning*Pool*Gym
www.aspenridgeuf.com
352.367.9910
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MUSEUM WALK
2/2's - \$945 CABLE & WATER Included
All Inclusive roommate matching - \$606
ParknRide Bus Route-Always be on time!
3500 SW 19th Ave*www.museumwalk.com
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HUGE 5 BED HOUSE!
3 baths, enclod front patio
W/D, Wood Floors, Fireplace
3 blocks to UF! Pets welcome!
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Large 1, 2 & 3 bdrm Floor Plans;
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Studios - \$465, includes electric!
Wood floors available. FREE parking.
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1's, 2's, 3's
* Inclusive Pkgs Available
* Pet Friendly!
* Immediate or Fall Move In
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12-9-09-75-2

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Pets Welcome! No Move-in Fees.
372-7111 * 1216 SW 2nd Ave
12-9-09-75-2

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12-9-75-2

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2 For Rent unfurnished

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Roommate Matching
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3000 SW 35th Place
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Ask about our new pet policy & other specials
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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. 4-21-
09-71-2

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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
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FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Pine Rush Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
1 bdr. from \$459 2bdr. from \$639
Near UF and Oaks Mall
Ph. 375-1519 **www.gremco.com**
11-30-09-85-2

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11-30-09-85-2

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Gator Village Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
1 bdr. from \$489
Near Downtown and 6th Street
Ph. 372-3826 **www.gremco.com**
11-30-09-85-2

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Sunrise Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
1bdr. from \$363 \$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 Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
1 bdr. from \$363 \$300 Amex card.
Just off SW 34th St.
Ph. 376-0828 **www.gremco.com**
11-30-09-85-2

WALK & BIKE TO UF
●1BR/1BA \$425
●2BR \$450-\$620 - W/D incl
Gore Rabell Real Estate 378-1387
www.Gore-Rabell.com 12-9-09-75-2

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!
Union Properties 352-373-7578
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12-9-09-72-2

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12-9-09-50-2

ONE BLOCK TO UF (WALK TO CLASS)

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 2336 SW 34th Pl Apt D. \$600/
mo w/stacking W/D. 1yr lease 352-372-3131
12-9-09-41-2

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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

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\$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR,
privacy fenced. SW. 352-331-2099 12-9-
09-39-2

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We specialize in rentals, sales & property
management. Try us. 352-375-2900 11-30-
09-30-2

Working at Shands or VA- nice 2/1 @ Summit
House across the street. \$700/mo + \$200
dep. Call 352-8430-0220 to see. 12-9-29-2

Baxter Cottage

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

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- * 1 BR from \$575
- * 2 BR from \$625
- * 3 BR from \$745

Tanning*Fitness*Tennis*Pool
Washer/Dryer*Pets Welcome!
Call us for a tour! 377-7401
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FREE Rent until January 2010!!!

Sundowne Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
Studio from \$439 1bdr. from \$479
Walk to Butler Plaza
Ph. 377-2596 www.gremco.com
11-30-09-85-2

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!

Courtney Greens Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
Totally Renovated 1 bdr. from \$599
1 MONTH FREE! Near Oaks Mall
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11-30-09-85-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Ashton Square Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
2/2 from \$739 3/2 from \$799
1 MONTH FREE! Huge floorplans.
W/D hookup Near Oaks Mall
Ph.333-1120 www.gremco.com
11-30-09-85-2

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
319 NW 16th Avenue
\$800/Mo. Call Merrill Management
Inc 352-372-1494 11-25-09-13-2

2BR 1BA Apt 1BLK TO UF!
Grad II Apts Special: \$675/Mo
Central H & Air, Dishwasher
1236 Sw 4th Avenue. Call
Merrill Management Inc
352-372-1494 x10 11-25-09-13-2

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

2 BLKS TO NORMAN HALL!
2BR 1BA Apts \$600/Mo
5 Blks to UF, Central H & Air
Laundry Fac. Carpet, Pets Allowed.
829 Sw 5th Avenue.
Call Merrill Management Inc.
352-372-1494 11-25-09-13-2

2BR 1BA, Carpet, Window A/C,
Nat gas ht. 1 BLK to UF \$600/Mo
1216 SW 3rd Avenue. Call
Merrill Management Inc 352-372-1494
X10 11-25-09-13-2

2901 NW 14th Street
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

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Shands 1,2,3, & 4 bedrooms & individual
leases. Campus Realty 352-692-3800 ren-
tals.campusrealtgroup.com 12-9-09-20-2

Two bedroom one bath condo for only \$450
per month. Move in ready. On busline.
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long. Campus Realty 352-692-3800
rentals.campusreality.org 12-9-09-20-2

\$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

● 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 ceil-
ings, huge bedroom with private bathroom.
Call 352-870-5004 11-30-10-2

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

2 For Rent unfurnished

Lowest Prices in Town!!!
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

Custom 2BR/1BA in pvt 4 Unit complx. Tiled
flr in Liv rm, Carpet in BRs w/ceiling fans. All
new BA. New Kit w/stainless appl, W/D, Cent
H/A, i-net/cable avail. Mgr pays water, pest
cntrl, lawn main, security lites. Near bus rte.
Sorry no pets \$685/mo Call 727-423-9463
●Also avail: Fully furn 2BR/1BA \$735/mo.
12-9-09-13-2

WALK TO UF. Avail in Jan:
● 2BR/2.5BA \$800 ● 2BR/1BA \$700
● 1BR/1BA \$585 ● Studio \$475
1 yr lease, SD & NS. Call/Text: 352-870-7256
or gvl132601@gmail.com 12-9-09-14-2

Univ. Terr. Gainesville, 3921 SW 34th st., 1st
fl., 4 bdrm., 4 bath, cent A/C, cable, wash.,
dry., full kitch., \$280/mo.ea., owner/manager/
gainesville 352-472-9778 11-24-09-5-2

MUST SEE TO BELIEVE!
2BR/1BA off of Newberry Rd. \$500/mo for
both rooms & incl all utils and satellite. Newer
house with large fenced backyard. Pets ok.
Call 472-1514 11-25-09-5-2

2/2 with loft avail. immediately. Utilities
included. w/d in unit. Tower Rd 450/month
352-246-3975 12-1-09-7-2

MIDTOWN WALK TO CLASS

- 1BR/1BA \$475
 - 2BR/1BA \$350 ea.
 - 1BR/1BA duplex \$600
 - 2BR/2.5BA townhome \$525 ea.
- Call 352-335-4790 or 352-214-3369
11-25-5-2

MOVE IN NOW!

Sweet studio w/large porch, deck, on creek.
Safe area. On busline. Tiled, laundry priv.
\$425/mo, 1/3 utils, 1st/last/\$400 sec. 352-
384-0111. 24/7 apt326@yahoo.com 11-30-
09-5-2

\$100 OFF 1st MONTH RENT. 2 BR/1.5 Bath
Phoenix apt. 1 mile to campus and Shands
on bus route. W/D conn. Fenced yard. \$500
security, \$550/month. 2640 SW 31st Place
Unit B. 562-2782 or 514-6869 if interested.
1-6-14-2

1st MONTH'S RENT FREE! Lovely, spaci-
ous 3/2 condo. Quiet, yet centrally located,
just 1.5 mi. from law center. Very low utili-
ties! Partially furnished.W/D.pool. \$975. Exit
Realty Producers 352-316-6842 12-8-09-
10-2

SMALL CABIN 2/1, 20 ACRES
Watermelon Pond views. 27802 SW 120th
Lane, Newberry. Horse pens, dog door.
Needs work. \$575/mo. \$750 move-in 330-
329-8834 12-1-5-2

WALK/BIKE TO UF/SHANDS! Campus Edge
1BR/1bath, washer/dryer, stove,dishwasher,
pool,gym,no pets,\$550/m,2360 SW Archer
Rd.561-313-1549 Owner agent 1-11-09-
15-2

NEED A CHANGE?

Rooms for rent, 5 blks from UF. Indiv leases,
no reded fees, utils incl. A few left for Dec or
reserve yours for Aug. Call today 226-4111
12-9-09-10-2

3 Subleases

Canopy Apartment 1br/1ba
4 bed unit w/3 male roommates
Jan 1 2010 - May 4 2010
Save! Current rate \$625/mth
Now \$400/mth call 239-634-3130 11-25-
09-5-3

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

4 Roommates

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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

Enjoy A Romantic Old House

Near library downtown. \$295-375/rm + utils.
Short term. No pets. No smoking. 378-1304
12-9-09-40-4

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 vac-
ate. Some pets ok. Call 331-0762 12-7-
33-4

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 12-4-
09-28-4

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. 12-9-29-4

Female roommates needed. Live in a big new
house w/ bus stop to UF, quiet/relax area,
fenced yard,private pool. 500/month all inclu-
sive. Joyce 941-724-0961. Must see House
Pics: tinyurl.com/mbs77r 11-25-15-4

4 Roommates

A clean, preprofessional, non-smoking femal
roommate for a 2/2.5 townhome close to
UF and Santa Fe. \$350 + 1/2 of the utilities
and internet included, W/D, Bdr unfurnished.
Contact Madgene at 561-827-4970. 12-1-
09-15-4

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

Female UF roommate needed for 3 bed-
room house walking distance to UF. Share
with 2 UF students. Private yard and park-
ing. \$450.00 month plus util. email Lauren at
ciba123@aol.com 11-24-09-5-4

2 bedrooms available now in a GREAT 4 BR
house near campus. Easy walk to law school,
bike to main campus. Live with one student,
one professional. \$450/mo. Nice neighbor-
hood, sunny porch, great place to live. Call
David, (321) 303-2214. 12-4-09-10-4

5 Real Estate

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Matt Price Campus Realty, 352-281-3551
12-9-74-5

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™
by David L. Hoyt 11-24-09

1	○		2	○		3			
								4	
5				○		○			
						○			
			6	○				○	
○									
	7								○

ACROSS

CLUE

- Allay anger
- Construct
- Give
- Type of vehicle

ANSWER

FACIYP
AEISR
ENWDO
REEHAS

DOWN

CLUE

- Consent to
- _____ food
- Baseball player
- Look over

ANSWER

TRIPME
NICHEES
DEFIRLE
WBORES

CLUE: This invention dates back more than 400 years.

BONUS ○○○○○○○○○

How to play Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

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ANSWERS: 1A-Facility 5A-Raise 6A-Endow 7A-Hearse
1D-Permit 2D-Chinese 3D-Fielder 4D-Browse 5D-Telescope
Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, Ill. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

5 Real Estate

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

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

130 FEET RIVER FRONTAGE! 1.5 ACRES, BUILDABLE LOT WITH LARGE SELECTION OF HUGE TREES ON PEACEFUL SECTION OF RIVER. GREAT INVESTMENT! ONLY 25K. (352)665-8067 1-13-09-20-5

Great for Students 1BR/1BA. Walk to Campus. Only \$49,900 Gore-Rabell Realty 378-1387 4-21-75-5

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

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

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

****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

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10 For Sale

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

ACROSS

1 Job detail, briefly	3 Toledo's lake	34 Consequently	47 Wilma's mate
5 First appearance	4 Free from doubt	35 Academic honor	48 Greet the day
10 Irish dances	5 California senator	37 Tea named for	49 Cocksure
14 Prefix with space	Feinstein	William IV's	Aesopian racer
15 Really peeved	6 Maritime raptors	prime minister	50 "Saturday Night
16 Campus south of	7 Robin Hood's	38 True-blue	Live" alum Fey
Sunset Blvd.	merry men, e.g.	43 Mai ___ cocktail	51 Outback runners
17 Investor's goal	8 Longhorn State	44 Breaks off	52 O'Hara humor
18 Subsidiary	sch.	45 Roaches, ants,	53 Action film gun
building	9 Oil, informally	etc.	56 Gen-___:
19 Thoughtful	10 Biblical traitor	46 Bowler's	boomer's kid,
20 Sophisticated	11 Rapper-turned-	headache	usually
taste, foodwise	actor	ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:	
23 B&Bs	12 Ticked-pink	S L A M S H A R M S H A M	
24 Jane Fonda, to	feeling	T A R O T B E A U H O S E	
Peter	13 Maple yield	A N K L E B O O T S I N C A	
25 Ping-Pong need	21 Bay or cove	B A S E L Y N E C N O I R	
28 Airing, as an	22 Actress Tyler	L E A S A N G R I A	
ESPN game	25 Of the Holy See	O L D H A N S T A U	
30 Schmooze	26 Showing shock	D I I I O L L A M A M A S	
33 See eye to eye	27 Plumbing	D E E P W A A C S R A G A	
34 "Night" author	problems	S U S H I I S T O D U E L	
Wiesel	28 Jimmy of the	U S E H I L L S I D E	
35 Nod off	Daily Planet	H A N G M A N N A L E	
36 Studio item with	29 Playful bites	A G O G R I M R E A D D S	
a thumb hole	30 Gangster	D A N E L E G W A R M E R S	
39 Datebook entry:	dubbed "The	E V E R A C M E A S E A T	
Abbr.	Teflon Don"	S E T S P E T E T O M B S	
40 Improves in the	31 Ancient Mexican	xwordeditor@aol.com 11/24/09	
wine cellar	32 Tavern round		

DOWN

1 Droop	14	15	16
2 Anjou or Bosc	17	18	19
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By Gary J. Whitehead
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Meyer squashes Notre Dame coaching rumors

By **BOBBY CALLOVI**
Alligator Staff Writer
bcallovi@alligator.org

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis' future has not been decided yet, but the rumors of the Fighting Irish planning to try to get Florida coach Urban Meyer to replace him have already started swirling.

Notre Dame is 6-5, bringing Weis' overall record to 35-26, and many believe he will be fired at the end of the season.

Meyer was an assistant coach at Notre Dame from 1996-2000 and was a candidate for the job in 2005 before deciding to come to Gainesville.

He has also said Notre Dame was his dream job.

Meyer was quick to put the rumors to rest when asked about it Monday.

"I'm ready to dispel those," Meyer said. "I'm going to be the coach at Florida as long as they'll have me, so I'll make that clear."

Senior quarterback Tim Tebow said he did not think Meyer had any interest in leaving Florida.

MEYER'S SUCCESSOR: While Meyer has made it known he plans on

staying at UF for a while, he may have already started picking his replacement when he does decide to leave Florida.

He hopes two of the seniors that will be playing in their last games in The Swamp on Saturday will eventually return to coach their alma mater.

"Tebow or (redshirt senior linebacker Ryan) Stamper, I guess, will someday lead this program," Meyer said. "That's every coach's dream to come in, make it a little better and just leave it in good shape and leave it to someone who will carry on."

He also said junior defensive end Justin Trattou would make a great coach.

Tebow said that future intrigues him, and he would not shut the door on a coaching career.

REMEMBERING GUILFORD: During Monday's press conference, Meyer had to pause several times to fight back tears when talking about his departing senior class.

One of his most emotional

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 15



Football



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

Florida coach Urban Meyer said at Monday's press conference that he intends to remain at UF "as long as they'll have me."

Home losses fueled Tebow

It's finally time to say goodbye. Tim Tebow will be making his 21st and final start inside The Swamp on Saturday.

Ben Hill Griffin Stadium has been mostly a place of refuge for the face of college football. He has walked off a loser only twice, but it was those times that he fell short that meant most to Tebow's career.

Each blemish led to moments of greatness.

The 20-17 defeat to Auburn in 2007, Tebow's first loss as a starter, showed the first chink in No. 15's armor. The then-sophomore of an undefeated team had the ball in a tied game with 4:49 left. The next three plays were an incompleteness, option to Kestahn Moore for no gain and an incompleteness. The Gators punted and the Tigers marched down the field, running



Phil Kegler
Phil on the Hill
pkegler@alligator.org

out the clock and kicking the game-winning field goal.

More than a year later, Tebow would lead the Gators onback-to-back fourth-quarter touchdowns

drives to lift them to a SEC Championship Game win. Lest you forget, Florida trailed 20-17 before those two title-clinching possessions — an 11-play, 62-yard drive that took 5:47 followed by an eight-play, 65-yard drive that took 4:37.

The BCS Championship Game victory over Oklahoma needed another game-clinching drive from Tebow,

SEE PHIL, PAGE 16

UF CROSS COUNTRY

Gators take seventh at NAAs

By **JESSICA ETTER**
Alligator Writer

The Florida women's cross country team achieved its preseason goal Monday but left the NCAA Championships less than satisfied.

The No. 5 Gators finished a school-record seventh out of 31 teams in Terre Haute, Ind. It was UF's first top-10 finish at the national race in the program's 30-year history, but the team's 260 points were less than 10 shy of a top-five finish. Sixth-place finisher West Virginia had 259 points and fifth-place Princeton had 251.

Coach Todd Morgan said being so close to a top-five finish was bittersweet.

"The girls left the course today a little irritated," Morgan said. "We plan on coming back here next year and doing even better."

Redshirt sophomore Rebecca Lowe (14th, 20:19) and junior Charlotte Browning (19th, 20:26) led the way, earning Florida's first All-America honors since Becki Wells in 1995. Lowe and Browning's times rank first and second in the school record books for the NCAA

6K meet.

All five of UF's scoring runners finished in the top 90 of the 250-woman race.

"It's phenomenal for these girls who have worked so hard all year," Morgan said. "They'll look back on it, and it's something they'll be really proud of."



Morgan

Villanova, who was ranked No. 2 going into the meet, took home the national title while Florida State came in second. Washington, the 2008 NCAA Champion, came in third.

Despite a slightly disappointing finish, Monday capped off a record-breaking season for the Gators.

The team won the Southeastern Conference title as well as the NCAA South Regional meet.

The SEC title was the first since 1997, and it was 1998 when the Gators last won the South Region.

SEE CROSS COUNTRY, PAGE 16

TEERING OFF WITH KYLE MAISTRI

■ **Poor Les Miles.** When you mismanage the clock and it works out on the way to a national title, you're a riverboat gambling genius. When it doesn't work and you lose to Ole Miss, well, you're just an idiot. ... This week, MJ said other jerseys deserve retirement besides his No. 23. Not that he wants other players' numbers retired. Knowing MJ, he was referring to the other number he wore (45).

alligatorSports Podcast

■ Kyle Maistri joins host Adam Berry for a rare two-man podcast. The duo discusses FIU, FSU, Nike's new uniforms and the men's basketball team. Check it out on iTunes.

UF FOOTBALL AWARD FINALISTS

■ Five are top-three candidates: QB Tim Tebow (Maxwell, Davey O'Brien), CB Joe Haden (Thorpe), LB Brandon Spikes (Bednarik), TE Aaron Hernandez (Mackey) and P Chas Henry (Ray Guy). Winners named Dec. 10.

HEISMAN WATCH

1 Mark Ingram (17) 1,399 rushing yards, 6.8 yards per carry, 12 TD, 25 receptions, 225 receiving yards, 3 TD



Like Florida, Alabama took a break in its real schedule and played a tough game against Chattanooga this week. Ingram got his 100 yards

and two scores on the ground and got out, finishing with only 11 carries on the day. The Tide rolled 45-0, and Ingram remains on the top of our list as a result. It looks like his Heisman campaign will come down to whether he can lead his team to a victory against the Gators in the Southeastern Conference Championship Game.

4 Dion Lewis (4) 1,291 rushing yards, 5.8 ypc, 13 TD, 17 receptions, 142 receiving yards, TD



Let's welcome Mr. Lewis to the alligatorSports Heisman Watch top five! Obviously, he can thank our Mr. Kegler for his place on our list. No one

else voted for Lewis, but that didn't stop Kegler from putting him second on his ballot. The weirdest part of all this is that Lewis had a bye this week and Kegler didn't have Lewis on his ballot a week ago, meaning a week off was impressive enough to rocket Lewis up his list. OK ...

2 Kellen Moore (13) 168.79 passer rating, 2,791 yards, 66.3 completion percentage, 33 TD, 3 INT, -6 rushing yards, -0.3 ypc, TD



Boise State continues to roll behind its high-powered offense, led by its stud quarterback. Moore threw for 233 yards and a touchdown against

Utah State, perhaps his most average performance of the season. The Broncos ground game controlled the Aggies on the way to an easy 52-21 win. When it's all said and done, will Moore be able to supplant Ingram on our list? Will he even finish the season as the best left-handed quarterback who wears orange and blue?

5 C.J. Spiller (4) 894 rushing yards, 5.2 ypc, 7 TD, 29 receptions, 421 receiving yards, 4 TD, 4 return TD



Spiller didn't have one of his better games against Virginia this week (97 total yards and one touchdown), but it was enough for a 34-21 win,

punching the Tigers' ticket to the ACC Championship Game. Spiller has carried Clemson on its magical run all season and there might not be a more versatile weapon in college football.

3 Toby Gerhart (8) 1,531 rushing yards, 5.4 ypc, 23 TD, 9 receptions, 116 receiving yards



Gerhart continued his rampage through the Pac-10 schedule but couldn't lift his team to a victory against Cal. The senior rushed for 136 yards

and four touchdowns, but the Cardinal slipped to 7-4 on the season. Still, no one has run for more touchdowns this season than Gerhart, and he just might be the class of a talented group of West-Coast runners.

OUR RANKINGS

Bobby Callovi

- 1 Kellen Moore, Boise State
- 2 Toby Gerhart, Stanford
- 3 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 4 Jacquizz Rodgers, Oregon State
- 5 LaMichael James, Oregon

Mike McCall

- 1 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 2 Toby Gerhart, Stanford
- 3 Tim Tebow, Florida
- 4 Colt McCoy, Texas
- 5 C.J. Spiller, Clemson

Phil Kegler

- 1 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 2 Dion Lewis, Pittsburgh
- 3 Kellen Moore, Boise State
- 4 LaMichael James, Oregon
- 5 Golden Tate, Notre Dame

Kyle Maistri

- 1 Kellen Moore, Boise State
- 2 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 3 C.J. Spiller, Clemson
- 4 Jacquizz Rodgers, Oregon State
- 5 LaMichael James, Oregon

Jessica Warshaver / Alligator Staff

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UF MEN'S BASKETBALL

Gators look to snap streak

By ADAM BERRY

Alligator Staff Writer
aberry@alligator.org

Florida isn't spending too much time worrying about the garnet-and-gold monkey on its back.

UF (3-0) has dropped three straight matchups against Florida State (3-0), and no player on the Gators roster has walked off the court in his college career with a victory against the Seminoles. Even Florida's second national championship team lost to FSU, falling 70-66 in Tallahassee in 2006.

But when the teams square off in the O'Connell Center tonight at 7, the rivalry's recent history will be far from the Gators' minds.

"This is a whole new team from last year. They've got a different team," sophomore point guard Erving Walker said. "The streak really don't mean nothing. Both teams are totally different, so it's 0-0 for us."

FSU returns three starters from the team that beat UF 57-55 last year in Tallahassee, but with a renewed commitment to defense and some new personnel, UF has already proven to be different this season than it was last year.

"To me, anything that has happened in the past is over with and has no bearing on how we go out and perform," UF coach Billy Donovan said. "That's the beauty about competition. Anytime you line up and play, what happened previously has nothing to do with what's in front of you."

Instead of looking back on previous years, Donovan and his team have spent most of their time preparing for FSU's big men. With their projected starting frontcourt standing 6-foot-8, 6-foot-9 and 7-foot-1, the Seminoles are a matchup problem for nearly every team they

face.

FSU center Solomon Alabi in particular will present a new challenge to Florida's post players, especially centers Vernon Macklin and Kenny Kadji, who have yet to face a player down low like the Seminoles 7-footer.

Alabi is averaging 12.3 points, 6.3 rebounds and three blocks while playing just more than 20 minutes per game.

"We have some guys who can hopefully match up. We don't have anybody the size of those guys or the length of those guys, but neither do most teams in the country," Donovan said. "It's not like we're drastically undersized playing against them. I think most teams that play against FSU are going to be drastically undersized."

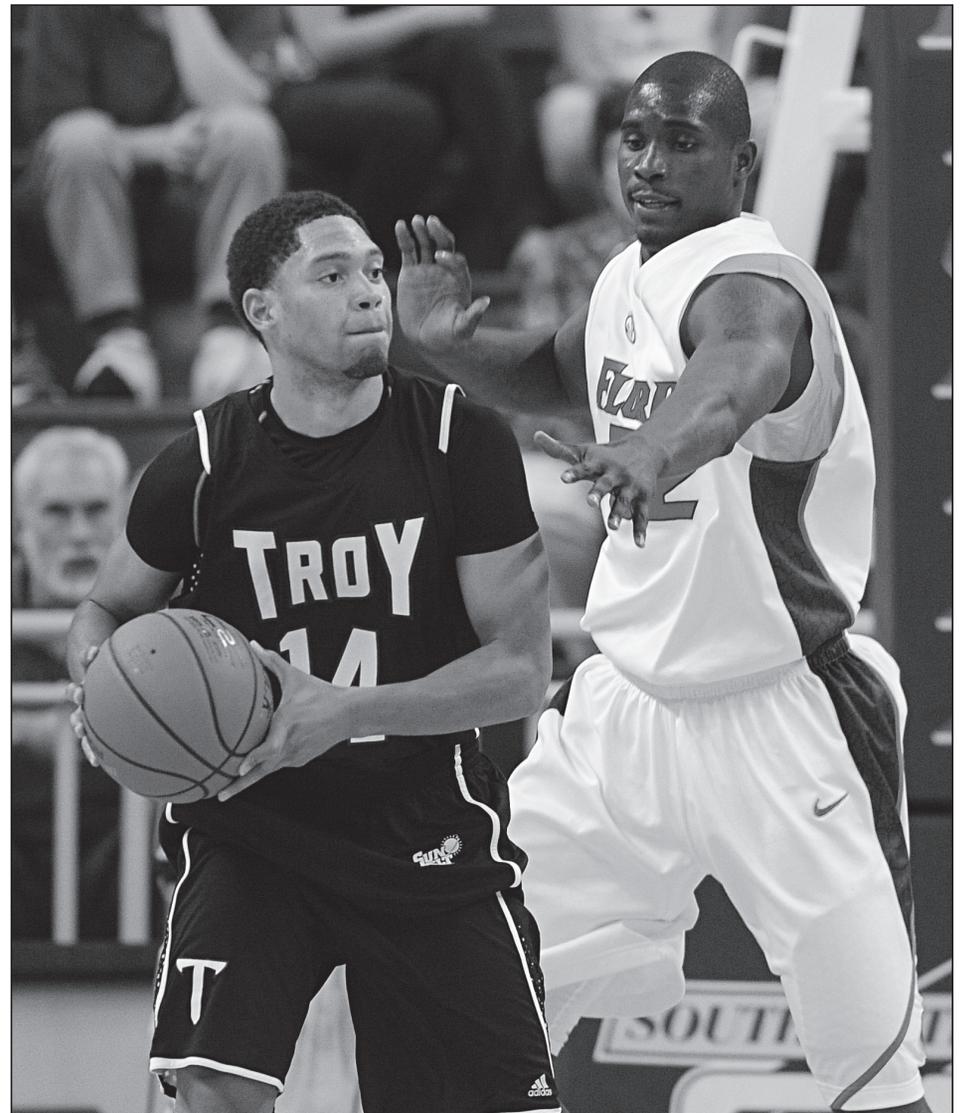
INJURY UPDATE: Donovan said Alex Tyus will likely play against FSU after suffering a sprained ankle in UF's 80-58 win against Troy on Friday night. The junior power forward practiced Sunday with no contact but returned to full-contact practice Monday.

Chandler Parsons' injury is a more pressing concern for the Gators. The junior forward suffered a hip flexor strain against Troy and did not practice Sunday or Monday.

Parsons has been a spark off the bench for UF this season, averaging 14.7 points and a team-leading 8.3 rebounds per game.

"My gut feeling is he's going to want to play, regardless," Donovan said. "How effective is he and where he's at while he's playing, I don't know where that is, but I think he'll be cleared to play. Just I don't know what we'll be able to get out of him, missing two days."

"We can still do different things offensively and defensively if he's not able to go or if he's not 100 percent."



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF center Vernon Macklin will face his biggest challenge so far this season when Florida State comes to town. The Seminoles boast three players at least 6-foot-8.

UF will wear new Nike Pro Combat uniform vs. FSU



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

Former Gator James Smith models the new Nike Pro Combat uniform at a news conference in the O'Connell Center.

FOOTBALL, from page 13

moments was when former Gator Michael Guilford was brought up.

Guilford, who died in a motorcycle accident on Oct. 12, 2007, would have been a senior this year.

The walk-on was most well known for acting as former Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith on the scout team prior to the 2006 BCS National Championship Game.

Meyer said he will be honored during Senior Day against FSU on Saturday.

"We're going to invite his family down, and he's still part of this group," Meyer said.

"You love the jersey that you played in your last four years. But also you're going to have a new jersey, and it will be something that's cool and special to this one game."

Tim Tebow

UF senior quarterback

NEW UNIFORMS: In their last game in The Swamp, the Gators' seniors will not be wearing the uniforms they have worn for almost every game of their college careers.

Instead, UF will be wearing the Nike Pro Combat uniform, which is being described as the lightest football uniform Nike has ever created.

The new uniforms were unveiled before the FIU game.

Florida joins Clemson, FSU, LSU, Miami, Virginia Tech, Missouri, Ohio State, Oklahoma and TCU in debuting the new Nike uniforms this season.

The Gators' future jerseys will be made out of the material used in the special uniforms Saturday, but they will reflect the traditional Florida uniforms.

"You love the jersey that you played in your last four years," Tebow said. "But also you're going to have a new jersey, and it will be something that's cool and special to this one game."

BCS Rankings

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

Florida looks to get off to better start against UAB

■ THE GATORS ARE COMING OFF BACK-TO-BACK LOSSES.

By **EUGENIO TORRENS**

Alligator Staff Writer
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It may be early in the season, but the Florida women's basketball team is using its performance in Pittsburgh, an 81-58 loss on Friday, as a wake-up call.

While it wasn't a make-or-break game, the loss dropped the Gators to 1-2 on the season, and players and coaches are not going to completely disregard it.

"You have to stress the seriousness of the situation.

If it's not corrected, you could spiral (downward)."

Susan Yenser
UF senior guard

"You have to stress the seriousness of the situation," senior Susan Yenser said. "If it's not corrected, you could spiral (downward)."

When UF hosts UAB today at 4:30 p.m., the Gators will be hoping to find the effort and intensity missing against the Panthers. They hope the pair of intangibles can help them get off to a better start.

"We didn't come out with the same intensity we had at the FSU

game," freshman Jennifer George said. "We all know that we can't come out like that again. Nothing explains why we came out like that."

The Gators failed to set the

tempo on defense against the Panthers, struggling to generate offense through steals and fast-break points. Florida forced just 12 turnovers and finished with only five fast-break points.

"The starting five got out there and didn't set the tone," Yenser said. "That's still no excuse. Even the people on the bench have to be ready to come in and be the tone-changers if we have to be."

Coach Amanda Butler pointed out how the defense has been impacted by the way the team plays offense. Lately, that hasn't been a good thing.

Shooting a combined 39 percent from the field in its last two games and a worse-than-expected 33 percent from the 3-point line in those two contests, the offense has been unable to put points on the board.

Butler said that may have been a reason for the lax defense against Pittsburgh.

"You become more distracted by the fact that the ball isn't going through the hole as opposed to refocusing your energy and going 'OK, the ball isn't going through the hole, let's buckle down and play some defense,'" Butler said.

The Gators may find getting buckets a bit easier back at home against a UAB team that doesn't boast the frontcourt prowess of FSU and Pittsburgh. If Florida can establish a more formidable post game, that will take some of the pressure off the guards and the perimeter shooting.

"It'll be nice when we finally experience that game when we're finally shooting to our potential," Yenser said. "Until then, we can't let it bother us. We can't let our shooting dictate our intensity or our demeanor."



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF guard Susan Yenser has gone 4 of 7 from beyond the arc, making her the team's second-best long-range threat so far behind Sharielle Smith. Florida is making just 31 percent of its three-pointers.

UF SWIMMING

Gators host Seminoles in rematch

By **TONI-ANN MILLER**

Alligator Writer

This past weekend, Florida battled seven teams in the three-day Georgia Tech Invitational. The Gators left Atlanta with a bitter taste in their mouths when both men's and women's teams came up short behind Florida State.

The No. 4 men fell 1055-787, and the No. 5 women lost 977.5-933.5.

Both teams traveled back to Gainesville on Sunday, and with just one day off from competition, the Gators will get another shot at the Seminoles in a one-on-one matchup in the O'Connell Center today.

The meet will serve as an unofficial kickoff to a trio of UF-FSU battles in Gainesville this week, as it is the first of three different sports matchups (swimming, basketball and football) between the two schools. But make no mistake, the rivalry in

the pool is just as intense as it is in the other sports.

"There's no love loss," coach Gregg Troy said. "About four years ago we lost a dual meet to them; no one was happy. They came back the next year, and we had the house filled-up here, and we put a shellacking on them."

Troy said that because some of UF's athletes have ties to FSU, there is an added element to the meet.

"It's always good to swim them," he said. "We have a couple kids on our team whose parents swam at FSU, and they chose to be Gators instead, so it always adds a little different dynamic."

He added that taking on FSU would be good competition at this

point in the season, and that he expects the meet to go down to the final relay.

UF senior Roberto Gomez said the opportunity to compete against FSU so soon after the loss at Georgia Tech gives UF a chance to work on some things the team didn't do right and that the lack of time between the matchups would not be a factor.

"If anything, we'll be better," Gomez said. "It will be like a five-day meet, with one day when you don't have to swim."

Gomez said the team feels pretty confident going into the meet, even after the result they had just two days ago.

It is possible that UF has moved passed the loss in Georgia and is looking forward to today's challenge, but one can only expect that Sunday's result will only fuel the Gators and enhance the competition between these two perpetual foes.



Troy

UF's strong finish will help recruiting for next year

CROSS COUNTRY, from page 13

The team never finished worse than seventh this year and won three times.

Looking ahead to next season, the Gators anticipate finishing with better results than this year.

As of right now, the women's team will only lose one senior, Julie Northrup.

Graduate student Stacey Johnson has to get approval to complete her second year of eligibility in or-

der to compete next season.

Morgan said he is looking to add three impact runners for the fall.

"Florida is a great place to go to school," Morgan said. "You always have a shot at getting really good athletes here.

"Now they know how great of a team we have so I doubt it will be hard for me to fill the team."



**Cross
Country**

PHIL, from page 13

and again he delivered. Leading by three with 9:59 left, Florida went 76 yards in 11 plays and ate up 6:52 off the clock. On the Gators' next possession, Tebow ran out the clock.

Against Arkansas this year, he led a 14-play, 69-yard drive to set up Caleb Sturgis' game-winning field goal. He ran or threw the ball on all but two plays.

The 31-30 loss to Ole Miss in 2008 was not Tebow's fault, but he came up short on the game-ending fourth and 1. He uttered The Promise after the game, a moment that was so shocking yet underwhelming that while covering it live, I had no idea I had watched history.

Twenty-one games later, Florida still hasn't lost.

In two years of covering him and four years of watching him, that's the thing that has stuck out most about Tebow — his will to win. Nothing eats at him more.

It sounds unfathomably corny. That makes it no less true.

Now as he wraps up his time in Gainesville, he is in the midst of his worst year as a starter. Florida has, at times, won despite Tebow. The Gators' defense erases errors and gives the offense a safety net.

He has likely erased all chances of being the best college football player of all time in my book. That doesn't make him any less impressive to me.

Are some of his feats blown out of proportion? Is he sometimes judged unfairly against his otherworldly 2007 numbers? Do plenty of people sit and wait hoping he fails?

The answer to all three questions is yes.

I don't know if Tebow will succeed in the NFL. I don't know if he will win his second Heisman or a third national title. I don't know if he will ever turn it around this season. But when you walk out of the stadium Saturday, you know you won't ever forget watching him.

When you finish watching UF's win over Florida State, try to cherish your memories of a once-in-a-generation guy.

Just know it took those two low moments to lead to so many great moments.