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VOLUME 103 ISSUE 67

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2009

FSU 10 FLORIDA 37



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF quarterback Tim Tebow tears up after hugging coach Urban Meyer during the Senior Day festivities before Florida's 37-10 win over FSU in The Swamp on Saturday.

# Seniors say goodbye to The Swamp in rout

■ UF CAN FINALLY FOCUS ON ITS SEC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME REMATCH WITH ALABAMA.

By **MIKE MCCALL**  
 Alligator Staff Writer  
 mmccall@alligator.org

Even Florida State fans wanted a piece of Tim Tebow.

Florida's quarterback took his final victory lap around The Swamp following his team's 37-10 win against the Seminoles, moving at a slow pace to soak it all in. There were plenty of high-fives, pats on the back, thank-yous and well-wishes, including some from those clad in Garnet and Gold.

One member of the FSU band looked genuinely saddened when Tebow skipped her section, as he chose to offer an emphatic Gator Chomp instead.

It really shouldn't be a surprise that some Florida State fans stuck around to wish Tebow goodbye.

No one will be happier to see him go than them.

With Tebow as a starter, Florida has topped Florida State by a combined score of 127-37, the most dominant three-year run in the rivalry's history.

In front of a record crowd of 90,907, Tebow threw for 221 yards and three touchdowns on 17-of-21 passing and added 90 yards and two more scores on the ground. In three years against FSU, he has accounted for 14 touchdowns.

"That was one of his best performances," UF coach Urban Meyer said. "I've never seen anything like [Tebow's connection with fans]. I hope we get to see that again, I really do. I hope it's here, and we're go-

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 14



Football

## LOCAL NEWS

# Blood ban raises brows

By **JARED MISNER**  
 Alligator Writer

Danny Chaviano is a relatively normal guy. He loves pasta. He plays piano. He pays taxes.

He's your neighbor, your classmate, your average civil engineering student. He speaks of his calculus class with an air of slight disgust, and he thinks one of the weirdest things about himself is his utter dislike of steak.

But the Food and Drug Administration thinks this 18-year-old, piano-playing, pasta-eating, UF engineering student is a potential threat to blood banks everywhere.

Chaviano is just one of the sexually active, gay American men who have been turned away from donating blood since 1983 when, in the light of the AIDS scare, the FDA enacted an umbrella ban on any man who has had sexual contact with another man since 1977.

"I couldn't do something for someone just

because of my sexuality," Chaviano said. "It just doesn't make sense."

And he's not the only one who doesn't un-

"I couldn't do something for someone just because of my sexuality. It just doesn't make sense."

**Danny Chaviano**  
 UF engineering student

derstand or agree with the 26-year-old ban.

Jeremy Whitaker, now a 19-year-old UF student, was the vice president of his high school's semiannual blood drive when he was turned away from donating blood.

Although he helped sponsor the event that accrued about 60 quarts of blood, he was deemed ineligible for the same reason Chaviano was: He is a sexually active gay man.

"I was supposed to be a leader in some-

SEE BLOOD, PAGE 8

# UF trails FSU in poll for free Weezer show

By **ALISON SCHWARTZ**  
 Alligator Writer

For UF students and Gators fans, a Weezer concert is just a click away.

Today is the last day to cast a vote via Facebook in the T-Mobile Motorola CLIQ Challenge, a contest sponsored by the mobile provider to promote the Motorola CLIQ.

With more than 1,800 eligible schools, the university with the most votes wins a live performance by Weezer, a Los Angeles-based al-

ternative rock band, and \$1 for each vote up to \$25,000.

"I think it's important to bring good bands to the school," said Paul Erdman, creator of the Facebook group promoting the contest to UF students. "It's about giving college students at UF a great opportunity."

But The Gator Nation might not be the next tour stop for the band that brought the rock 'n' roll scene

SEE WEEZER, PAGE 8

■ Point guard **Erving Walker** (right) took home MVP honors as Florida won the Legends Classic in Atlantic City, N.J., with victories over No. 2 Michigan State and Rutgers. See Story, Page 13.



## Search continues for suspect in Thanksgiving murders

JUPITER, Fla. — Investigators are still searching for a man accused of shooting four relatives to death after a Thanksgiving dinner in South Florida.

Jupiter Police Sgt. Scott Pasarella said Sunday that no arrests have been made in the case.

Prosecutors on Saturday issued an arrest warrant for four counts of first-degree murder and two counts of attempted first-degree murder for 35-year-old Paul Michael

Merhige, the suspect in Thursday's shooting. A \$10,000 reward has also been offered for information leading to Merhige's arrest.

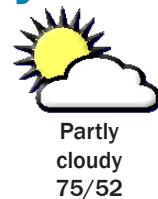
Merhige is believed to be driving a royal blue 2007 Toyota Camry with a rear spoiler and Florida license plate.

He is accused of killing four family members, including his pregnant sister and her twin sister, as well as his 6-year-old cousin and 79-year-old aunt.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Today

FORECAST 2  
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 SPORTS 13



Partly cloudy  
 75/52

visit [www.alligator.org](http://www.alligator.org)

## News Today

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Project Yucatan fundraiser

Today, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
The Gelato Company  
Project Yucatan is an interdisciplinary health outreach program that sets up medical clinics in underserved 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 for its trip.

RUB Entertainment presents:  
"Be InpRIRED: The Exhibit"

Today, 7 p.m.  
Reitz Union Grand Ballroom  
Come enjoy a night full of free performances, speakers and videos as we shed light on the myths and reality of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This event is cosponsored in celebration of World AIDS Day 2009. Free refreshments will be served. For more information, visit [www.union.ufl.edu](http://www.union.ufl.edu).

UFSIFE Sustainable  
Entrepreneurship Forum

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.  
Bryan Hall, Room 232  
The UF Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) would like to invite you to attend our Sustainable Entrepreneurship Forum. In this forum, you will have the opportunity to listen to 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](mailto:sife.entrepreneurship@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

"Armored": Trivia Challenge  
Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon  
Plaza of the Americas  
Play movie trivia from the film "Armored" to win giveaways.

Talk on the Goldstone Report  
Wednesday, 7 p.m.  
Florida Gymnasium  
Professor Patricia Woods and professor Tamir Sorek will discuss the United Nations'

## FORECAST

TODAY  
  
PARTLY  
CLOUDY  
75/52

TUESDAY  
  
PARTLY  
CLOUDY  
72/59

WEDNESDAY  
  
RAIN  
78/58

THURSDAY  
  
PARTLY  
CLOUDY  
67/46

FRIDAY  
  
CLOUDY  
58/40

Goldstone Report. The report was independently conducted and concluded that both Israel and Hamas were guilty of war crimes, yet it has still spurred controversy. The forum will be a place to learn and discuss the report's demand for accountability of all victims, respect for international law and awareness of human rights. This event is being cosponsored by UF Amnesty International, Human Rights Awareness on Campus and Students for Justice in Palestine.

Peace Corps Health  
Globetalk

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
The Hub International Center  
Interested in working in health abroad? Come hear returned Peace Corps Volunteers speak about their experiences working with individuals and communities to help improve basic health care at the grassroots level. A recruiter will be present to answer any and all questions pertaining to the Peace Corps application process. E-mail [peacecorps@ufic.ufl.edu](mailto:peacecorps@ufic.ufl.edu) for questions.

The American Solar Energy  
Society general body meeting

Thursday, 7 p.m.  
Rinker Hall, Room 230  
The organization will hold a general body meeting with the Society for Green Mobility on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Rinker 230. The group will be discussing the 2010 Gainesville Solar Tour and making nominations for the 2009-2010 year. There will also be free pizza.

Sierra Club Program  
"Tread Lightly"

Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
Entomology Building,  
Room 3118

David Bruderly will describe the latest auto gas mileage achievements to reduce energy consumption and carbon footprints. Prius, GM 324 MPG claims, hybrid electric, hydrogen, and compressed natural gas technologies are evaluated using a fair way to compare reduced footprints.

## Got an event?

And want to post it in this space? Send an e-mail to [bkelly@alligator.org](mailto: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.

## STATE

Man impersonating officer  
pulls over driver

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — A frustrated driver has landed in Sarasota County jail for trying to speed up a slow driver by impersonating a police officer.

According to the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, 20-year-old Shaun M. Sparks turned on flashing blue lights and blasted a loud horn at 51-year-old Robin Winfree. He fled the scene after he pulled over her car.

Winfree told a deputy that she wasn't sure if Sparks was really a law enforcement officer.

Sparks is charged with falsely impersonating a law enforcement officer. He's been released from Sarasota County jail on \$1,000 bond. It's unclear if Sparks has an attorney.

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](mailto:editor@alligator.org).

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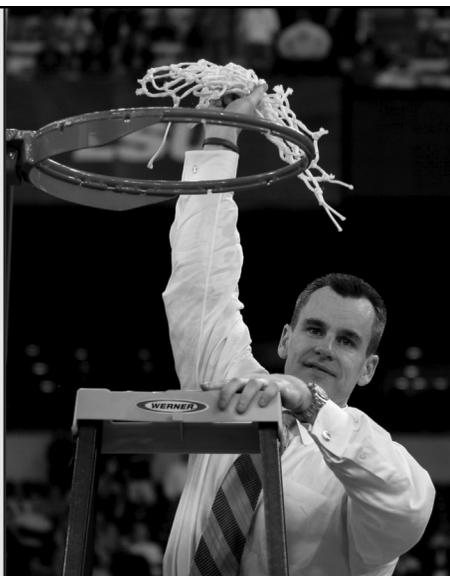
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ON CAMPUS

# SG to discuss SNAP changes

By **CAROLYN TILLO**  
Alligator Writer

Students hope they won't be left saying "Oh SNAP!" after Thursday's meeting between Student Government members and the University Police Department.

SG and Inter-Residence Hall Association representatives will meet with Capt. Jeff Holcomb and officer Pablo De Jesus Jr. to address student concerns with the Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol, or SNAP, the free campus transportation service.

Unite Party Sen. Severin Walstad, who represents Springs Residential Complex, said SNAP was designed in 1976 to provide a safe ride home to students walking alone at night. Since then, groups of students take advantage of the service and use it as convenient way to get around campus.

Walstad said he hopes students realize SNAP's main focus is safety rather than convenience.

However, he does not want

to discourage students from riding SNAP.

Walstad said some ideas that could be discussed at the meeting include a SNAP 1 service, intended specifically for students traveling through

**"Individuals seeking a ride should take priority as they are less safe than a group of students."**

**Severin Walstad**  
Unite Party Senator

campus on their own.

"Individuals seeking a ride should take priority as they are less safe than a group of students," Walstad wrote in an e-mail.

Orange and Blue Party Sen. Jonathan Ossip said another improvement is creating set routes for the vans.

He said some of his constituents complain about being awakened by the late-night honks of SNAP vans outside their residence halls. Ossip said the vans would not need to honk if they had predeter-

mined routes.

Ossip said he is glad SG will address concerns with SNAP because SG has not been proactive about correcting problems with this service in the past and sometimes relies on the prodding of the administration before it takes action.

Former Progress Party Sen. Dave Schneider said members of his party will suggest posting signs at SNAP pick-up locations similar to RTS signs, so students would not be confused about where to meet SNAP vans.

Any changes made to SNAP would come in the wake of reforms instigated by Student Body President Jordan Johnson at the start of the Summer B term.

Johnson said the number of SNAP vans was doubled from two to four, the hours were extended to 3 a.m. and the number of drivers was increased.

"But this service allows us to reach out to every kind of student that is out there and offer them a service that everyone can appreciate," Johnson said.

# RUB to host double feature, Doubleshots

■ THE MOVIES WILL PLAY TODAY AND DEC. 8.

By **ELIZABETH BEHRMAN**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

Students looking for ways to procrastinate during the last days of the semester should stop by the Reitz Union Auditorium.

Reitz Union Board Entertainment and FreedomZone, an alternative marketing and media company based in Salt Lake City, are hosting the Starbucks Doubleshot Film Fest tonight and Dec. 8.

Featured films include "Inglourious Basterds," which will be showing tonight, and "The Invention of Lying," which will be played on Tuesday.

Both movies will be played at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Doors will open 30 minutes before each showing.

In addition to the movie, Star-

bucks is providing unlimited Doubleshot energy and coffee drinks for the audience, according to RUB film chairwoman Abby Swartz.

Swartz said they expect a large turnout tonight and next week.

"Typically with our bigger showings like this, our Wednesday and Thursday nights always fill up," Swartz said.

Members of the audience will also have the opportunity to participate in a raffle for prizes like iPods, T-shirts, Starbucks gift cards and gift bags with DVDs, snacks and other goodies.

Swartz said UF is one of 10 universities in the nation chosen by Starbucks and FreedomZone to put on the promotional event.

According to Swartz, the roughly \$300 Starbucks and FreedomZone paid to host the event will go into the RUB budget for film festivals and movie trivia events.

## MONDAY NIGHTS

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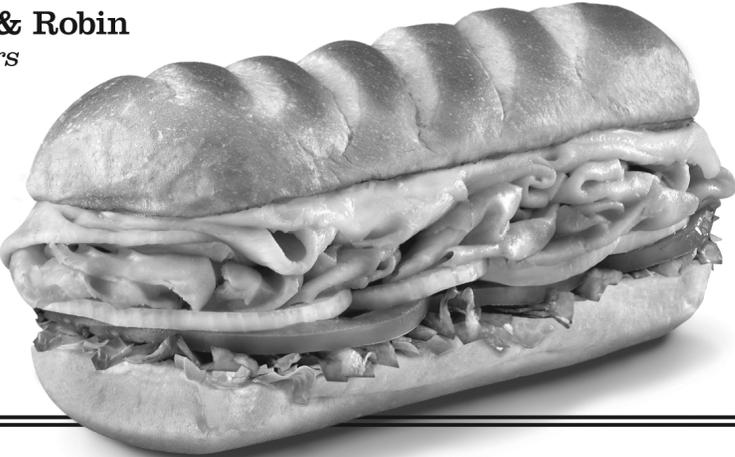
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Rayiaz Khan / Alligator Staff

Gainesville Roller Rebels players jostle for position with a Tallahassee Rollergirls player during the Throwdown in Titledown roller derby at Skate Station Sunday night.

## ROLLER DERBY

# Rebels win final match

By **GAIA BONINI**

Alligator Contributing Writer

They're on wheels, and they could knock you out.

They're the Gainesville Roller Rebels, a local roller derby league that finished the season Sunday with a 104-90 win over the Tallahassee Rollergirls.

About 300 fans watched at Gainesville's Skate Station Funworks as the Roller Rebels brought in their fourth win of 12 bouts played this season.

In roller derby, which started in the 1930s as an endurance sport, players assume alter egos with names like Patsy Clothesline, Grizzly Madams or Meow Mix Yo' Face Up, which are meant to intimidate.

Each team of five players is made up of four blockers and one jammer.

Each of the two 30-minute halves of the game are divided into jams, or periods of play that can last up to two minutes, or until the jammer in the lead declares it over.

Points are scored when a jammer passes the opposing teams blockers.

But it's not as easy as it sounds.

Those blockers will do nearly anything to keep that from happening, including shoving, tripping and "booty blocking"

girls, sending them tumbling off the floor and often into the crowd.

The blocker's job is to help her jammer pass the opposing team's blockers but at the same time block the other team's jammer from passing through.

"It's like rugby on wheels," said jammer Kerri Duffield, better known as Suzie Bonebreaker.

Duffield graduated from UF in August 2009 with a degree in architecture and has been a Roller Rebel since February 2008.

She and the nearly 50 other girls on the team practice about 10 hours a week.

"It's truly one of a kind, and I think that's why it's so fun, besides the knocking girls over part," Duffield said after the game.

Throwing elbows and pushing, however, will land a player in the "sin bin," or the penalty box.

Sunday the Roller Rebels played to support the Spread the Love charity, which raises money to fight cervical cancer.

The women are trying to help one of their own, a Tallahassee Rollergirl named Stephanie, or Danger S, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cervical cancer on Oct. 28.

The Roller Rebels held a raffle during halftime that raised about \$1,100 for the charity.

## UF student fights hunger with beard

■ HE RAISED MORE THAN \$700 FOR A NONPROFIT THAT FIGHTS CHILDREN'S HUNGER.

By **ALISON SCHWARTZ**

Alligator Writer

Jesse Lash can't remember the last time he bought shaving cream.

Tuesday will be the first time he's picked up a razor in nearly two months, and he'll be the first to admit that his new look is as scary as it is hairy.

"I look like a hideous caveman," said the UF marketing junior. "People probably just assume I don't shower or bathe — I do."

But it's a sacrifice he's willing to make.

Lash is in the final stretch of his not-so-clean-cut days after participating in Octobeard and No Shave November, monthlong events that challenge par-

ticipants to drop the razor and go au naturale.

"I haven't shaved since Sept. 30," Lash said. "I'm literally counting the days."

Although No Shave November participants often compete in the month-long challenge for fun, Lash's shaving hiatus was for a cause he handpicked back in October.

As of Sunday, he has raised \$732.42 for NotFashionable, a South Florida-based nonprofit organization dedicated to fighting hunger and starvation in children.

Lash set up a PayPal account to collect donations and linked it to the Facebook event page he created.

"In the end, the focus is not me competing," he said. "I'm trying to raise money for this great cause, and it's been unbelievable."

Lash said 30,000 children die from hunger every day.

His donation will help NotFashionable plant a farm for a community in Swaziland that doesn't have a sustainable food source.

Including his contribution, Lash said the organization was able to raise the \$8,000 needed for this endeavor.

And for Lash, this is why he has sworn off shaving for the past two months.

"I think that I have helped connect people to a cause," he said. "I'm just a kid who isn't shaving. The focus is really on the people who have sacrificed and chosen to give."

Lash, who originally intended to only participate until he raised \$100, is encouraging others to "man up."

"Sure, you're going to look a little homeless," he said. "But you're going to be saving the lives of so many kids that are less fortunate."

### Local News

## Woods cancels meeting with police, takes blame for crash

He posted a statement on his Web site Sunday

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WINDERMERE, Fla. — Tiger Woods finally gave his side of the story Sunday — on his Web site, not to police — and took the blame for an "embarrassing" car crash that gave him cuts, bruises and public scrutiny like never before.

His statement failed to clear up any questions about the middle-of-the-night accident outside his Isleworth estate in which his wife told police she used a golf club to smash the back windows of the Cadillac SUV to help him out.

"This situation is my fault, and it's obviously embarrassing to my family and me," Woods said on his Web site. "I'm human and I'm not perfect. I will certainly make sure this doesn't happen again."

The statement was posted around 2 p.m. Sunday, about an hour after Woods' attorney told the Florida Highway Patrol that for the third straight day golf's No. 1 player would be unavailable to talk to troopers. This time, the meeting was not rescheduled.

Even so, Sgt. Kim Montes of FHP said troopers went to Woods' \$2.4

million estate anyway, only for attorney Mark NeJame to turn them away. The attorney gave troopers

Woods' driver's license, registration and insurance as required by law for such accidents.

Woods said the crash was a private matter, and he intended to keep it that way.

"Although I understand there is curiosity, the many false, unfounded



Woods



Ana Goni-Lessan / Alligator Staff

Jesse Lash, a UF marketing junior, shows off his beard Sunday at his apartment in Gainesville.

and malicious rumors that are currently circulating about my family and me are irresponsible," he said. "The only person responsible for the accident is me. My wife, Elin, acted courageously when she saw I was hurt and in trouble. She was the first person to help me. Any other assertion is absolutely false."

Woods is scheduled to compete at his Chevron World Challenge, which starts Thursday in Thousand Oaks, Calif., although his tournament director did not know Woods' status for the tournament — whether he would play or even attend.

"We have been informed by the Florida Highway Patrol that further

discussion with them is both voluntary and optional," Mark Steinberg, his agent at IMG, said in an e-mail. "Although Tiger realizes that there is a great deal of public curiosity, it has been conveyed to FHP that he simply has nothing more to add and wishes to protect the privacy of his family."

Woods' wife turned troopers away from their home in the exclusive gated community outside Orlando on Friday, the day of the accident, because she said he was sleeping. Steinberg called troopers en route to Woods' house on Saturday and postponed the meeting until Sunday.

## Editorial

**Bad Blood****FDA should not restrict gay men from donating**

If you've just been in a horrible car accident and you're bleeding to death on a surgeon's table, would you refuse a blood transfusion from a gay man?

Some might. This is largely because of a stigma surrounding the prevalence of HIV in the gay community, especially among gay men. In light of this concern, the Food and Drug Administration has enacted guidelines that ban sexually active gay men from donating blood.

But put it another way: Would you accept a transfusion from a black person? How about from someone (anyone) living in Washington, D.C.?

The number of refusals would surely drop, even though these groups are at an increasing risk for HIV, a rate fast approaching that of the gay community.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, half of all diagnoses in 2007 came from the black community. A full 3 percent of Washington, D.C., residents have HIV (4 percent among black residents), according to an article in Time Magazine. Middle-aged people in Washington suffer from HIV at a rate of 7 percent, and this is even higher in the middle-aged black community.

Granted, these figures are less than the double-digit infection rates of gay men in some communities, but unfortunately, they are quickly catching up.

So why not ban all black people from giving blood — or, even better, all middle-aged residents of Washington, D.C.? Because that would be an absurd and politically disastrous choice.

Singling out the gay community is a much easier and politically palatable decision for the FDA to make. These guidelines stem from the panic and rash actions that swept the nation in the early 1980s, after AIDS was deemed a "gay disease," and rates began to soar (among all populations).

But to single out any group, "high risk" or not, is unnecessary. All blood donations are tested for HIV, along with hepatitis and other viral and bacterial infections.

Thankfully, the FDA's ban is simply an added precaution. So, you wonder, how can an added precaution possibly hurt anyone?

Tens of thousands of people donate blood every day, a full 500,000 in the days immediately following the Sept. 11 attacks. Because of these FDA regulations, all male blood donors must indicate that they have not had sexual contact with another man since 1977. All female donors must declare that they have not had sex with a man who might have had sexual contact with another man during the past 12 months. ("I hope not" was not one of the answer choices.)

By exposing such a large number of people to questions like this every day, the FDA is perpetuating the false notion that AIDS is a gay disease. It clearly isn't. Heterosexual sex is the fastest growing transmission method, and a lack of awareness about this issue is blamed for the pandemic-level infection rates in Washington, D.C.

The ban also adds to the chronic shortage of blood for the 4.5 million blood transfusions needed each year.

Ultimately, these regulations represent yet another facet of life that is unequal for gay people. The guidelines may have been enacted with the health of all Americans in mind, but the fact that they were enacted in a time of panic and bigotry is undeniable.

If a ban like this were placed on virtually any other group, there would be widespread anger and protest, but because of the long-standing stigma — perpetuated by the ban itself — it goes largely unchallenged.

We believe that it's time to stop perpetuating this false stereotype and accept the gracious blood donations of any and all healthy donors.

Lifesaving does not have a sexual preference.

the independent florida  
**alligator**

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The Alligator encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 150 words (about one letter-sized page). They must be typed, double-spaced and must include the author's name, classification and phone number. Names will be withheld if the writer shows just cause. We reserve the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to letters@alligator.org, bring them to 1105 W. University Ave., or send them to P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257. Columns of about 450 words about original topics and editorial cartoons are also welcome. Questions? Call 376-4458.

**Opinions**

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## Column

**Old Florida needs to let go of old ways**

The Gulf of Mexico may look calm from the porch I've perched myself on for the Thanksgiving holiday, but a contentious political storm is slowly brewing over efforts afoot in the Florida Legislature to repeal a ban on offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

The question of whether to drill isn't as partisan as some may think. Just as there are Democrats who support repealing the ban, there are many Republicans who favor keeping the ban in place.

One of those Republicans is Senate President Jeff Atwater, who has slowed legislative efforts aimed at repealing the ban. Unfortunately for opponents of offshore drilling, Sen. Atwater will only hold his post for one more year.

Supporters of offshore drilling will be happy to hear that Atwater's slated replacement is another Republican, Sen. Mike Haridopolos, who has publicly stated his desires to open up the Gulf of Mexico for drilling exploration.

Haridopolos, who is also a faculty member at UF, isn't advocating a minority viewpoint. Multiple opinion polls have shown that as the state's economy worsens, many Floridians have warmed up to the idea of allowing offshore oil and natural gas exploration.

Opponents of offshore drilling are quick to claim that tourists would go elsewhere if beaches were ruined by an oil spill, drawing the connection that offshore drilling is bad for Florida tourism.

In the crazy and beautiful state that is Florida, the complex issue of offshore drilling has been expressed by our parents and those old enough to be our parents as a choice between protecting Florida's \$57 billion tourism industry and the choice of creating more jobs by reducing the country's energy dependence on foreign oil.

This is so Old Florida thinking.



**Matthew Christ**  
letters@alligator.org

My generation knows that the future of Florida doesn't rest solely in either of these options. New Florida is a Florida that promotes new forms of energy, rather than oil, whose heyday was many, many family vacations ago. New Florida is a Florida that doesn't put all of its economic eggs in one basket prone

to hurricanes, and yes, possibly oil spills. New Florida is a Florida that embraces and incentivizes alternative forms of energy and invests in its future by devoting time to its youth. (Note to legislators reaching for the budget scalpel: Few high-tech companies are going to come here if our native workforce isn't more proficient in math and science.)

Unfortunately, few in the Old Florida camp have come to the conclusions New Florida has already reached and have instead launched a debate about the merits of drilling offshore for a polluting natural resource on the decline.

This is not the debate we should be having. This is certainly not discussion worthy for the proverbial dinner table. Instead, Floridians should ask why their state was ranked 23rd in energy efficiency by the nonprofit American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. The greatest irony of Florida's day is that the state that calls itself the Sunshine State hasn't adequately invested in solar energy, much less any other alternative energy.

Instead, Old Florida residents have worked themselves into a tizzy over tourism and oil, as if their great state has only these two options to offer its citizens.

How wrong they are.

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

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

## Reader response

**Today's question:** Should gay men be able to donate blood?

**Wednesday's question:** Do you have class today?

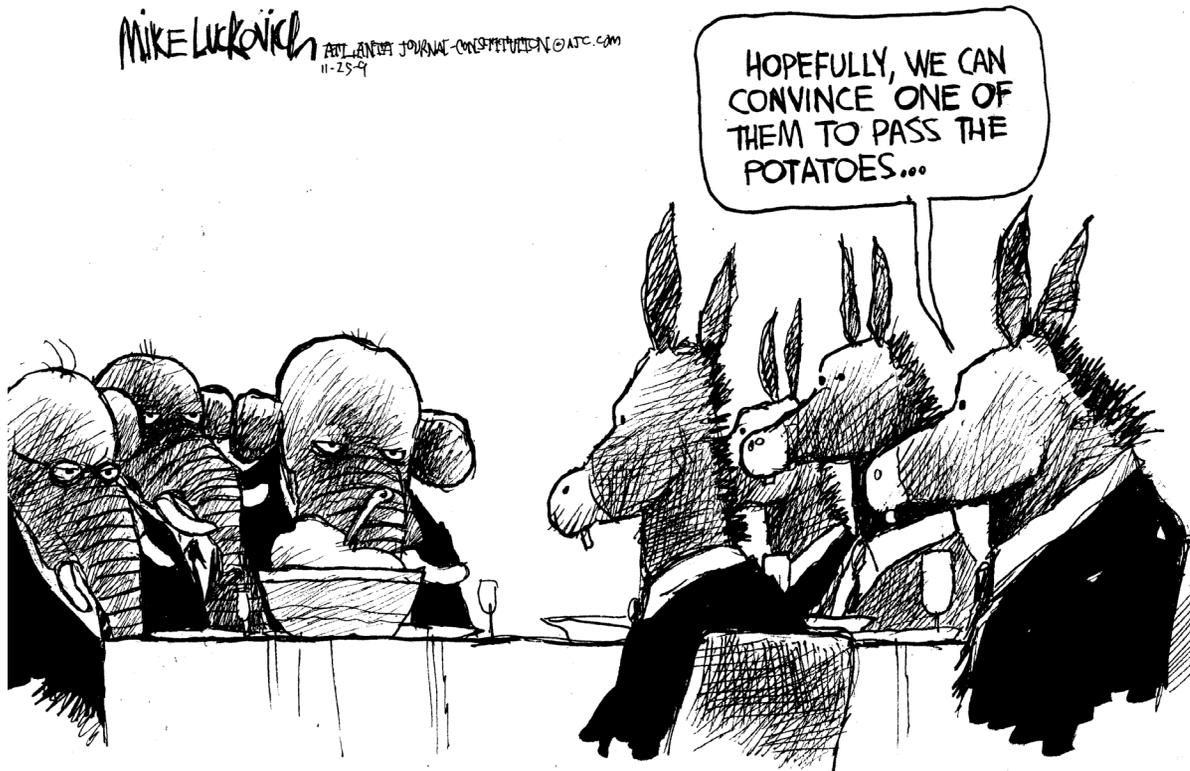
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## Letters to the Editor

### Christian, liberal values OK

Unlike Ashley Stringfield, I believe that being Christian means believing in all progressive values, including being pro-choice and embracing equal values for all. I think it's a travesty to say that there is something "inherently wrong" with being Christian and supporting these values.

I am pro-choice because being Christian means respecting other points of view. Besides, the Bible does not give a clear-cut position on abortion because the procedure was not common in those days. A passage in Exodus even states that the life of a child before birth isn't worth as much as a full-fledged human being.

I support gay marriage because I believe God loves all people equally. To pick and choose a Bible verse and condemn (as well as deny a set of rights to) a group of people based on sexual orientation is discriminatory and wrong. In 1967, the courts struck down bans on interracial marriage, which in public opinion were labeled as illegal, immoral and ungodly.

As far as I'm concerned, these so-called moral values are only going to hold temporary interest until the right finds some other Bible verse that they think will justify another discriminatory, irrational and hateful movement.

The views of these radical conservatives don't represent the lifestyles that many other moral Christians choose to abide by, and I am glad that statistics finally show that being both economically and socially liberal is gaining ground in the Christian community.

Ioulia Boyd  
UF student

### UF should name gate after Tebow

It is my opinion that Gate 15 of Ben Hill Griffin Stadium should be renamed Gate Tebow. If you're with me, Gator Nation, let's let the university know.

Victoria Shelly  
UF linguistics grad student

### Moms use kids to indoctrinate

I give a nod of agreement to the Wednesday column, "Kids Should Not be Billboards." I am a student and full-time employee who works at a business on University Avenue. While working, I watch mothers pushing strollers (complete with babies) along our sidewalks, donning these "Islam is of the devil" T-shirts. It disappoints me that people feel more comfortable hiding behind their months-old children to spread a discriminatory message. These mothers are persistent, walking with their babies in cold, rainy weather. They approach passers-by with pamphlets and smiles. But why use the infants? Should we be more inclined to trust their

message because they are responsible for a tiny human?

The ongoing crusade brought to our neighborhood by the Dove World Outreach Center and its group of utterly brainwashed Islam-haters reminds me of Lamb and Lynx Gaede. These girls were commonly referred to as the Olsen twins of the Nationalist Movement. They starred in music videos that praised not only Hitler but also his accomplices and denounced interracial procreation. These children were quite obviously repeating the verbiage of their extremist Nationalist parents. These are the instances of free speech during which every human rights supporter cringes.

We activists might rather ignore that these people are exercising a basic right that we continue to fight for as U.S. citizens.

To defend our right to the freedom of speech but then denounce those who use it distastefully seems hypocritical. Still, to allow this kind of public discrimination to persist is unethical.

But, as a famous quote reads, "I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

Cori Kate  
UF radiology sophomore

## UF needs textbook rental program

The typical undergraduate student at UF spends nearly \$1,000 every two semesters on textbooks. This is not earth-shattering news if you are a student. It is no surprise that textbooks are expensive, and these prices continue to soar. In fact, the Government Accountability Office estimates that over the past two decades, college textbook prices have grown at twice the rate of inflation. With recent legislation to raise tuition and narrow the scope of Bright Futures in Florida, university students and families have an even greater burden to bear. It's evident that the last thing students need is exorbitantly priced textbooks. To help lower the cost of textbook prices, I suggest we implement a textbook rental program.

Textbook rental programs are not a new idea and have garnered attention elsewhere. Universities all over the country have initiated textbook rental programs to save their students money. In North Carolina, Appalachian State University has offered a textbook rental program since 1938. Not only have these programs existed and been met with success, but the federal government has granted money specifically to fund pilot textbook rental programs. The 2008 Higher Education Opportunity Act included \$10 million in grants to support pilot programs, and according to Charles Schmidt of the National Association of College Stores, more than 20 college bookstores have already applied for grants. UF is not on that list.

Starting a rental program at UF is crucial to reducing the cost of textbooks for the students here. Not only does this solution give students a new and improved option, but it gives both publishers and textbook authors a way to continue to profit from their books after the first sale, something that is lost in the sale of used textbooks.

This year, the University of North Florida and Florida State University bookstores participated in a pilot program for textbook rentals launched by Follett Higher Education Group (the same publishing company UF uses). So the question remains: Why is UF not launching a pilot rental program if the same publishing company manages our bookstore? Well, this is the \$65,000 question. There is no reason UF should be left out.

Not only is funding provided, but positive feedback from other colleges clearly demon-

### Kristin Klein Speaking Out

strates that these programs lower costs for students dramatically. Many Florida university bookstores advertised the ability to rent a textbook at about 55 percent less than the retail price. These reduced costs, coupled with the federal government's allocation of \$10 million, clearly show the feasibility of these rental programs.

All readers should be informed that state and federal legislation not only legally allow UF to implement a textbook rental program, but also encourages UF to do so. This is explicitly stated in the 2008 Higher Education Opportunity Act, and UF adopted regulation 8.003, which calls upon the university to act to improve textbook affordability.

If UF blithely accepts federal money for efforts such as construction projects, then it should have no problem accepting federal money for a pilot textbook rental program. Many argue that as UF students, we attend the "very best" university in Florida and thus deserve the very best services from our institution. Why should other schools benefit from rental programs and not UF? A change in UF textbook policy is overdue.

According to assistant director of UF Business Services Division Jerry Merriwether, "Currently there are no plans on setting up a rental textbook program at UF." In a parallel fashion, Student Government has suggested that UF would rather "recycle textbooks" (i.e. sell your textbook at one-sixth of the cost you bought it for). But this solution is the same as selling and buying used textbooks. We need a new solution.

Students need to act now. We need to let the Board of Governors and UF Academic Affairs know that we deserve equal opportunity to reasonably priced textbooks. Publishing companies should not over-profit off our necessity for textbooks in the classroom. Fundamental necessities should never be taken advantage of. If we do not act now, we are only hurting ourselves.

The \$55 a student could save by renting a \$100 calculus book rather than buying it is vital for a student during tough economic times. If FSU can enact such change, UF can too. We are currently writing a Student Senate bill on this topic; we encourage you to join the many voices advocating for a textbook rental program.

Kristin Klein is a UF political science junior.

Ismail ibn Ali  
3LS and President of Islam on Campus

# FDA keeps ban due to 'imperfect testing' methods

## BLOOD, from page 1

thing, and I couldn't even contribute," Whittaker said.

The ban, which also includes any woman who has had sexual contact with a man who might have had sexual contact with another man during the past 12 months, was designed two years after the first cases of AIDS in five gay Los Angeles men were reported to prevent the transfer of HIV or AIDS from "high-risk communities" through blood transfusions.

And as people recognize the 21st World AIDS Day tomorrow, some blood bank officials are wondering why the FDA has not changed the policy when, according to the American Red Cross, someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds.

"It's one of those policies that makes you scratch your head," said Galen Unold, director of recruitment and retention at LifeSouth Community Blood Centers Inc. "But you have to understand why the policy was put in effect. At that time, this group was at the highest risk."

The FDA insists the current policy that "defers" any sexually active gay man from donating blood is based on policies that assure the protection of the nation's literal life-line.

"Although this policy may disqualify some healthy individuals from donating blood, it has proven effective in protecting the nation's blood supply," the FDA states on its Web site.

And not everyone disagrees with the FDA.

"I agree with this policy [because] HIV or AIDS is high risk for that group, it has nothing to do with discrimination," Melody Sansbury, a former American Red Cross employee, wrote in an e-mail.

Jenni Schelble's mouth gaped open, exposing the forkful of Hare Krishna lunch she was eating under the looming shadow of one of LifeSouth's bloodmobiles on Turlington Plaza, when she found out the ban was still in effect.

"It's blatant, horrible discrimination," she said.

"By their logic, are they going to say

black women can't donate blood? Can you imagine if they started saying black women couldn't donate blood?"

Schelble's comments allude to a 2007 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study that found about half of new AIDS diagnoses in the U.S. during that year were from the black community.

Bobby Davis, HIV/AIDS program coordinator for the Alachua County Health Department, noted that although about half the new diagnoses in 2007 came from the black community, the black community is much larger than the gay community. As a result, the overall HIV/AIDS prevalence within the U.S. black community is still lower than that of the gay community.

After analyzing people by race, the CDC found the black community accounted for 46 percent of those infected in the U.S. with HIV or AIDS.

The CDC also found that men who have sex with men account for 48 percent of those infected with HIV or AIDS in the U.S., according to the same 2006 study.

The numbers in Alachua County seem to follow the same nationwide trend.

### Local News

Since the ACHD began keeping statistics in 1983, 56 percent of all reported AIDS infections have been from the black community and 41 percent of all reported AIDS transmissions have been through male-to-male sexual contact, according to a June 2009 report.

"It's really important to protect the nation's blood supply," said James Beaudreau, education and policy director for the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. "But we think the policy needs to be re-examined."

Unold agreed with Beaudreau, as he stressed the importance of a time-based deferral system for men who have sex with men similar to the current policy that allows any person who has had sexual contact with a prostitute more than 12 months ago to donate blood.

"I would feel completely comfortable if the FDA reversed that policy," Unold said. "I think our blood supply would still be safe."

The American Red Cross has been pressing the FDA to do just that.

In a 2006 statement with America's Blood Centers and the American Association of Blood Banks, the American Red Cross stated the current FDA-regulated lifetime deferral for any man who has had sexual contact with another man "is no longer medically and scientifically warranted."

"We have always supported the use of scientific and rational deferral programs," American Red Cross spokeswoman April Phillips said. "Given the science we have and given the sophistication we have, the main thing right now is for the sexual deferral policy to be applied equally to everyone and not just certain communities."

Although blood banks across the country test all donations for infections, the window period for HIV or AIDS, the time after exposure to the infection before it can be detected, and "imperfect testing measures" continue to be the main reasons the FDA has refused to adjust its 1983 policy.

The GLMA addressed the issue in a 2008 statement to the FDA.

"[The window period] is not a meaningful basis to establish policy either for the population as a whole or for men who have sex with men," the statement read.

The statement also requested the FDA adopt "social behavior screening rules" to modify the current lifetime deferral program to allow men who have sex with men at a lower risk of infection, including those in monogamous HIV-negative relationships, to donate blood.

Although Unold and Phillips both said the current FDA policy should be reexamined, the pair also addressed other ways a person who is deemed ineligible to donate blood can help with America's blood shortage, including volunteering at a local blood drive or recruiting donors.

"I understand the frustration, but don't take it out on a community's blood supply and the patients that it serves," Unold said. "If you're going to boycott the policy, don't boycott the Blood Mobile. Don't prevent someone from donating blood. Don't prevent someone from giving the gift of life."

Those who wish to get tested for HIV/AIDS should call 352-392-1161 ext. 4281 to schedule a free appointment from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Florida Gym.

# Students can vote on Facebook

## WEEZER, from page 1

songs like "Buddy Holly" and "Beverly Hills."

UF was ranked third in the contest as of Sunday night, lagging behind Texas A&M University in second and Florida State University, which has held first place since voting started at the beginning of the month.

FSU has 10,148 votes, topping UF's 7,407, as of Sunday night.

"I want to take the band away from FSU," Erdman said.

But the UF sophomore said it's not just about the rivalry.

He plans to switch his vote to FSU if UF doesn't climb the ranks by the time the polls close at 11:59 p.m.

"I hope we can at least keep it in-state," he said. "But I'm hoping we'll pull through."

Erdman said the voting process takes about 20 seconds — 30 seconds max.

Using the CLIQ challenge application on Facebook, Erdman said almost anyone can vote, not just UF students.

"People spend hours on Facebook every day," he said. "I would just hope that even if it's not your favorite band, you'll do it for The Gator Nation."

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Huge 2's available for only \$678  
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Cobblestone Apartments-NW 23RD BLVD  
**Move in now or Fall 2010.**  
2 & 3 Bedroom Townhomes.  
Private Bathrooms~W/D~Screened porches  
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\* 1 BR from \$585  
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Tanning\*Fitness\*Tennis\*Pool\*Playground  
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Call us for a tour! 376-2507  
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Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF.  
Reserve now! Reasonable rates. 352-538-  
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Enormous Screened Patio!  
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Three Pools! Three Bus Routes!  
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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  
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**2 For Rent unfurnished**

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

1's, 2's and 4's  
AS BIG AS A HOUSE!  
Great School Districts  
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9-75-2

No Move-In Fees  
1/1's from \$659 \* 3/2's from \$799  
FREE Tanning\*Pool\*Gym  
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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  
\* 379-WALK\*  
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**HUGE 5 BED HOUSE!**  
3 baths, enclosed front patio  
W/D, Wood Floors, Fireplace  
3 blocks to UF! Pets welcome!  
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Large 1, 2 & 3 bdrm Floor Plans;  
Starting at \$830. Corporate units available.  
Furniture Packages Include: Washer/Dryer;  
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www.lakewoodvillas.com  
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● **SPYGLASS** ●  
Individual Leases: Furniture Packages  
Incl Washer/Dryer, FREE Hispeed Internet;  
Rates start at \$399  
Every Unit is an End Unit  
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www.spyglassapts.com  
text (spyglass)@65586  
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**ACROSS FROM UF!**  
Studios - \$465, includes electric!  
Wood floors available. FREE parking.  
1225 SW 1 Avenue \* Pets welcome  
372-7111 No move-in fees!  
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**BRAND NEW REDUCED RATES!**  
1's, 2's, 3's  
\* Inclusive Pkgs Available  
\* Pet Friendly!  
\* Immediate or Fall Move In  
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12-9-09-75-2

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

\$399 FOR EVERYTHING  
All Inclusive Student Suites  
Roommate Match\*Feline Friendly!  
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12-9-75-2

**2 For Rent unfurnished**

Action Real Estate Services  
Houses to Condos  
1-4 BR, Starting at \$450  
www.action-realtors.com  
352-331-1133  
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**NOW LEASING FOR FALL 2010**  
Utility Packages Available  
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1BRs from \$550 2BRs from \$600  
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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  
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● 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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Gated Entry  
Ask about our move-in specials!  
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877-288-2921 352-332-3199  
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12-9-09-74-2

**REDUCED 1st Mo 1/2 off!** 2/2 off of SW 35th  
Pl, Close to UF & bus route. Great for grad  
students! Building is 3 yrs old w/ only 1 prev  
tenant. W/D, D/W, tile & carpet in BDs \$775/  
mo Avail ASAP, no smokers. (904) 386-6485  
12-2-09-86-2

**FREE Rent until January 2010!!!**  
Pine Rush 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

**FREE Rent until January 2010!!!**  
Homestead Pet Friendly No Weight Limits  
2/1 from \$629 2/2 from \$749  
SW Archer Rd. Area  
Ph. 376-0828 www.gremco.com  
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

**2 For Rent unfurnished****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

ONE MONTH FREE RENT!  
1 & 2 bedrooms located near Hilton  
Off of SW 34th Str. Close to UF  
\$350 SD some w/ W/D or hkups.  
Water & trash incl. Call Now!  
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**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

**SERENOLA PINES APTS**

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

**WOODLAND TERRACE APTS**

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

1BR/1BA apt, \$499/mo. 3320 SW 23rd St. Each unit has a private gated court yard. On bus route close to Shands, VA & College of Vet Med. Pets <50lbs arranged. 352-377-2150 or paloverde3320@yahoo.com 11-30-09-35-2

**PET'S PARADISE**

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

**www.AndreeRealty.com**

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 remodeled, Cent AC/Ht,wood flrs, DW, W/D, NS, NPets. \$650+util. ATucker458@aol.com 11-30-21-2

**WWW.BIKETOUF.COM**

\* 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  
12-9-09-40-2

**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  
Ph. 375-3077 www.gremco.com  
11-30-09-85-2

**2 For Rent unfurnished**

**FREE Rent until January 2010!!!**  
Ashton Square Pet Friendly No Weight Limits  
2 & 3 bdrs from \$709  
**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 1-5-09-22-2

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 1-5-09-22-2

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 1-5-09-22-2

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 1-5-09-22-2

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 1-5-09-22-2

2BR 1BA, Carpet, Window A/C,  
Nat gas ht. 1 BLK to UF \$500/Mo  
1216 SW 3rd Avenue. Call  
Merrill Management Inc 352-372-1494  
X10 1-5-09-22-2

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  
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Move In Ready. Close to Campus and  
Shands 1,2,3,& 4 bedrooms & individual  
leases. Campus Realty 352-692-3800  
rentals.campusrealtygroup.com 12-9-09-20-2

Two bedroom one bath condo for only \$450  
per month. Move in ready. On busline.  
Washer/Dryer and Dishwasher. Will not last  
long. Campus Realty 352-692-3800  
rentals.campusrealty.org 12-9-09-20-2

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

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

**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

**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

**2 For Rent unfurnished****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 gvll32601@gmail.com 12-9-09-14-2

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

**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, spa-  
cious 3/2 condo. Quiet, yet centrally located,  
just 1.5 mi. from law center. Very low utilities!  
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

FIRST MONTH FREE or \$600/MO! (original  
price \$660) Bright 2/1 apartment on the second  
floor. Short walk from UF/Shands/RTS  
13,16,17. This is a lease transfer. Available  
Dec. 1st. Hurry! Call 407 922 0029 12-3-5-2

MOVE IN JAN. Room in 4b/3b house share  
bath. Easy walk to campus. No pets. No  
Smoking. 500/mon incl. util. 250/sec dep.  
kmtheo@hotmail.com or 352-262-2710/514-  
4570 1-5-09-10-2

**LARGE 1BR HOUSE**

Urban loft design - fully remodeled. Very  
nice. Backyard, trees, downtown, big city  
cracker. 316-6667. \$670/mo. Available now.  
1-5-09-10-2

**STEPS TO LAW SCHOOL**

● Large 1BR/1BA \$475/mo  
● 1BR in 4BR/2BA house \$350/mo  
Clean, quiet, split utils. W/D. Call Tom 954-  
529-4031, www.pleasantstreet.net (for pics)  
1-6-09-10-2

1/1, Ridgeview, free water, next to park, on  
the bus line, cent H/A, courtyard, 2 miles to  
UF, convenient to shopping, no smoking, no  
pets. \$470 SD, \$470/mo 562-2824 12-3-09-5-2

Nice 2 BR near UF, restaurants and shopping.  
Large utility room with WD Connections,  
Dishwasher, Additional private storage, Pool.  
\$620 per month. (352)870-5815/(352)333-  
7721 1-5-10-2

**3BR House for rent**

Wood floors, front/back porch. 2035 NW 35th  
Ave. Close to UF, SFC busline. \$725/mo.  
Available now. Flex lease. 352-318-8822  
12-3-09-5-2

Student looking for roommate to share a  
lakefront 2 bedroom 1 bath condo 1/2 mile  
from campus. Extremely nice, quiet neighbor-  
hood, with a respectful roommate. Would  
be responsible for 1/2 utilities/cable/internet.  
Rent \$390. Available immediately. Call Don  
352-870-0152 12-4-09-5-2

**3 Subleases**

\$385-Room available for Spring 2009 in 4/4  
University Terrace Condo. Fully furnished,  
utilities included, W/D, on bus routes 12 and  
35. Call Anu @ 352-262-0628 12-9-9-3

Sublease furnished 1/1 in a 4/4 at Gainesville  
Place. W/D, utilities, internet, cable includ-  
ed. \$400/mo. 3 great female roommates.  
Available immediately through August. (352)  
231-3124 12-4-09-5-3

Release Spring 2010, UClub Apts.  
I'LL GIVE YOU \$350 FOR THIS APT.  
\$555/mo. all inclusive; 1 bdrm.,  
private bath; female roommate  
email: cmm616@ufl.edu 1-5-09-10-3

Great Sublease!1BR/1BA in a 2BR/2BA at  
The Estates.\$574/mo utilities,cable and in-  
ternet included.Finished with W/D. Available  
January-August 386-314-6576 12-1-2-3

**Subleasing 1BR & private bath in a 4/4.**  
**From January-August. Must be male, stu-**  
**dent. \$429-rent, utl, cable & internet. Full**  
**amenities in quiet complex. email me @**  
**petey8ea@ufl.edu 12-1-2-3**

**4 Roommates**

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

1BR INDIVIDUAL LEASES IN FURNISHED  
4BR CONDOS. 2 blocks to UF. \$345/mo incl  
elec, cable tv, internet, pool, laundry facility.  
914 SW 8th Ave. 378-4626 12-9-09-62-4

**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

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

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

1BR/1BA in 2BR/2BA located on Archer Rd.  
Bike to Campus! Avail Now/Spring Sem.  
Discount rent until January 1st.- Then  
\$400+util. OBO  
Call Chase at 386-937-2621 12-4-09-5-4

Room for rent. Master bedroom w/  
private bath. 3/4 mile from stadium.  
Quiet neighborhood. Split utils. 352-281-6618  
1-5-09-9-4

\$350 MOVES YOU IN! Need 1 roommate to  
rent rm in a 3/2 FULLY FURNISHED house.  
5 mins to UF. 10 mins to Santa Fe. No sec or  
util deposit. Split utils, maid & yard man, W/D,  
lrg yard, family & living rm 813-362-7729  
12-9-09-8-4

**4 Roommates**

Roommate wanted in Jan or Aug. 2000 sq  
ft. 2 women looking for 3rd roommate. 3BR -  
comes fully furnished, W/D, internet, TV. 3rd  
& 2nd Ave. \$600 + 1/3 utils. 561-281-9274  
1-5-09-9-4

Roommate wanted. Large 3/3 house w/  
2 grad students in NW. Close to UF, SFC,  
shopping. \$375/mo, \$200 dep. Lease til 7/31.  
Large room, low utils. Call Evan 352-428-  
0500 1-5-09-9-4

Male, grad student, small furnished apt on  
side of private home close to UF. One per-  
son only. No pets. Cable, patio, clean, quiet.  
\$500 pm, utilities included. 336-5808 12-  
9-09-8-4

I'VE HAD IT WITH YOUR LOUD MUSIC!  
Is your roommate driving you crazy? Find a  
replacement in the Alligator Classifieds!

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submit your classified ad  
for print and/or web editions  
right thru our website!**

**Just go to  
www.alligator.org/classifieds**  
Visa and Mastercard accepted.

Roommate needed for 2BR Apt. close to  
UF. Bus Stop Right Outside. Room Not  
Furnished, Everything Else Furnished. \$350/  
Mo. Plus Utilities.Call Kyle at 954-907-8538  
or email me at kylefranzone06@yahoo.com  
.12-4-09-5-4



by Chris Richcreek

1. Only three teams since 1995 have won the World Series after losing the opening game. Name two of them.
2. How many different times did Danny Murtaugh manage the Pittsburgh Pirates?
3. Name the last NFL team before the 2008 San Diego Chargers to win a division title with an 8-8 record.
4. Who holds the mark for most blocked shots in a men's basketball NCAA Tournament game?
5. Name three of the four players who, between 2000 and 2009, tallied 40 or more goals in a season for the New Jersey Devils.
6. How many consecutive NCAA titles did Dan Gable's University of Iowa wrestling team win starting in the late '70s?
7. In the 1990s, three men each won golf's U.S. Open twice. Name two of them.

**Answers**

1. The 1996 and 2009 New York Yankees, and the 2002 Anaheim Angels.
2. Four times (1957-'64, '67, '70-'71, '73-'76).
3. The Cleveland Browns in 1985.
4. LSU's Shaquille O'Neal had 11 blocks in 1992.
5. Patrik Elias (40 goals in '00-'01), Alexander Mogilny (43, '00-'01), Brian Gionta (48, '05-'06) and Zach Parise (45, '08-'09).
6. Nine consecutive titles (1978-'86).
7. Payne Stewart (1991, '99), Lee Janzen ('93, '98) and Ernie Els ('94, '97).

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 96 Chevy Cavalier \$1499 cash  
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 97 Mazda Millenia \$1999 cash  
 92 Chevy Camero \$1999 cash  
 96 Mits Galant \$1999 cash  
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97 Jeep Cherokee \$1900  
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 98 Ford Expolorer \$2500  
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 Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Vikings quarterback Brett  
 6 Recipe amt.  
 10 1960s-'70s NBA center Thurmond  
 14 Former Apple laptop  
 15 Eurasian boundary river  
 16 Expel  
 17 Marsh grass  
 18 Italia's capital  
 19 "I'll be there in \_\_\_\_"  
 20 Shed some pounds  
 23 City square memorial  
 24 Suffix with Gator  
 25 Some NFL blockers  
 28 Begins  
 31 Woodsy route  
 33 Bear: Sp.  
 36 Logger's tool  
 37 Either of two Modesto-based vintner brothers  
 38 Divide earnings equally  
 43 Fella  
 44 Charlotte of "The Facts of Life"  
 45 Fireplace residue  
 46 Ancient Indo-European  
 47 "Blue" evergreen  
 50 Fish-to-be  
 51 Topeka is its cap.  
 53 Mariner  
 57 Talk to the answering machine  
 61 Post-shower powder  
 63 Move, to a Realtor  
 64 Scatter, as seed  
 65 Impressionist  
 66 Former Lacoste partner  
 67 Draws closer  
 68 Ashram advisor  
 69 Caustic fluids  
 70 \_\_\_\_craftsy

**DOWN**

1 Dukes in boxing gloves  
 2 Pound \_\_\_\_: cover one's route, cop-style

3 Screwdriver liquor  
 4 Classic thesaurus  
 5 Barely make, as a living  
 6 Gang land  
 7 Often furrowed facial feature  
 8 Identical to, with "the"  
 9 Checkered pattern  
 10 Biblical helmsman  
 11 Koala's home  
 12 Prufrock creator's monogram  
 13 Abbr. covering unlisted items  
 21 Famine's opposite  
 22 Beginning, informally  
 26 Leans to one side  
 27 Wade through the shallows  
 29 Pep rally yell  
 30 Insignificant one  
 32 WWII Brit. fliers  
 33 Schindler of "Schindler's List"  
 34 Former veep Agnew  
 35 Classic boy-and-dog Disney film  
 39 Actress Lupino

41 Golfer's goal  
 42 Put into service again  
 47 Dwarf who needs tissues  
 48 Big name in small planes  
 49 Day to put all your eggs in one basket  
 52 Pop singer Lavigne

54 French Revolution journalist  
 55 Golden \_\_\_\_: senior citizens  
 56 Full of the latest happenings  
 58 Stocking hue  
 59 Shaving gel additive  
 60 Stylish '60s Brits  
 61 "You're it!" game  
 62 "The Simpsons" Squishee seller

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 RINGADING ERRS  
 ALICE ODEA  
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 LOGAN EXPEL AZO  
 LOINS NEEDED STOP

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By Pancho Harrison  
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MWFSat NANNY NEEDED Jan 6:30am; 15hrs/wk average (days vary) 3 yr old twins + 1yr old; must be avail thru August 2010 Noah's Ark Nanny e-mail resume, pix, schedule to gnv@nanoneone.com 1-5-09-10-14

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## Florida hits jackpot in Atlantic City

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

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Like the hopeful high-rollers lining the casinos near Boardwalk Hall, Florida entered the weekend with nothing to lose and an opportunity to gain more than anyone thought possible.

By the time the Gators left the Jersey shore Saturday night, they had picked up a championship trophy and made a convincing argument that they are a better team than the pre-season predictions claimed.

UF won the Legends Classic, stunning No. 2 Michigan State 77-74 in the semifinals on Friday night thanks to Erving Walker's 3-pointer with 1:55 remaining, clutch free throws by Walker and senior forward Dan Werner and a last-second defensive stand.

A night after the emotional victory, Florida overcame a lackluster start and avoided a letdown with a dominant second half en route to a 73-58 victory against Rutgers (3-2) in the championship game.

"It's huge for us as a team," said Walker, who was named the tournament's MVP. "We knew that we could compete with these teams, but to come out and actually beat them

shows us that we can play with anybody in the country. We've just got to keep it going."

Although it came in an early season tournament and long before the grind of the Southeastern Conference schedule, it's hard to overlook the significance of what UF accomplished in Boardwalk Hall over the weekend.

For the first time since the 2006-07 national championship season, the Gators are 6-0, and Florida had not beaten a team ranked as highly as the Spartans (5-1) since defeating No. 2 Kansas on Nov. 29, 2002.

"We knew that we could compete with these teams, but to come out and actually beat them shows us that we can play with anybody in the country. We've just got to keep it going."

**Erving Walker**

UF sophomore point guard

Perhaps most importantly, winning two nonconference games against quality teams on a neutral court provided an opportunity for the Gators to



AP Photo

UF guard Erving Walker passes the ball during the Gators' 77-74 win against Michigan State on Friday in Atlantic City, N.J.

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 16

### UF FOOTBALL

## Gators experienced defense stifles 'Noles

By **KYLE MAISTRI**  
Alligator Staff Writer  
kmaistri@alligator.org

Florida's dismantling of Florida State in one of the nation's premier rivalry games surprised a lot of people.

UF senior linebacker Ryan Stamper wasn't one of them.

Stamper said the combination of the Gators' experienced defense, the Seminoles inexperienced starting quarterback EJ Manuel, who made his third career start, and the experience of an emotional Senior Day was the perfect storm for 37-10 blowout.

"To be honest I did (expect to dominate them)," Stamper said. "I'm not going to lie and say I didn't."

UF's defense was especially dominant in the first half, allowing the Gators to take a 24-0 lead into the locker room.

FSU had five possessions before the break — four punts and an interception — that netted the Seminoles 55 yards of total offense and three first downs.



Dunlap

As a result, UF controlled the clock as FSU's offense could only stay on the field for 10 minutes.

The Seminoles were unable to convert a third down in the first half and finished the game 2 for 11 on third-down conversions.

FSU tacked on a touchdown late with

UF's backups in the game, but the fact that coach Bobby Bowden attempted a field goal down 30-0 at the end of the third quarter on fourth and goal from the 2-yard line speaks volumes about the dominance of the Gators defense.

"Being able to send your seniors out right in their last game in The Swamp, that's the best thing you can do for them," said junior defensive end Carlos Dunlap, who had a sack and three tackles.

Stamper and junior outside linebacker Brandon Hicks, who got the start for an injured A.J. Jones, tied for the team lead with seven tackles, and Hicks added two sacks.

Defensive coordinator Charlie Strong kept FSU off balance with blitzes on third

SEE FOOT, PAGE 16

## Field goal sinks rivalry to new low

Florida State kicker Dustin Hopkins trotted onto Florida Field to attempt a 20-yard field goal with the Seminoles down 30-0 at the end of the third quarter and gave the 90,000-plus onlookers a startling wakeup call.

This is what the UF-FSU rivalry has come to.

The Gators have pummeled the Seminoles in recent years, as Saturday's victory made it six in a row for Florida. The fact that UF has ripped off a few in a row isn't unusual for a rivalry, but the last three



**Kyle Maistri**

Kyle Points  
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scores — 45-12, 45-15, 37-10 — could certainly be described as unusual, if not embarrassing.

The only difference between

Saturday's contest and UF's other three nonconference games — Charleston Southern, Troy and FIU — was FSU's ability to avoid getting dominated by the second team. The Gators' starters made the Seminoles, who amassed 55 yards of offense in the first half, look no different than the Golden Panthers.

A sad statement for a once-great rivalry.

Merriam-Webster's Dictionary defines a "rival" as:

1. One of two or more striving to reach or obtain something that only one can possess.

2. One that equals another in desired qualities.

The UF-FSU rivalry certainly meets the first part of that definition, but in no way does it meet the second condition.

Never has the inequality been so evident as when Bobby Bowden called a timeout — or Jimbo Fisher, or whoever runs that team now — on fourth and goal from inside the 5-yard line only to send out his kicker to break up the shutout.

SEE KYLE, PAGE 16

### TEERING OFF WITH PHIL KEGLER

■ I went to the Rangers-Lightning game Friday night, and the strangest thing happened: I enjoyed myself. ... Vince Young led a game-winning 99-yard drive against the Cardinals, capped by a TD pass to Kenny Britt as time expired. Matt Leinart really can't catch a break. ... Tiger blew off the Florida Highway Patrol for the third straight day Sunday. I see plenty of speeding tickets going his way.

### POLL QUESTION

**Today's question:** Which school has been Florida's biggest rival in the Urban Meyer era?

### alligatorSports.org

■ For even more coverage of the UF men's basketball team's Legends Classic title run, check out our Web site. Beat reporter Adam Berry writes about the Gators' improved defensive mentality and maturity.

# UF holds FSU scoreless in first half

**FOOTBALL**, from page 1

ing to go try and find some guys like that."

Meyer should also be hoping he gets to see another defense like his current one.

In the first half, Florida held FSU to 55 yards and zero points, forced four punts and made an interception.

The unit played well enough for many of its starters to take the second half off and rest up for next week's showdown with Alabama in the Southeastern Conference Championship Game.

It was a perfect send-off for the seniors on one of the nation's best defenses, who expected to put the clamps on an FSU offense that averaged 434 yards and 31 points per game before Saturday.

Stamper and fellow starters Brandon Spikes and Jermaine Cunningham played their final home game, and it may have been the last go-round for several juniors as well.

Defensive end Carlos Dunlap and cornerback Joe Haden are highly rated NFL Draft prospects, and tight end Aaron Hernandez, safety Major Wright and offensive linemen Mike and Maurice Pouncey may also benefit from declaring early.

"I definitely took it all in a lot more," said Haden, who had an interception. "I stayed in the locker room and kept my pads on for a little longer and did a lap after the game, just in case this was my last game."

"I wanted to make sure I went out doing stuff that I wanted to do."

Of those juniors, Hernandez made his presence felt the most with five catches for 83 yards and touchdowns of 18 and 37 yards.

He punctuated the second by launching the ball into the stands, a tribute to

past UF receivers Carlos Alvarez and Andre Caldwell, who made their final games in The Swamp memorable by doing the same thing.

Spikes focused more on the turf of Florida Field, kneeling to kiss the ground in the south end zone during his Senior Day introduction.

After the game, he was headed to the locker room after a last wave to the crowd, but he suddenly turned back, grabbed some teammates and headed to the midfield logo.

"I definitely took it all in a lot more. I stayed in the locker room and kept my pads on for a little longer and did a lap after the game, just in case this was my last game."

**Joe Haden**

UF junior cornerback

He laid down, did his best impression of a snow angel and took pictures with fellow seniors Stamper, David Nelson, Riley Cooper, Brandon James, Wondy Pierre-Louis, Markihe Anderson, and Dorian Munroe, who will apply for a sixth year of eligibility after missing the last two seasons with knee injuries.

Meyer, Haden and a few others joined in, too.

None of them wanted the night to end.

But the celebration couldn't last too much longer.

Once the locker-room speeches were over, it was time to get back to business.

The Gators have a date with the Crimson Tide looming, and a bad outing next week will turn Saturday night from a joyous stop along the path to another title into a painful memory of what could have been.



# Florida State 10, Florida 37

## SWAMP STUDS



**Aaron Hernandez**  
TE, Jr.

If Saturday was Hernandez's final game in The Swamp, he is sure going to miss playing against Florida State. He has nine catches for 144 yards and four touchdowns in his last two games against the Seminoles. His second touchdown, a 37-yard catch-and-run after a short pass, was absolutely absurd as he made FSU's entire secondary miss and fall into one another. His heave afterwards didn't make Urban Meyer too happy, but it's become a tradition for great options in the Florida passing game — Carlos Alvarez (1968-71) and Andre Caldwell (2003-07) did the same in their last games in The Swamp. **5 rec, 83 yds, 2 TD**

In his final game in The Swamp, Florida fans got one last Tebowesque performance. FSU sure won't miss playing Tebow — the senior will leave Gainesville with 927 total yards and 14 total touchdowns in three starts against the Seminoles. He may have solidified a return trip to New York with his third-highest completion rate in three years as a starter. The Gators could use an effort like this from No. 15 when they play the Crimson Tide in their national semifinal, aka the SEC Championship Game.



**Tim Tebow**  
QB, Sr.

**17-of-21 passing, 221 yds, 3 TD; 15 rush, 90 yds, 2 TD**



**Brandon Hicks**  
LB, Jr.

Starting in place of the injured A.J. Jones, Hicks showed why he earned a starting job in the last five games of 2008. In his first start of 2009, the junior tied for the team lead in tackles, led UF with two sacks and had his first career forced fumble. With Jones out for the year, Hicks' play will be crucial down the stretch.

**7 tackles (6 solo), 2 tackles for loss (2 sacks), 1 forced fumble**

## STANDINGS

<b>T. Tebow</b> - 15	<b>B. Spikes</b> - 3
<b>C. Rainey</b> - 7	<b>J. Brantley</b> - 2
<b>J. Cunningham</b> - 6	<b>D. Doe</b> - 2
<b>R. Cooper</b> - 5	<b>C. Dunlap</b> - 2
<b>J. Demps</b> - 5	<b>A. Jones</b> - 2
<b>A. Hernandez</b> - 5	<b>C. Sturgis</b> - 2
<b>R. Stamper</b> - 5	<b>D. Thompson</b> - 2
<b>J. Haden</b> - 4	<b>B. Hicks</b> - 1
<b>A. Black</b> - 3	<b>Ja. Jenkins</b> - 1

## SCORE BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Final
<b>FSU</b>	0	0	3	7	<b>10</b>
<b>UF</b>	7	17	6	7	<b>37</b>

Jessica Warshaver / Alligator Staff

## TOP THREE PLAYS



**Aaron Hernandez's** 37-yard touchdown reception on a catch-and-run in which he evaded several FSU defenders late in the second quarter.



**Riley Cooper's** 39-yard touchdown catch in the third quarter.



**Chris Rainey's** 45-yard run on first and 10 from Florida's 11-yard line late in the first quarter.

## TURNING POINT

Florida started on its own 49-yard line with 2:19 left in the first half when the Gators marched 51 yards in five plays capped by a 37-yard touchdown connection between Tebow and Hernandez to put the Gators up 24-0 before halftime.

## KEY STAT

**55**

Total yards for Florida State in the first half

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# Florida will host first, second round of NCAA Tournament

By **ANTHONY CHIANG**  
Alligator Writer  
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In the quest to win their first volleyball national championship, the Gators won't have to go very far.

The NCAA Tournament bracket came out on Sunday, and it was announced that No. 15 Florida (23-5, 16-4 Southeastern Conference) will play at the O'Connell Center for the first and second rounds. Gainesville will also be one of four regional sites, which were predetermined before the season. The Final Four will be held in Tampa on Dec. 17-19.

"We had anticipated and made preparations to go on the road," coach Mary Wise said. "We figured we would be in Tallahassee, so it came as a surprise to us — but in this case, it was a pleasant surprise."

UF received the No. 16 overall seed and will play its first round match Thursday against College of Charleston (18-12, 12-4 Southern Conference) at 7:30 p.m. Miami and Florida International make up the other half of the Gators' bracket.

"I think our 16th seed was a result of who we played and the fact that we did have five wins over those top teams (Stanford, Florida State, Kentucky and Tennessee)," Wise said.

But before Sunday's selection show, UF had to finish off its regular season over the weekend.

On Saturday, UF honored seniors Elyse Cusack and Kristina Johnson

before a 3-1 win (25-13, 27-29, 25-15, 25-9) over No. 25 Notre Dame (21-6, 14-0 Big East).

Cusack served the first ball of the match while still emotional from the pregame ceremony.

"We had anticipated and made preparations to go on the road. We figured we would be in Tallahassee, so it came as a surprise to us — but in this case, it was a pleasant surprise."

**Mary Wise**  
UF volleyball coach

"I think one of the hardest things I've ever done since I've been here was that first serve because I was still fighting back tears," she said. "I had to get over it really fast and start the match."

However on a day that honored the seniors, a junior stole the show.

Opposite hitter Callie Rivers knocked down a season-high 14 kills to go along with a .500 hitting efficiency and seven digs.

"It was the perfect match for us going into the postseason to play a team with little preparation time and a team we are not as familiar with," Wise said.

The Gators were also able to experience a little adversity before they entered the postseason as five service errors in a single frame led to a second-set loss.

UF responded well as it went on to block seven balls in the next two sets and grab control of the match.

The one-setter offense was used for most of the weekend as sophomore setter Kelly Murphy thrived in

the scheme once again. She totaled 21 kills, 69 assists and dug up 16 balls during the weekend.

In Friday's sweep of South Carolina (14-16, 5-15 SEC), the new offense led to a dominant 3-0 win (25-

14, 25-8, 25-12) and gave Wise her 600th career victory at UF.

The Gators recorded a season-high hitting efficiency of .519 against South Carolina and only committed six attack errors.



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

UF libero Elyse Cusack was honored along with middle blocker Kristina Johnson in the Senior Day festivities before Florida's 3-1 win over No. 25 Notre Dame.

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## UF WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Three-point shooting leads Florida to win over FIU

By EUGENIO TORRENS

Alligator Staff Writer  
etorreans@alligator.org

The consolation game of the FIU Thanksgiving Classic in Miami had the reassuring result the UF women's basketball team was hoping for.

The Gators (3-3) played their second game in U.S. Century Bank Arena and won 71-60 over FIU on Sunday behind improved shooting, including a 25-point performance by Jordan Jones.

"When you win on someone else's home floor, you have to be happy," coach Amanda Butler said.

Coming off the 61-47 loss the team suffered on Friday against St. John's, UF bended but did not break against the Golden Panthers.

"There was no doubt in my mind honestly that we would win this game," Jones said. "I know the fight of this team and the fight of our coaching staff, and we knew we weren't coming back to Gainesville winless."

UF led the game for the majority of the first half before FIU (2-4) knotted the game at 25, but a Jones 3-pointer — her first points of the game — gave the Gators a lead they would never give up, despite a feisty effort from the Golden Panthers throughout the game.

Butler changed up the starting lineup from Friday, plugging in Azania Stewart and Jennifer George, and the new frontcourt yielded results. The pair only combined for 10 points, but also chipped in 11 rebounds.

Feeding the ball to the post was a focal point for the team in practice between the two tournament games.

"Our post was huge," Jones said. "They demanded the ball. The post set the tone and we followed their lead. One of our main goals of this game was to not let teams think we're just an outside team."



Jones

Sharielle Smith notched 12 points and was one rebound shy of a double-double. Fellow senior Steffi Sorensen chipped in 10 points after going scoreless against St. John's but continued to make her presence felt on the boards as she finished with eight rebounds, five of which were offensive boards.

Jones was the biggest beneficiary of the improved post game. She scored 17 second-half points and lit up the Panthers, going 9

of 16 from the field, including a 50 percent effort from beyond the arc. The whole team rebounded from a pedestrian shooting night on Friday and nailed 12 of 26 3-pointers in the game.

Despite the Gators' superior offensive statistics, FIU clawed until the end of the game coming within 4 points. The teams traded turnovers, and it wasn't until Jones and Sorensen drained four consecutive free throws — UF's first made free throws of the night — that the game was put out of reach.

"That's what makes us confident that we can play with anyone in the country. It's not our size, our athleticism, our experience — it's none of those things," Butler said. "It's our fight. That's where our confidence is rooted."

*A radio broadcast contributed to this report.*

## Signature win sure to help NCAA Tournament resume

## HOOPS, from page 13

show their potential and another chance to silence their critics.

Florida has met and exceeded expectations at nearly every turn so far this year, easily disposing of its outmatched opponents and raising its game to another level against higher-caliber teams like Florida State and MSU.

"After the FSU game, we felt good about ourselves. We knew we could play with any-

one in the country," said junior forward Chandler Parsons, who led five Gators in double figures against the Spartans with 14 points. "I think we got a good chance to prove it, and we've got a good chance to get better and move forward."

But the Gators did even more than prove their worth early in the season.

With a victory against the second-ranked team in the country, they finally have the kind of signature win absent the past two seasons — and it may

have significantly boosted their chances of getting back to the NCAA Tournament.

Friday night's victory was the program's biggest since the second national championship, and it brought Florida some national attention, but the follow-up proved that the Gators are ready to stay in the limelight a little longer.

"Tonight we came out and we wanted to show everyone that last night's game wasn't a fluke, and we wanted to respond after the win," freshman guard Kenny Boynton said Saturday. "We've heard people say we're soft, so we basically wanted to put pressure on both these teams early and get the wins."

Boynton and the Gators got the win they wanted, the win they needed — and the win that might be pointed to down the road as the one that put Florida basketball on the road to redemption.



## Men's Basketball

## Gators pull defensive starters midway through third

## FOOT, from page 13

and long, and Manuel never got comfortable in the pocket.

The redshirt freshman finished 19 of 31 for 186 yards with two interceptions and a touchdown.

"What really made me kind of surprised was how they kept trying to score at the end of the game."

Ryan Stamper  
UF senior linebacker

UF junior cornerback Joe Haden, who along with Dunlap is projected to be a first-round NFL Draft pick if he elects to leave school early, intercepted Manuel at the end of the first half, and freshman Adrian Bushell picked him off on a fade route in the end zone to end the game.

"What really made me kind of surprised was how they kept trying to score at the end of the game," Stamper said. "There's a couple seconds left, the game's over. ... We were just anxious to get on the field and embrace all these memories that we have."

Senior linebacker Brandon Spikes had three tackles in his final game in Ben Hill Griffin



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF cornerback Joe Haden (left) and linebacker Ryan Stamper (right) tackle FSU receiver Jarmon Fortson during the Gators' 37-10 win against the Seminoles in The Swamp on Saturday.

Stadium, and senior defensive end Jermaine Cunningham recorded only one tackle in a quiet night.

Cornerbacks Wondy Pierre-

Louis and Markihe Anderson played the majority of the second half in their last game in front of the home crowd, with UF coach Urban Meyer

using the opportunity to rest Haden and Janoris Jenkins for the Southeastern Conference Championship Game against Alabama next week.

## KYLE, from page 14

That's not a team trying to win. That's a team trying to save face.

The Gators and Seminoles will always be rivals — I'm not trying to say otherwise — but right now that rivalry is at an all-time low.

For that matter, so is pretty much every other one of UF's rivalries.

Since becoming head coach in 2005, Urban Meyer is 15-1 against traditional foes Georgia, FSU, Tennessee and Miami.

In my opinion, no one has rivaled Florida during that five-year stretch, least of all those four teams.

UF's rivals have been the '90s Nebraska teams, the turn-of-the-century USC teams and the '80s Miami teams.

Tim Tebow hasn't been rivaled by Matt Stafford, Sam Bradford or Darren McFadden.

Instead, he's been rivaling Danny Wuerffel, Archie Griffin and Herschel Walker.

The only rivals for the Gators during these last five years are history and greatness. And that's what struck me the most as the Seminoles "cut" the lead to 30-3 on the foot of their freshman kicker.

The postgame atmosphere was one-of-a-kind, as fans bid adieu to perhaps the greatest player and the greatest senior class in college football history. For any big-time recruit in attendance, I can't imagine wanting the chance to play anywhere else in the country.

Come to Florida. Shame your rivals. Win national championships. Do it all in front of an incredible fan base that treats players like family.

That's quite a sales pitch.

No one wanted Senior Day to end because everyone knew that it can't, and won't, always be like this in games like that.

Except for the Seminoles.

I'm sure they're ready to get back to that whole "equal" thing as soon as possible.