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Published by Campus Communications, Inc. of Gainesville, Florida
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VOLUME 103 ISSUE 68

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2009

Teachers told to crack down on 'swine whiners'

PROFESSORS CAN NOW REQUIRE DOCTOR'S NOTES.

By **CAROLYN TILLO**
 Alligator Staff Writer

Students will no longer be able to fake a case of swine flu to avoid looming exams and research papers.

Associate Provost Bernard Mair released a memo to university deans, directors and department chairs last week explaining professors can now require students to provide medical documentation of illness if they miss exams or fail to turn in assignments during finals week.

UF spokesman Steve Orlando said documentation was not re-

quired earlier in the semester because the university wanted to make it as easy as possible for sick students to stay home.

But Orlando said the number of swine flu cases has lessened.

Orlando said he predicts some faculty members will take advantage of the opportunity to require written proof of illness, especially as students may be tempted to be dishonest as finals approach.

"For some students, the temptation may be greater toward the end of the semester," he said.

Paul D'Anieri, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said he does not think the policy described in the memo will have a

Student Life

SEE SWINE, PAGE 9



Ana Goni-Lessan / Alligator Staff

Let It Glow

Sumera Chohan, 19, Azmaina Chowdhury, 18, and Mansi Baid, 19, hold candles at the Mumbai Terror Attacks First Year Anniversary Remembrance Vigil at the Reitz Union Amphitheatre on Monday night. See Story, Page 3.

UF kicks off AIDS day

By **JARED MISNER**
 Alligator Staff Writer

Condoms and candy canes were an unlikely pair Monday night in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom as the beginning of the holiday season fused with global health concerns.

UF's recognition of World AIDS Day began with about 200 people attending the Be inspired event.

"We're such a large university, and we have such a diverse student body. HIV doesn't affect one group of people. It affects everyone," said Cody Talcott, UF's LGBTQ Student Affairs director, who donned a red necktie and red AIDS ribbon on his dress shirt.

Multicolored condoms dotted more

than 500 chairs at the event as organizations passed out red ribbons, candy canes and more condoms.

The event, which featured dance performances from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and Apocalypse Dance Troupe, was designed to educate the audience about the disease that killed more than 2 million children in 2008.



Evans

"When it comes to HIV/AIDS, it does not discriminate based on gender, race, sexual orientation, creed, color, nothing," said Samantha Evans, sexual health educator with GatorWell Health

SEE AIDS, PAGE 9

LOCAL

Cafe Gardens future shaky

By **JULIE UNGER**
 Alligator Contributing Writer

Cafe Gardens owner Steve McKinney met with landlords Monday to discuss rent negotiations that will determine the future of 33-year-old restaurant.

"We had a good meeting," McKinney said, adding that those involved did not want the press to know details.

According to McKinney, Cafe Gardens could see the cost of its rent jump by 472 percent, based on calculations in a letter he received from the property's owner, Tri-mark Properties.

While trying to dispel rumors about the future, McKinney said he has been talking openly with employees about the situation.

"The staff knows what's going on, and I keep updating them and letting them know how we progress. Hopefully this can all get worked out and is just a bump in the road," he said.

After sending an e-mail to friends and

family, his inbox has been flooded and his cell phone battery drained from the barrage of responses, he said.

"People are upset. I think the café is the oldest independent, unchanged restaurant in west Gainesville," he said.

"People are upset. I think the café is the oldest independent, unchanged restaurant in west Gainesville."

Steve McKinney
 Cafe Gardens owner

Located at 1643 NW First Ave., Cafe Gardens has served the Gainesville community since 1976.

In 1975, a couple of recent college graduates ventured from Georgia to Gainesville wanting to open a beer and burger joint in a college town. They included McKinney

SEE GARDENS, PAGE 8

Coach Billy Donovan (right) has led UF into the polls for the first time since January and its highest rank since the Gators' back-to-back title run. Florida hosts FAMU tonight at 7. See Story, Page 14.



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News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

UFSIFE Sustainable Entrepreneurship Forum

Today, 6:30 p.m.
Bryan Hall, Room 232
The UF Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) invites students to its Sustainable Entrepreneurship Forum. Students will have the chance to network with entrepreneurs who use environmentally friendly practices in their business. Students will also learn about how to turn any business into a sustainable one. Spots are limited, so if you would like to attend, please RSVP to sife.entrepreneurship@gmail.com as soon as possible.

"Armored": Trivia Challenge

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

Talk on the Goldstone Report

Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Florida Gymnasium
Professors Patricia Woods and Tamir Sorek will discuss the United Nations' 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

FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
CLOUDY 71/61	THUNDER STORMS 79/59	PARTLY CLOUDY 66/44	PARTLY CLOUDY 57/35	SUNNY 64/40

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 questions pertaining to the Peace Corps application process. E-mail peacecorps@ufic.ufl.edu for questions.

Sierra Club Program:

"Tread Lightly"
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Entomology Building, Room 3118
David Bruderly will describe the latest auto gas mileage achieve-

ments 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 bkelley@alligator.org with "What's Happening" in the subject line. Please include a one- to two-sentence synopsis of the event. Make sure all submissions are formatted properly. Space in this section is limited, and inclusion of event postings is up to the discretion of the Editorial Department.

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.

the independent florida alligator

VOLUME 103 ISSUE 68

ISSN 0889-2423

Not officially associated with the University of Florida
Published by Campus Communications Inc., of Gainesville, Florida

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The Independent Florida Alligator is a student newspaper serving the University of Florida, published by a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) educational organization, Campus Communications Inc., P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, Florida, 32604-2257. The Alligator is published Monday through Friday mornings, except during holidays and exam periods. During UF summer academic terms The Alligator is published Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Alligator is a member of the Newspaper Association of America, National Newspaper Association, Florida Press Association and Southern University Newspapers.

Subscription Rates: One Semester (Fall or Spring) \$18
Summer Semester \$10
Two Semesters (Fall or Spring) \$35
Full Year (All Semesters) \$40

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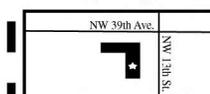
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STUDENT LIFE

Students join forces to remember Mumbai attacks

By JOEY FLECHAS

Alligator Contributing Writer

Bhavesh Lad remembers the sinking feeling that pervaded as the news came out from Mumbai, India, just more than a year ago.

"It was fearful," the UF graduate student said. "Everyone was very fearful."

His mother was working about a mile from one of the bombing sites during the terrorist attacks that gripped the city on Nov. 26, 2008, and did not relent for four days.

Though Lad's mother was not hurt, the attacks left more than 160 dead and more than 300 injured.

UF students honored these victims Monday night at a candlelight vigil in the Reitz Union Amphitheatre to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the attacks.

About 50 people lit candles to remember those affected by the tragedy and to show solidarity in the effort for peace in a vigil devoid of any special agenda.

"This is not political or religious at all," said Ellen Kruk, Gators for

"You create living memorials through good acts and good deeds."

Rabbi Berl Goldman,
co-director of the Lubavitch
Chabad Jewish Center

Israel vice president and one of the organizers of the event.

"It's about peace and remembrance," she said.

In their first co-sponsored event, the vigil was organized by the Indian Student Association and Gators for Israel, along with

the Jewish Student Union and the Lubavitch Chabad Jewish Student Center.

Distinguished Professor and Department of Religion chairwoman Vasudha Narayanan gave a few words during the vigil on the importance of recognizing human unity and stopping the cycle of violence that leads to tragedies like this.

"What we do have to remind ourselves is that an eye for an eye will eventually make the whole world blind," she said.

Rabbi Berl Goldman, co-di-

rector of the Lubavitch Chabad Jewish Center, led a moment of silence before charging attendees to commemorate the dead through example.

"You create living memorials through good acts and good deeds," he said.

Lad later remembered his parents telling him of the resolve of Mumbai's citizens in the days after the attacks.

"Everyone went back to normal," he said. "I think that's a very strong way of going about life, to challenge the terrorists."

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HPV Fact #19:

In a study of female college students, about 60% of them were found to be infected with HPV by the end of 3 years.

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Game Day Gators haul around on four-seat bicycle



Courtesy to the Alligator

The "quadralator," a four-person, orange-and-blue bicycle, rides past cars before a home UF football game earlier this year.

■ THEY GOT THE IDEA FROM THE MOVIE 'BEERFEST.'

By **ELIZABETH BEHRMAN**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Some UF students took a bicycle built for two to the next level.

Engineering seniors Thomas Reed and Chad Hughes can be seen riding the "quadralator," a four-person, orange-and-blue bicycle they built earlier this year, around campus with two other friends on game days.

Reed said the idea came about when he was sitting in Marston Library with Hughes one day, adding that he originally got the idea from a movie.

"I saw 'Beerfest,' actually, and they made a five seater, so it was definitely possible," he said.

Hughes had a bicycle he was willing to donate to the endeavor, and Reed along with two other friends, Andrew Cain and Michael Powers, all bought identical bicycles to combine to the four seater.

Reed said it took him about three days before the beginning of the fall

semester to build the superbicycle. He then handed it off to Hughes to add the finishing touches.

"I got it to work first and then Chad took about two days just taking it apart and painting it," Reed said.

The four friends ride their orange and blue masterpiece up Gale Lemerand Drive to the stadium, dressed in wacky getups, for each home game.

"We always try to look kind of ridiculous," Reed said.

Reed said they dressed in Daisy Dukes denim shorts for the UF-Georgia game, just to go along with the stereotype.

People laugh and cheer when they ride by on their bicycle, he said.

"They always are amazed at the number of guys we can put on a bicycle," Reed said.

But don't be fooled by their silly appearances; Hughes said the bicycle is difficult to ride because there's more weight to pedal around.

"You'd think with four people you'd have four times the speed," he said, "but in reality it's more work."

LOCAL South Gville to get makeover

By **WILLIAM O'CONNOR**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Renovations in south Gainesville are spurring a downtown renaissance.

Lynch Park, formerly a space used largely by the homeless, will get a name change and a makeover, including turning much of the open space into a dog park, according to Kelly Huard Fisher, a spokeswoman for the Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency.

Anticipating the park's new look and the facelift the city is conducting on Main Street, surrounding businesses are inspired to create a miniature artistic haven.

Chris Fillie, the owner of two renovated storefronts at Main Street and Fifth Avenue, referenced New York City's SoHo when describing the new mindset of downtown business owners.

"When the owners of our businesses get together, we now refer to the area as SoDo, which is short for South of Downtown."

Fillie owns George's Meet and Produce, a gathering place at 435 S Main St. that holds performances, classes, lectures and provides general studio production space for artists.

Fillie said the only thing that has changed about the store in 50 years is its spelling. The location was a grocery store called George's Meat and Produce, and the name seemed too fitting to change.

He also owns Coming Soon, which will exhibit and sell local handmade products at 437 S Main St.

Because of the stores' proximity to the area undergoing to makeover, Fillie said he's excited about the city's plans.

But not everyone agrees with the improvement.

James Schmidt, manager of the Civic Media Center, 433 S Main St., sees the changes as an excuse to push the poor around.

"I don't like fences," Schmidt said. "This is

just a removal of public space in order to create another control zone."

He expressed concern for the homeless, who will be forced to abandon the park in favor of a less public area.

The west side of Main Street's Fifth Avenue separates the park from a new steak and seafood restaurant under construction.

The restaurant will be called Warehouse Dining Restaurant and Lounge and is the dream of Richard Yoh, who has owned the property for 30 years.

Previously, he rented the site to an imported auto parts store and repair shop, but now the neighborhood finally seems ready for an upscale eatery and nightclub, especially with the dog park and street remake that's in the works, he said.

"I don't like fences. This is just a removal of public space in order to create another control zone."

James Schmidt
manager of the Civic Media Center

Fisher said the new park's north side will be reserved for dogs, while the south side will have benches, lighting and plants indigenous to the region.

The new park will be named Halsey Lynch Park in honor of the woman who donated the approximate 1 1/2-acre plot, and the project has a budget of about \$85,000, according to minutes from 2008 city meetings.

According to Fisher, the downtown projects will be financed by the city parks department and subsidized with special district taxes. She explained these taxes are provided by added revenue from the increased property values of projects the agency has already funded.

Fisher said the city is awaiting building permits, but the park should be completed within two to three months.

Students 'organ'-ize for semester recital

By **MEAD BOWEN**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Eclipsing the back wall of the stage, 5,356 brass and wooden pipes dwarfed the keyboard where a petite organist sat.

The room darkened, and Melanie Yeager, one of six students in UF's Organ Studio, a pipe organ performance program, set her fingers to the keys.

The Andrew Anderson Memorial Organ was played publicly for the last time this semester on Monday night, showcasing the few UF musicians with the expertise to touch the historic instrument.

More than 60 people attended the recital, an improvement from the average attendance of about 50.

Laura Ellis, associate professor of music and director of the Organ Studio, said she was pleased with the turnout.

"Since we have such a wonderful instrument, it is natural for there to be an organ studio at UF," she said.

According to Ellis, the Andrew Anderson Memorial Organ is one of the largest in the southeastern U.S.

"It's quite a draw for potential students," she said.

The organ was certainly one of the assets that attracted Erica Wessling, a third-year German major and pipe organ performance minor.

"I like the versatility of the instrument," said Wessling, who played Johannes Brahms' "Es ist ein ros' entsprungen" and both "Prelude in G Major" and "In dulci jubilo" by Johann Sebastian Bach.

On Campus "You can play pieces from different time periods, and it sounds authentic," she said.

Students performed 10 compositions, ranging from baroque and Renaissance pieces to modern melodies.

Though the organ recital was the 39th program in the 2009-2010 School of Music Events Series, this particular recital happens only once every semester.

The next organ recital will be held on Jan. 8 and will feature Ellis, who also plays the harpsichord and the carillon, the Century Tower bells heard throughout the day on the UF campus.

Group collects recyclables

■ UF GREEN TEAM COLLECTED 29,000 POUNDS OF RECYCLABLES LAST YEAR.

By **KATHLEEN BIRKHIMER**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Among the orange, blue and occasional rival colors decorating campus this football season was a bit of green.

The UF Green Team completed its fourth season at the UF-FSU game, and according to volunteer and program assistant Stephanie Sims, it is growing.

"[The Green Team] isn't going away; [it's] getting bigger and stronger each year," she said.

Volunteers for the Green Team are assigned to zones to offer recycle bags to tailgaters.

Volunteers can sign up to work for an organization, and each hour of their time will earn their club or team a share of money donated by Pepsi each year. In addition to the funds, volunteers said they received a warm welcome from tailgaters this year, who not only recognize, but expect, the green T-shirts.

"People are used to seeing green shirts now

... [They] are happy to do something good for the Earth while having fun," Sims said.

The UF Green Team program collected 29,000 pounds of recyclables last season, said Jordan Weinstein, an intern at UF's Office of Sustainability, who was responsible for organizing the event this year.

That number came from the efforts of 250 volunteers, clocking 862 hours together. Each hour earned \$5.88 last year.

This year's results were unavailable at press time.

On Campus

The number of volunteers and the amount of recyclables collected varied from game to game this year, Weinstein said. Factors like kickoff time and who the Gators were playing contributed to how many volunteers signed up. Saturday's game saw an unusually low number of volunteers.

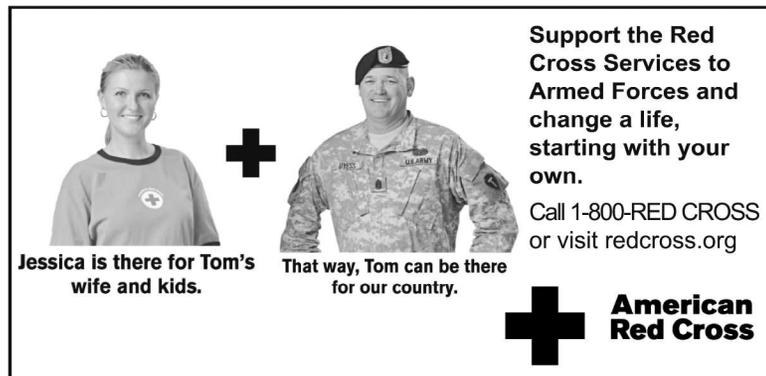
The program is a part of the Office of Sustainability's goal to create a zero-waste campus by 2015.

Game Day waste is particularly important, Sims said.

"You bring in so many people and waste in one weekend," she said. "It catches attention."

Storm season ends

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Editorial

Premium Price

Taxpayers shouldn't pay for lawmakers' insurance

While Florida lawmakers and top state employees are criticizing Congress' efforts to extend health care to more poor people, they have fought to protect an entitlement of their own: free insurance premiums.

According to the Miami Herald, Florida taxpayers shell out some \$45 million per year to cover the premiums of 27,479 state employees.

But many of these employees are high-level bureaucrats and political appointees, 2,431 of whose salaries are more than \$100,000.

Even the families of these top earners can cash in on the plan. Charlie Crist's new wife, a wealthy businesswoman and philanthropist, will soon pay nothing for insurance premiums.

And the gravy train does not stop at the Florida border. Crist's wife has two children from a previous marriage who live with their father — an even wealthier New York man who owns a jet rental company. Yes, they will also enjoy free premiums, paid for with taxpayer dollars.

As Florida has faced three straight years of budgets painted red, and as lawmakers have promised to cut unnecessary spending, these over-generous benefits should be first on the list.

Florida's Chief Financial Officer, Alex Sink, who earns \$129,000 plus subsidized insurance, said that the benefits are merely part of a total compensation package. Others argue that government employees get paid less than those in the private sector — so the insurance serves to balance that out.

But any state employee earning more than \$100,000 is not in desperate need of subsidized health insurance. At least not as bad as the poor Florida residents they are arguing to keep it from.

Are they in desperate need of a pay cut and a reality check? Maybe.

Fool's Flu

Your mother's incessant nagging is no longer the best reason to get a flu vaccine. Now it's grade concerns that will push students into the vaccine lines. (Let's face it — health worries are never on the top of the list.)

A memo released last week to university deans, directors, and department chairs explained that professors can now require students to provide medical documentation of illness if they miss an exam or fail to turn in assignments during finals week.

Associate Provost Bernard Mair, who sent the memo, surely had swine-flu-fakers in mind when formulating the policy change, along with the declining numbers of new swine flu cases in and around Gainesville.

But a resurgent swine flu, a spike in the regular seasonal flu or even the current swine flu (albeit at disappointingly subpandemic levels) could pose a threat to students' health.

This is because the new policy will compel students to attend exams if they feel ill but have not concretely determined whether they have the flu.

Putting potentially infectious students in a room with up to 400 others for hours sounds like a nightmare scenario. But it's bound to happen, regardless of the policy changes.

UF's responsibility is merely to limit the risk. If this new policy does the opposite, the administration should really consider what's more of a threat: fakers or infectious test-takers.

the independent florida
alligator

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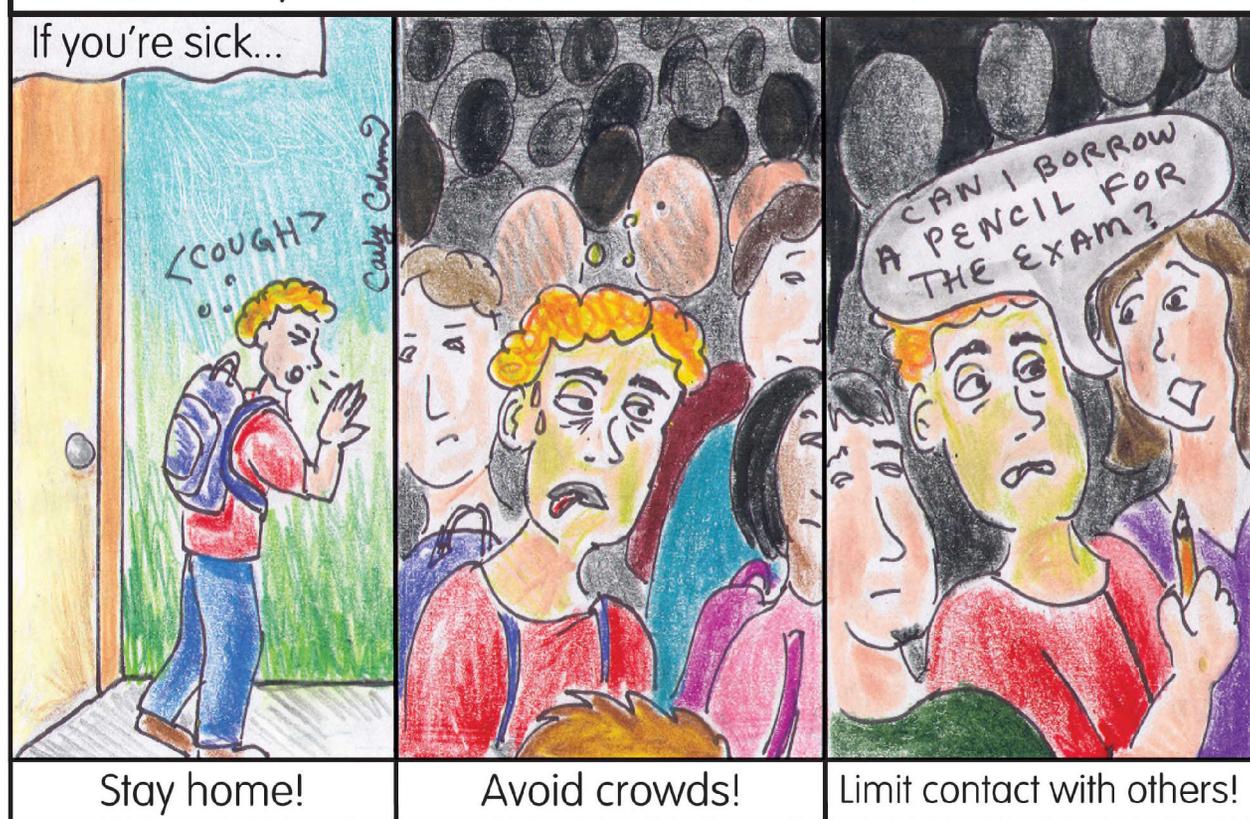
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Opinions

ALLIGATOR
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And now, a word from the Centers for Disease Control



Column

Say what you would regret leaving unsaid

I like this question, even if it's a little morbid: If you knew you were going to die this evening, and you couldn't talk to anyone between now and then, what would you most regret not telling someone?

I can't claim it as my own; I've heard several different people, in several different situations, with several different levels of sobriety pose some permutation of this question. That particular phrasing, in fact, closely resembles the one found in Gregory Stock's 1987 book "The Book of Questions."

I posed the question to 24 people on the Plaza of the Americas a couple of weeks ago, and I got an array of thoughtful, different answers.

Many of the answers involved family.

For instance, Anandini Maharaj, 21, said she would want to tell her mother how much she respects her.

"She raised me and my two sisters on her own, and she sacrificed a lot for us," Maharaj said. "And I don't think I tell her how much I really respect her, how much she's influenced my life and how much she means to me."

"My brother is my favorite person, but also, he was an asshole to me, and I want to tell him that," Marie Stewart, 21, said. "But I appreciate that. I think because we had so much trouble before, that's why we're so close right now."

Erin Fasig, 19, said that she and her sister haven't had a very good relationship lately, and that she'd want to say, "Sorry for being an ass sometimes."

Many people said that they don't doubt that their friends and family know they love them, but it's more understood than explicitly stated.

"It's like getting a Hallmark card," said Chris Gonzales, 21. "You already know the feelings that are expressed, but it's just nice to hear it."

And Noah Camenker, 20, mentioned his regret involves a girl.

"We were talking about stuff, and then there was a long pause," Camenker said. "If I could go back in time, I'd prob-

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

Reader response

Today's question: Should professors require students to have a doctor's note to miss exams?

The results for Monday's poll question are unavailable due to technical error.

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org



Joe Dellosa
letters@alligator.org

ably try to use that pause."

Whether we want to admit it, we all live our lives with some mental estimation of when we're going to die and act accordingly. Everything we would regret not saying before we died that we choose to continue not to say is an indication of how far out we've pushed that estimation.

Ultimately, every "I love you" you leave unspoken, every apology you don't make and every feeling of appreciation and admiration you let go unexpressed is a bet against death that you'll have another opportunity to say these things tomorrow. It is, admittedly, a bet that you'll almost always win — but really, it's the sort of bet you only need to lose once.

And I'm as guilty of making that bet as anybody else. When interviewees would shoot the question back at me, I'd give some vague answer about regretting not telling one of my best friends that I love her one last time. But that's only partially true.

Here's a more complete, oversharing answer: I'd regret not telling her that she's the first girl I've ever loved and been in love with at the same time. I'd regret not telling her that each time I'm able to be more empathetic and less of an impatient jackass with people, I think of her and how she's helped me be more understanding and compassionate. And I'd regret not telling her that we really should've gotten that coffee, even if it would've been at a shitty Huddle House at 3 a.m.

There is almost never a good reason not to say the things you'd regret leaving unsaid. Not to be presumptuous, but there's probably someone who sprang to mind when you read the question, and there's almost certainly a cell phone near you right now. I'm just sayin'.

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

Guest column

Republican Party needs to realize all politics are local

The Republican Party has recently drafted a Purity Resolution. If passed, any candidate seeking support from the Republican National Committee would be required to support at least eight of the 10 resolutions named by the committee.

This is a bad idea no matter what is written. If this proposal is accepted, it will be the culmination of the complete takeover by Southern conservatives of the Republican Party.

Political parties exist to get elected. Once you get elected, then you can worry about governing. To see the advantages of a diverse assortment of candidates, look at the 2006 election.

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, headed by Rahm Emanuel, recruited candidates that reflect their district and, as a result, the Democrats took control of Congress.

That obviously wasn't the only factor, but if you are a conservative independent, it is a lot easier to support a conservative Democrat than a liberal Democrat.

Looking at this resolution, the first thing that strikes me is how vague the wording is. Point six is: "We support victory in Iraq and Afghanistan by supporting military-recommended troop surges." This creates a classic strawman that holds an unpopular position that the audience will automatically oppose because no one supports defeat. Of course everyone wants our military to be victorious.

But which military leader are we supposed to listen to? Gen. Stanley McChrystal submitted an initial recommendation for

Nick Miner
Speaking Out

40,000 additional troops. But there are also recommendations for smaller surges. Then there are some military personnel, specifically retired senior generals, who are arguing we need to begin our withdrawal from Afghanistan. Which military do Republicans support?

There is a reason the founding fathers placed the military under civilian control, and we should not be so ready to abandon this protection. If we hadn't overruled our military leaders in Vietnam, we would still be there.

Then, there is the issue of what is victory in Afghanistan. Is victory a strong central government or simply denying terrorists a safe haven? This point sounds great but says nothing.

Point eight says: "We support retention of the Defense of Marriage Act." This point is not surprising, but again limits their ability to recruit candidates in liberal districts. It is as if the Republican Party doesn't want to compete in New England.

Some of the other positions include: opposition to amnesty for illegal immigrants, opposition to the Obama-style "stimulus" bill, opposition to government-run health care, opposition to cap and trade, opposition to health care rationing and government funding of abortion, and opposition to government restrictions on gun ownership.

The word opposition, or some form of it, is found in seven of the 10 points. The Republican Party is trying to define itself by what it opposes. This is not a strategy for good govern-

nance.

Then there is the plethora of code words. Amnesty. Obama's stimulus. Surges. Government-run health care. Card Check. This is red meat to Republican supporters. Oh, and just in case you didn't know, the health care plan for the Republican Party covers elective abortions.

The nomination of John McCain may have seriously crippled the Republican Party because his loss discredited moderate conservatives. You cannot be a national party by demanding uniformity. The United States is not uniform.

It is only logical that candidate positions should reflect their constituents. Look at the NY-23 special election this year. This was a moderate Republican seat that had not been held by a Democrat in more than 100 years. Not during FDR. Not after Watergate.

The local Republican Party nominated a moderate, Dierdre Scozzafava, to run against the Democratic party's nomination, Bill Owens. Scozzafava supported tax cuts and opposed gun control, but her great crime was supporting gay rights and being pro-choice. "True" conservatives revolted and ran a third candidate, Doug Hoffman, who did not reflect local constituents.

The end result is a Democrat now holds the seat for the first time since the 1870s. All politics are local. The Democrats know this, and it is no coincidence that they control the White House and both chambers of Congress.

Nick Miner is a UF political science graduate student

TUESDAY
Dec. 1st

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City covers art for AIDS

■ HIDDEN ART WILL ACKNOWLEDGE AIDS DAY.

By KRISTEN BOWE
Alligator Contributing Writer

It may be a little dark on Northwest Eighth Avenue today.

In honor of Day With(out) Art/World AIDS Day, city officials said they will cover the solar walk sculptures, concrete statues that represent the solar system, in black from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The black coverings symbolize a world without art.

This will be the fourth time the city has held the demonstration.

Erin Friedberg, visual arts coordinator for the city's Art in Public Places Trust, said the idea to cover the solar walk started in 2005, but the city only covered the sun in black to represent a world without light.

In 2008, the city decided to cover all of the sculptures to have a greater

impact, Friedberg said.

This year, the city will expand the black coverings to all of the walk's benches and the recently added a Halley's Comet sculpture using recyclable plastic, Friedberg said.

The Day With(out) Art began on Dec. 1, 1989, as a national day of action and mourning in response to the AIDS crisis. Eight hundred U.S.

art and AIDS groups participated in the first Day With(out) Art by shutting down museums, sending staff to volunteer at AIDS services and sponsoring special exhibitions of work about AIDS.

Friedberg said the project has grown to incorporate 8,000 museums, art centers, AIDS organizations, schools and other public institutions in the U.S.

She said it shows the impact of AIDS on the art world and promotes awareness and prevention of the disease.

Local News

The café was built in 1976

GARDENS, from page 1

in their plans, taking him on as their chief executive adviser. By April 1, 1976, their dream had become a reality, and Cafe Gardens opened for business.

By 1979, the business had traded hands but found its way back to McKinney.

"I often say Cafe Gardens wasn't really planned, it just evolved. In

where it is and how it fits, and the courtyard and everything — it's very nice," he said.

"I've been working there for three years, and people come in all the time [who] were past employees or used to go here when they were in school," said Alex Gilwit, a waitress at the restaurant. "It would be really sad if Cafe Gardens closed."

Calls to Trimark Properties agent John Fleming were not returned as of Monday night.



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Dating Tip #4

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UF to administer third batch of swine flu vaccines Wednesday

SWINE, from page 1

significant impact in CLAS, the university's largest college.

He said the policy described in the memo represents a return to the attendance policy before swine flu came along.

D'Anieri said discussions with CLAS faculty and observations of his International Relations class lead him to believe swine flu has not really affected CLAS attendance.

But the new policy could affect students.

Leah Chapman, a UF religion and political science junior, said getting a doctor's note could be inconvenient for students who have swine flu.

Chapman said she lives off campus but doesn't

own a car.

If she contracted swine flu, she could risk spreading the disease to the people riding her bus or driving her to the doctor, she said.



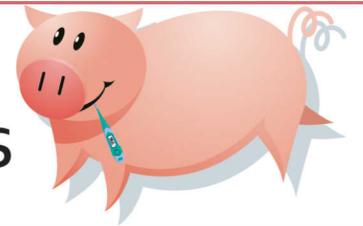
Mair

Despite the decline in cases, she is still concerned about getting swine flu as she prepares for Winter Break.

"On my way home, I'm definitely stopping to get a shot," Chapman said.

On Wednesday, the Student Health Care Center will give out 50 vaccines every 30 minutes between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., according to a press release.

H1N1 Vaccine Shots



- WHEN** ▶ Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- WHERE** ▶ Student Health Care Center
- HOW** ▶ Register online at <http://shcc.ufl.edu/h1n1> and select a time slot

Jessica Warshaver / Alligator Staff

Free HIV testing will be available in the Florida Gym from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

AIDS, from page 1

Promotion Services. "Its main goal is to infect and continue to infect."

And as UF and the rest of The Gator Nation recognize the 21st World AIDS Day today, Evans suggested that UF students critically examine their sexual health as they

begin studying for final exams.

"Students should think about their health year-round," Evans said, as she discussed the daylong increased interest in HIV/AIDS testing on World AIDS Day.

Jaymes Moore started planning for today's global health observance two years ago.

Moore, a UF graphic design se-

nior, created a visual display that will be showcased at the Student Health Care Center today from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On Campus Moore described his art as the anti-scare method to AIDS prevention.

"All the statistics and the numbers kind of numb people," he said.

The 6-foot sculpture, "HI VIS," which stands for HIV Visual Impact Sculpture, contains more than 200 red condoms and was designed to encourage people to take the condoms to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections.

Although Evans stressed AIDS is still a serious health concern, she said medical advances are improv-

ing the quality of life for those infected.

"It has a one-track mind," Evans said. "If it has a way to infect, it will find it. It's not unstoppable, but it's here. It's present."

Students who'd like a free HIV test today in the Florida Gym from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. should call 352-392-1161 to schedule an appointment.

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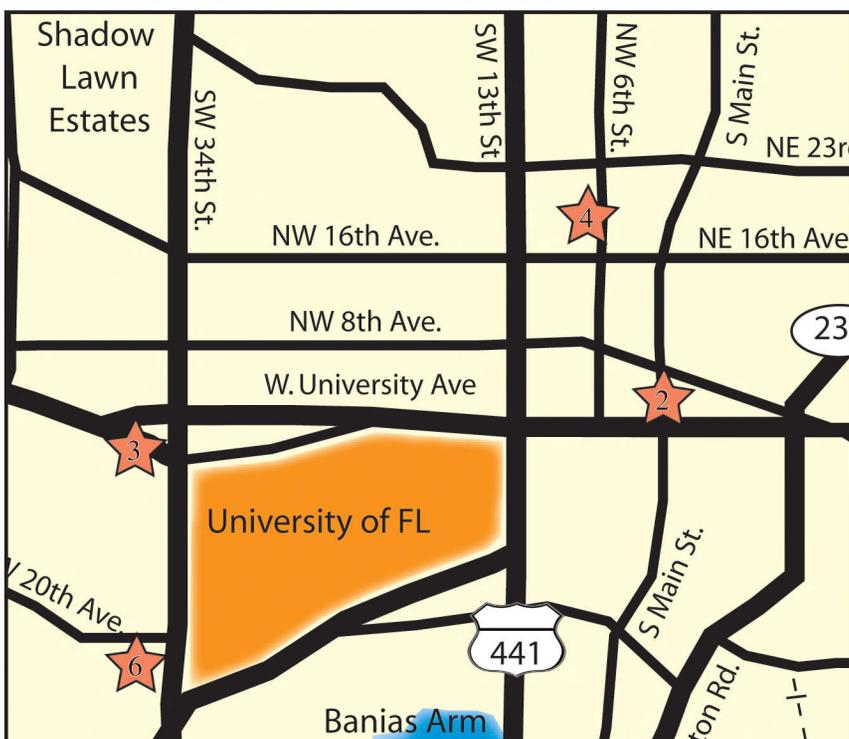
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\$0 M/I Fees, Pet Friendly
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● Also 3BR/2BA house available. \$900/mo.
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09-71-2

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REDUCED 1st Mo 1/2 off! 2/2 off of SW 35th
Pl, Close to UF & bus route. Great for grad
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Homestead Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
2/1 from \$629 2/2 from \$749
SW Archer Rd. Area
Ph. 376-0828 www.gremco.com
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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
1-5-09-25-2

FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
Sunrise Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
1bdr. from \$363 \$300 Amex card
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Ph.372-4835 www.gremco.com
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Summer Place Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
1 bdr. from \$363 \$300 Amex card.
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2 For Rent unfurnished

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 ● 1BR/1BA \$425
 ● 2BR \$450-\$620 - W/D incl
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 \$350 SD some w/ W/D or hkups.
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2 For Rent unfurnished

1BR/1BA apt, \$499/mo. 3320 SW 23rd St.
 Each unit has a private gated court yard. On
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 Vet Med. Pets <50lbs arranged. 352-377-
 2150 or paloverde3320@yahoo.com 1-6-
 09-44-2

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 \$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR,
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 House across the street. \$700/mo + \$200
 dep. Call 352-8430-0220 to see. 12-9-29-2

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 Studio from \$439 1bdr. from \$479
 Walk to Butler Plaza
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FREE Rent until January 2010!!!
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 Totally Renovated 1 bdr. from \$599
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 Inc 352-372-1494 1-5-09-22-2

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 4th Avenue. Call Merrill
 Management Inc 352-372-1494 1-5-09-22-2

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 1BR 1BA Apt Near Sams
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 819 NW 10th Ave \$850/mo
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 1000sq ft, storage/laundry room with W/D
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 Efficiencies starting at \$325.00(walk to
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 ●Also avail: Fully furn 2BR/1BA \$735/mo.
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WALK TO UF. Avail in Jan:
 ● 2BR/2.5BA \$800 ● 2BR/1BA \$700
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 1 yr lease, SD & NS. Call/Text: 352-870-7256
 or gwil32601@gmail.com 12-9-09-14-2

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 included. w/d in unit. Tower Rd 450/month
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\$100 OFF 1st MONTH RENT. 2 BR/1.5 Bath
 Phoenix apt. 1 mile to campus and Shands
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 Unit B. 562-2782 or 514-6869 if interested.
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 just 1.5 mi. from law center. Very low utili-
 ties! Partially furnished.W/D,pool. \$975. Exit
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SMALL CABIN 2/1, 20 ACRES
 Watermelon Pond views. 27802 SW 120th
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 Needs work. \$575/mo. \$750 move-in 330-
 329-8834 12-1-5-2

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 reserve yours for Aug. Call today 226-4111
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FIRST MONTH FREE or \$600/MO! (original
 price \$660) Bright 2/1 apartment on the sec-
 ond floor. Short walk from UF/Shands/RTS
 13,16,17. This is a lease transfer. Available
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 5-2

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 Urban loft design - fully remodeled. Very
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 ● 1BR in 4BR/2BA house \$350/mo
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 529-4031, www.pleasantstreet.net (for pics)
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1/1, Ridgeview, free water, next to park, on
 the bus line, cent H/A, courtyard, 2 miles to
 UF, convenient to shopping, no smoking, no
 pets. \$470 SD, \$470/mo 562-2824 12-3-09-
 5-2

Nice 2 BR near UF, restaurants and shop-
 ping. 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 neigh-
 borhood, with a respectful roommate. Would
 be responsible for 1/2 utilities/cable/internet.
 Rent \$390. Available immediately. Call Don
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\$99 Moves-U-IN! \$299 + 75 utility package.
 Downtown Vintage room, or 34th st condo
 room w/private bath & walk-in closet. 352-
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2 For Rent unfurnished

3/1 Vintage House! \$900/month Walk to UF!
 Porch, w/d hook-ups, central AC 352-226-
 3535, 713-705-6279 517 NW 8th St 1-7-
 09-10-2

4 Bed/2 bath Vintage House \$990/month.
 Walk to UF! Univ/by Leo706. 818 SW 3rd
 Ave. Central A/C, porch, w/d, and close to
 downtown too. 352-226-3535, 713-705-6279
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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)
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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

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 The Landings 336-3838
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 Near library downtown. \$295-375/m + utils.
 Short term. No pets. No smoking. 378-1304
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1 month free-Share 2B/2B MH in Cornerstone.
 Furn rm avail now. \$200 N/R dep. \$400/mo
 or \$100/wk util incl. Laundry/cook/clean svc
 avail. Near bus/shops. 30 day notice to va-
 cate. 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,
 l-75 and Newberry, all included, gated, \$400
 baezwpa@bellsouth.net 954-557-4769
 1-19-09-30-4

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4 Roommates

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 neighborhood, 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

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 person only. No pets. Cable, patio, clean, quiet. \$500 pm, utilities included. 336-5808 12-9-09-8-4

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

Luxury House - room, \$500 incl. utilities. W/D, ceramic tile, micro, etc. Looking for graduate/professional for nice place & likes small pups. Williston/SW 23rd St. 352-226-3535/713-705-6279 1-7-09-10-4

5 Real Estate

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

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6 Furnishings

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

6 Furnishings

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

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

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

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

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

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

DINING ROOM Beautiful cherry set w/table, 6 Chippendale chairs, hutch & buffet. New, still in boxes. Retail \$5200, sacrifice \$1100. Must sell. Can deliver. 352-372-8588 12-9-74-6

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

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****Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200****
Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 12-9-74-6

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

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

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW Still in boxes! 6 pieces include: Headboard, 2 Nightstands, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 12-9-09-74-6

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7 Computers

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UF will look for defense to create offense during slumps

W-HOOPS, from page 16

dominated the paint, clearing up the perimeter for easier and more open looks to the basket.

It wasn't just the post players doing work. Guards put an emphasis on assisting the inside game by grabbing rebounds.

Butler admitted one of the pleasant surprises heading into today's game was how good a defensive team her squad could be.

While defense was an early concern for the coaching staff, shooting the ball, which was thought to be a more reliable commodity at the beginning of the season, has moved up the list of coaching concerns.

With UF struggling to shoot the ball so far this season, the defense will have to be tight if the Gators are going to stay in ball games when the shots aren't falling.

And if it's one of those days where the rim seems to have a lid on it, the defense will be relied upon to generate offense through fast-break points coming on layups and scoring off turnovers.

Butler isn't overlooking the Rattlers. "It would absolutely make their season to come to Florida and beat the Gators," she said.



Women's Basketball



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF women's basketball coach Amanda Butler has been surprised by her team's defensive success in the early part of the season.

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HEISMAN WATCH

1 Toby Gerhart (19) 1,736 rushing yards, 5.6 yards per carry, 26 TD, 10 receptions, 149 receiving yards, passing TD



For the first time this season, Gerhart is our No. 1 Heisman contender. The senior running back continued his destruction of opposing run defenses, rushing for more than 200 yards and three scores in a win over Notre Dame. He also threw for a touchdown against the Golden Domers, perhaps giving him a signature Heisman moment. Gerhart's 26 touchdowns are impressive to say the least. Oh, by the way, he leads the nation in rushing yards.

2 Kellen Moore (13) 168.75 passer rating, 3,053 yards, 64.9 completion percentage, 38 TD, 3 INT, -4 rushing yards, -0.2 ypc, TD



Ho hum, another five touchdown game for Moore, his third such performance of the season. This one came in a 44-33 win over Nevada, perhaps the team with the best chance to spoil Boise State's undefeated season. The sophomore's 38-3 touchdown-to-interception ratio is remarkable and Moore, who leads the nation in passer rating, has his team in position to earn an at-large bid to a BCS bowl game and a top-five finish.

3 Mark Ingram (13) 1,429 rushing yards, 6.5 ypc, 12 TD, 28 receptions, 246 receiving yards, 3 TD



Ingram had a bit of a fall in our rankings, down to No. 3 from No. 1, after a poor performance against Auburn. The Crimson Tide squeaked out a 26-21 victory with Ingram held to just 51 total yards from scrimmage. The sophomore was also injured in the win, and his health could be a factor in this week's Southeastern Conference Championship Game. Reports are Ingram will play, and if he plays well against the Florida defense, he could rocket back to the top of everyone's watch list.

4 Colt McCoy (6) 152.93 passer rating, 3,328 yards, 71.8 completion percentage, 27 TD, 9 INT, 368 rushing yards, 3.3 ypc, 2 TD



Welcome back Colt McCoy to the alligatorSports Heisman Watch. The winningest quarterback in college football history logged his second straight game with four touchdown passes. McCoy is coming on strong down the stretch, and he had his best game this past weekend against Texas A&M. He threw for 304 yards and added another 175 on the ground, including a 65-yard touchdown scamper. If he puts up big numbers against Nebraska in the Big 12 Championship Game and Tim Tebow loses to Alabama, he may not make it to the top of our list, but there's a good chance he'll be toting the bronze statue in New York when all is said and done.

5 Golden Tate (3) 93 receptions, 1,496 receiving yards, 15 TD, 186 rushing yards, 7.4 ypc, 2 TD, punt return TD



Add Tate to the list of our candidates who had their best games of the season this past Saturday. The junior wide receiver caught 10 passes for 201 yards and three touchdowns in a loss against Stanford, and there is little question that he has been the most productive wide receiver from a major program. Unfortunately for Tate, Notre Dame is in the middle of a meltdown and a 6-6 record makes it nearly impossible to even be considered for a Heisman Trophy.

OUR RANKINGS

Bobby Callovi

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

Mike McCall

- 1 Toby Gerhart, Stanford
- 2 Colt McCoy, Texas
- 3 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 4 Tim Tebow, Florida
- 5 Kellen Moore, Boise St.

Phil Kegler

- 1 Toby Gerhart, Stanford
- 2 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 3 Kellen Moore, Boise St.
- 4 Colt McCoy, Texas
- 5 Dion Lewis, Pittsburgh

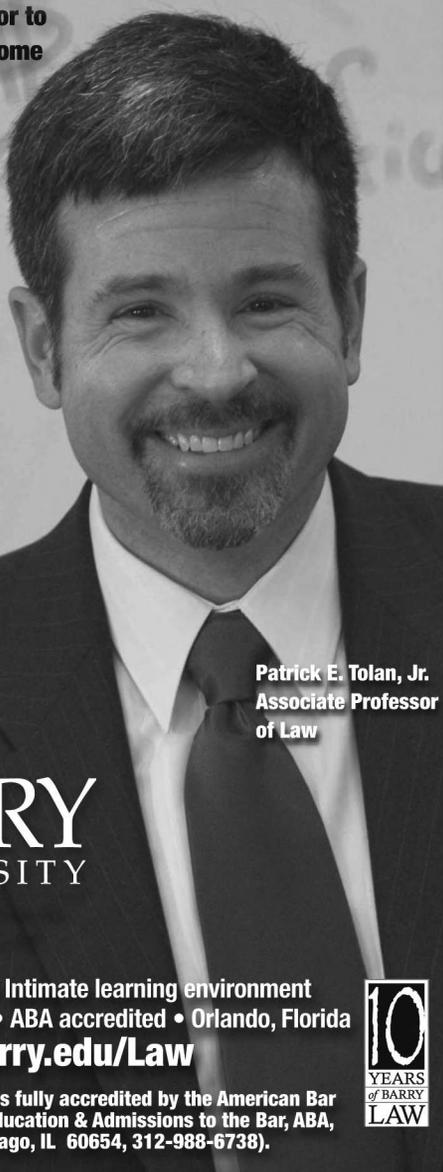
Kyle Maistri

- 1 Kellen Moore, Boise St.
- 2 Toby Gerhart, Stanford
- 3 Mark Ingram, Alabama
- 4 Golden Tate, Notre Dame
- 5 Jordan Shipley, Texas

Jessica Warshaver / Alligator Staff

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UF climbs into top 25 rankings after big week

Florida will host Florida A&M tonight at 7

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

Florida has been on a roller-coaster ride through the rankings the last two years.

The Gators leapt into the top 25 after winning three quality nonconference games last week, coming in at No. 13 in the Associated Press poll and No. 17 in the ESPN/USA Today Poll.

The last two seasons, UF has been in the AP Top 25 seven times. The Gators made two one-week appearances during the 2007-08 season and were ranked from No. 17 to No. 23 the first four weeks of the 2008-09 season before falling out and making a brief return in January.

Fresh off his team's highest ranking since winning back-to-back national championships, coach Billy Donovan is looking to see how UF (6-0) handles its recent success in its game tonight at 7 in the O'Connell Center against Florida A&M (0-7).

"The biggest thing is going to be to have a level of humility," Donovan said. "Hopefully through their past experiences, these guys can deal with the fact that we had a great week."

The last time Florida was in the top 25 was Jan. 19, when it snuck in at No. 24 before losing to South Carolina and falling back out of the rankings. That instance was largely representative of UF's inability to

stay ranked throughout the last two seasons — something Donovan attributed to his team's immaturity during that span.

"Failures and disappointments are always a lot easier to handle than successes," Donovan said. "Generally when you're going through adversity, it's pretty clear

you have one thing to do. You've got to fight, you've got to battle, you've got to keep on working — it's pretty clear-cut. But how do you manage when you have a level of success?"

Although UF won't be facing the high-caliber teams it did last week, the Gators are focused on not let-

ting up despite the lower level of competition.

"It's like I told these guys, 'Is that all we're playing for? To have a great week?'" Donovan said. "The goal is how do we improve and how do we get better, because I think we still have a lot of room for improvement."

Despite the ranking, Donovan pointed out that his team is still

committing too many turnovers, not rebounding as well as it should be and shooting poorly from 3-point range (26 percent). But given the way the Gators have grinded their way to an undefeated start even with those flaws, Donovan is encouraged by the potential his team has shown.

"I would be concerned right now as a coach if I said, 'Gosh, we're clicking on all cylinders here in November. I don't see any room for improvement,'" Donovan said. "I still think we can get a lot better than we are right now."



Andrew Stanfill / Alligator Staff

UF coach Billy Donovan has the Gators back in the top 25 for the first time since January. Florida is No. 13 in this week's AP poll, its highest ranking since the back-to-back national championship run.

WALKER WINS SEC PLAYER OF THE WEEK: After being named MVP of the Legends Classic this weekend, Erving Walker earned another honor Monday, winning Southeastern Conference Player of the Week.

The sophomore point guard averaged 12 points, five assists, 2.3 rebounds and 1.7 steals per game last week in Florida's wins against Florida State, Michigan State and Rutgers. His clutch performance down the stretch against the Spartans, including a 3-pointer with 1:55 remaining, helped lead the Gators to their biggest win in more than two years.

Walker is the first Florida player to earn the honor since Nick Calathes did so on Jan. 12 and the second since Corey Brewer won it on Feb. 12, 2007.

"I'm happy with that," Walker said. "But I'm much more happy with our two wins down there in New Jersey and our whole team's improvement."

UF WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Gators seek consistency with Rattlers coming to town

By **EUGENIO TORRENS**
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Splitting games over the Thanksgiving break may not have been the ideal way to ring in the holiday for Florida, but there's little time to dwell on the past weekend with Florida A&M (3-2) coming to town at 4:30 this afternoon.

Florida managed a 71-60 win over FIU on Sunday to salvage its FIU Thanksgiving Classic experience after losing 61-47 to St. John's on Friday, but UF (3-3) is looking for some consistency in its play.

The Gators, who won 15 in a row last season, have not won consecutive games this year. "The consistency factor is obviously what we're struggling with quite a bit," coach Amanda Butler said. "This game, hopefully we'll see some more positive things develop and then thankfully we'll have a few days where we can actually practice before we go into our next contest."

Today's game will mark the fourth matchup in a week for UF, which means the team hasn't had the luxury of consecutive practices. After today's game, the team

will be off until it plays Rutgers on Dec. 7.

"I think that's what we're really in need of right now, is some practice time," Butler said.



Smith

"This is where the best become the best, when you're hurting and tired at practice," point guard Lonnika Thompson said.

Players may be aching, and physically and mentally exhausted, but they know there's no rest for the weary — especially if the weary are to succeed.

"This is where the best become the best, when you're hurting and tired at practice," point guard Lonnika Thompson said.

In the small amount of practice time the team had Saturday, the Gators emphasized beefing up the post game and detracting from the notion that Florida's only strength was outside shooting.

Senior Sharielle Smith said UF is exploring more options on offense, including looking inside when coming off screens instead of immediately scanning for shooters on the wing.

"Our practices are harder than a 40-minute game," Smith said.

It worked against FIU when the team

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TEERING OFF WITH KYLE MAISTRI

■ TMZ isn't exactly the most reliable of sources, but I really hope it's true that Tiger Woods told a friend he had to rush to Zales to pick up a "Kobe Special" for his wife. I don't think he was talking about Japanese beef. ... I don't want to say I don't have faith in Notre Dame to make the right hire after firing Charlie Weis, but I heard Bobby Bowden is the front-runner.

UF FOOTBALL HONORS

■ Quarterback Tim Tebow was named SEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week, while Mike Pouncey took home Offensive Lineman of the Week honors.

alligatorSports FANTASY CHALLENGE

■ It's over and reader Ben Volin has taken home the trophy with a 130-109 victory over Zach Rogan in the finals. Check out our Web site for a recap, and be on the lookout for Ben's guest column in Thursday's paper.