



Progress, Orange and Blue 'unite'

By **ELIZABETH BEHRMAN**
Alligator Writer

They might not be Facebook official, but the relationship between the Orange and Blue Party and the Progress Party has become a little bit less complicated. The parties announced Wednesday that they will join into one party this semester.

Orange and Blue Party Sen. Jonathan Ossip, who represents the Murphree Area, said the two parties had discussed the merge for about two months when the decision was finalized during winter break.

The parties are still discussing a possible name and potential candidates for leaders, Ossip said.

He said Senators held their first meeting as a single party Tuesday.

"It's definitely going to positively impact our issues," Ossip said.

Ossip said the two parties have similar views on issues such as reforming the Code of Ethics in the Student Senate and creating an online voting system for Student Government elections.

"Pretty much on every vote, you would see the two of our parties align," Ossip said.

Ossip said he hopes an online voting system would increase voter turnout and allow more students to participate in SG.

"When we have a lower voter turnout than a lot of other institutions, then clearly we're doing something wrong," Ossip said.

Ossip said the differences between the two parties were never very big, and he did not realize just how alike they were until discussions about the

merger began.

"If you really combine what issues we emphasize, you see a sum that's greater than its parts," Ossip said.

Former Progress Party Sen. Dave Schneider said the Orange and Blue Party focused on reforming SG, while the Progress Party emphasized the need to increase student participation.

He said he thinks the combined party will be able to uphold both banners equally.

"We're going to be pushing for a similar objective," Schneider said. "We want change through participation."

He said the parties share similar views about the importance of boosting transparency in SG by posting senator voting records online and publishing the budget online for students to see.



Ossip

He said the merge also stems from the results of the past two elections, in which the Unite Party gained the majority of Senate seats.

Schneider said the results showed weaknesses in the campaigning strategies of both parties and emphasized the need for them to change their tactics.

"It's basically a grade that we're getting — how well are we reaching students?" Schneider said.

Senate President Ashton Charles, who represents the Unite Party, said the Unite Party will also be focusing on protecting student interests in the upcoming election.

She said the Unite Party will focus on its own campaign rather than on the merger.



Ana Goni-Lessan / Alligator Staff

CHILLY CITRUS

Craig Hepworth sells tangerines at the Alachua County Farmers Market Wednesday. He said the cold weather hasn't hurt his crops but made them sweeter and juicier.

WEATHER

Fla. snow may be no-show

By **KATHERINE BEIN**
Alligator Staff Writer

Don't believe the hype.

Despite record lows, a load of rumors and the collective hopes and dreams of everyone in Gainesville, officials aren't expecting snow to fall this Friday night.

Once again, Floridians are left high and dry and shivering in the freezing cold.

There remains an outside chance of flurries, said David Schuler, a meteorologist with the Na-

tional Weather Service, although it's more likely to be a light rain.

North Florida continues to face one of the coldest winters in its history. Wednesday, the NWS center in Jacksonville braved 21 degree weather, the city's coldest temperature on record, Schuler said.

"It hasn't been that cold since 1884," he said.

Despite the unlikelihood of snow, some residents are still crossing their fingers.

"I vote 'yes' on snow," said Amanda Du Bour, a zoology student at Santa Fe College.

New RTS route aims to reduce crowding, boost safety

ROUTE TOOK EFFECT MON.

By **CAROLYN TILLO**
Alligator Staff Writer
ctillo@alligator.org

UF's Parking and Transportation Committee and RTS created one new bus route and extended

another in an effort to boost student safety and reduce crowding on buses.

The changes went into effect Monday.

Maryam Laguna, the Student Body Treasurer and the chair of the Parking and Transportation Committee, said the new route, Route

38, goes along Old Archer Road.

It circulates from the Hub, according to an RTS press release.

The route will run along both sides of Old Archer Road, so students do not need to worry

about crossing it, Laguna said.

She said the new route will also help eliminate crowding on buses by offering an alternate route for students who ride Route 1, Route 12, Route 22 or Route 36.

The committee also extended the East/West Circulator route, which runs from Lakeside to So-

rority Row, Laguna said.

She said the route will now loop around Southwest Depot Avenue and will go to more apartment complexes near Norman Hall, including Royal Village and Oxford Terrace.

"We're doing all we can to make students safer," Laguna said.

Around Gainesville

Nudists steamed over sea lion carcass on San Onofre beach

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif. — Some Orange County nudists are fuming over the burial of a rotting sea lion carcass on a San Onofre beach.

The naturists said Tuesday that state parks officials buried the animal on the beach near Trail 6, which used to be clothing-optional until officials cracked down in 2008.

Allen Baylis said the dead animal's fin sticks out of the sand just a few yards from a

volleyball court near where people still sunbathe naked.

He said the stench is so overpowering it will keep people away.

The park's maintenance chief, Steve Scott, said his crews had to move the 10-foot sea lion from where it was found because of crowds and erosion on that beach.

Scott said it was not their intention to offend or inconvenience the nudists.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

■ The Gators will play their first home conference game tonight against Auburn. UF plans on using more man-to-man defense because of its poor zone defense. See Story, Page 21.



Nudists steamed over sea lion carcass on San Onofre beach

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— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sunny
56/39

visit www.alligator.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Shabbat at Hillel

Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
2020 W University Ave.

Students are invited to arrive at Hillel at 7 p.m. Friday. Services (Reform, Conservative or Orthodox) will start at 7:15 p.m., followed by free Kosher dinner at 8:30 p.m. Services continue Saturday at 10:30 a.m., followed by a Lunch and Learn at 12:45 p.m. Students will gather again at 6:30 p.m. Saturday for a Havdalah service and hot chocolate.

Information Session for UF's Seven Year B.S./M.D. Program

Jan. 14, 5 p.m.

McKnight Brain Institute, Room LG-101

There will be an information session about UF's College of Medicine's Junior Honors Medical Program. More information about this program and event can be found at <http://jhmp.sites.medinfo.ufl.edu>.

STATE

Manatee deaths hit record numbers

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — State wildlife officials say 429 manatees died in Florida last year, nearly 100 more deaths than in 2008.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said Wednesday the increased deaths can be attributed, in part, to cold stress during the winter months of 2008 and 2009.

The agency says biologists documented a record high of 56 cold stress-related deaths in 2009, more than double the five-year average.

They also found high numbers of boat-related and newborn deaths.

Biologists documented 97 boat-related deaths and 114 newborn deaths.

The preliminary numbers represent a record high in both categories for a calendar year.

Officials found 337 dead manatees in Florida in 2008. Manatees remain protected under both state and federal laws.

NATIONAL

Father in balloon boy saga denies event was a hoax

DENVER (AP) — The man who pleaded guilty in the runaway balloon saga that riveted the nation for hours says the event was not a hoax.

Richard Heene (HEE'-nee), an aspiring reality television show participant and backyard scientist, said on CNN's "Larry King Live" that he believed his 6-year-old son, Falcon, was in the balloon in October.

He says he pleaded guilty to a felony count of falsely influencing authorities to protect his Japanese wife, Mayumi, who

FORECAST

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faced deportation if convicted of a more serious crime.

Richard Heene, who was sentenced to 90 days in jail on Dec. 23, will begin serving his time Monday. Mayumi Heene pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor of knowingly filing a false report with emergency services and was sentenced to 20 days in jail.

DC gay marriage opponents want referendum

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Opponents of a bill that would allow gay marriage in D.C. want to put a measure on the ballot to let voters weigh in.

Opponents filed paperwork with the Board of Elections and Ethics on Wednesday to try to put the referendum on the ballot. Previous similar attempts have been unsuccessful.

D.C. passed a bill in December that would let gay couples marry. Because the city is a federal district, the law is currently pending a period of review by Congress.

Also Wednesday, opponents of gay marriage were in court for a hearing in a lawsuit against the elections board.

They are seeking to overturn the elections board's refusal to allow a separate initiative on the ballot that would define marriage in the city as between a man and woman.

Woman, 82, accused of having gun in post office

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — An 82-year-old Maine woman faces charges after she tried to carry a concealed handgun into a federal building in Augusta.

Imelda Yorkus, of Whitefield, said she forgot she had the gun when she tried to go to the post office in the Edmund S. Muskie Federal building on Tuesday afternoon. Security officers in the building discovered the weapon when it set off a metal detector.

Police Sgt. Christopher Massey said Yorkus made no attempt to hide the gun and there's no evidence she had any malicious intentions.

Nevertheless, Yorkus faces charges of carrying a concealed weapon without a permit.

Yorkus told the Kennebec Journal she made a "stupid mistake."

Man tries to avoid arrest in women's clothes

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Knoxville police have arrested a man they said assaulted an officer and then changed into women's clothing in an attempt to disguise himself.

The Knoxville News Sentinel reported a 19-year-old man was arrested Monday night on charges including DUI, assault on an officer, resisting arrest and burglary.

He also has four outstanding warrants.

Knoxville Police Department spokesman Darrell DeBusk said the suspect assaulted Officer Andrew Gyorfí after the teen was pulled over at about 8 p.m. for driving a car that had been reported stolen in Chattanooga.

He then ran to a nearby public housing project and entered a woman's apartment, putting on her clothes and leaving his there.

He was arrested about two hours later while walking down the street wearing women's shoes, pants and jacket.

One-ton fake pig delivers birthday greeting

FRANKENMUTH TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — A Michigan man is enjoying a pink, one-ton surprise delivered for his 60th birthday.

The Saginaw News reported Dennis Krafft pulled into his driveway in Saginaw County's Frankenmuth Township on Tuesday and was greeted a giant pink pig.

The fake animal was dressed in superhero garb with a black mask and red cape.

A truck with a crane deposited pig at the home about 75 miles northwest of Detroit. Krafft said it's got a "beautifully spiraled tail."

Friend Alan R. Weiss temporarily got custody of the fake pig when he bid about \$600 on a "Mystery Box" at a fundraiser for the Frankenmuth Historical Association.

The 59-year-old wasn't aware that the pig was part of the package.

The pig was a prop in the Drew Barrymore movie "Whip It."

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

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NATIONAL

Mormon missionaries struggle to find followers

By **CJ Pruner**
Alligator Writer

Editor's Note: This is the third installment in a four-part series. For the first two parts of the series, see Alligator.org.

The Grind

Every day at 6:30 a.m., a small, compact clock-radio breaks the stillness of Mormon missionaries James Tate and Marques Schroeder's two-bedroom apartment, announcing the arrival of a new day. Rolling out of his inflated mattress, a groggy Tate takes four to five steps toward the door to the hallway. Schroeder follows.

Flipping the lights, they trudge toward the living room, which has a white table filled with portraits of Jesus, scripture and a cluster of hand-scribbled notes.

As they mount the staircase and cautiously thump down the hallway, they briefly confer on who should take the first shower, which falls to Tate. After rinsing off the sweat and build-up from the prior day's work, he dries off and makes his way to the walk-in closet located in his room.

With a slight turn to the right and a flick of the light switch, Tate's wardrobe options reveal themselves

to him. The parade of white shirts and dark slacks do little for innovation but serve as a daily reminder of the simple lifestyle he must lead.

After dressing, his eyes fall upon the tie rack. His only shot at splicing some creativity into the outfit, Tate goes with a purple tie, nonchalantly fluttering it into the same knot he has tied for the past 10 years.

Schroeder, whose wardrobe nearly set him back \$1,000, does likewise.

"He paid how much for that?" asked Tate, who only spent between \$500 and \$600 on his missionary clothes.

The tandem spend the next two hours studying scripture. After their spiritual reflection, they strap on their helmets and hop on their bicycles for the mile-long journey to the UF campus.

Once they reach their destination, they go around preaching the message of their faith. Many will hear it, very few will listen.

For those who do, the missionaries set up teaching lessons where they introduce the tenants of their faith.

"A lot of people think we're Amish or that we live in the mountains with our wives," Schroeder said. "Some of the stuff that they come up with is actually quite hilarious."

"A lot of people think we're Amish or that we live in the mountains with our wives."

Marques Schroeder
Mormon missionary

Although they are more than willing to hear the missionaries' explanations, most quickly balk at an invitation to worship at a Sunday service or set up a teaching appointment.

With the exception of the hour-long breaks they take for lunch and dinner, they do this until the sun fizzles out of the sky.

A Carnation of Hope

Darrell Janson views success a lot differently than most people.

Although the specks of gray that frost his temples illustrate the years of yore, Janson can firmly recall his youthful years as a Mormon missionary in Germany. Full of energy and zeal, he couldn't wait to spread his church's message in a far away land.

There was just one problem — nobody was converting. In his first five months in Germany, he couldn't baptize one person.

"It was incredibly frustrating; I couldn't help but think that I was doing something wrong," he said.

"You get humbled pretty quickly."

Eventually, after hundreds of refusals, there was an answer. An elderly woman named Charlotta became intrigued at what the missionaries had to offer. After a few months of investigating, she agreed to be baptized.

When she emerged from the water, her eyes locked on a white carnation in the distance. She turned to the young Janson and pointed at the flower, excitement radiating from her face.

"Now I'm as pure and clean as that," she beamed.

Although he would go on to baptize five more people while in Germany, that first one holds a special place in Janson's heart.

"I could've just had that one moment of joy and it would've been more than enough for the two years that I was there," he said. "That is the definition of true success."

According to the National Council of Churches, the Mormon Church is the second-fastest growing church in the United States and Canada, only falling behind the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Although high birth rates contribute to the figure, the steady increase throughout the years can be attributed to the Mormon missionaries' efforts to spread their message across the world.

In 2008 alone, more than 260,000 people were baptized into the church, according to statistics provided by the church.

One of the religion's main selling points, according to Janson, who now serves as a bishop and a coordinator of Latter Day Saints seminaries and institutes, deals with the church's steadfast stance of moral issues, particularly those relating to the family structure.

"We don't bend with the wind of social change based on what society believes at the time," he said. "If it's of God, then it's not going to be something of this world."

Another key to the church's appeal, he insists, is based on the high example that missionaries set when they go out into the public sphere.

"People see their character, their morals and the way they carry themselves and think to themselves, 'That's what I want to be,'" he said. "You can see their happiness, but to understand it, you have to immerse yourself in it."

Tate and Schroeder, Janson believes, serve as those prime examples.

"They're both hard workers, caring, compassionate and have great relationship skills," he said. "If they have any personal struggles, they keep it to themselves. They are incredibly focused missionaries."



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Police still searching for Santa Fe student's shooters

■ DRUGS TAKEN FROM APT.

By **KATHERINE BEIN**
Alligator Staff Writer

Gainesville police are still searching for the two men involved in the fatal shooting of

Santa Fe College student Stacey Brown, 20, who was dead when police arrived Monday night.

Brown was visiting her friend Mannuel Shaw, 21, in his apartment in Pine Ridge when the men forced their way in, said GPD Capt. Ed Book.

One of the men fired two shots when Shaw threatened them with an unloaded gun, and one bullet struck Brown in the back and traveled through her chest, Book said.

The motive has been determined as robbery, as some drugs

and a small amount of cash were taken from the apartment.

Police cannot tell if Brown was the intended target, he said.

The suspects are described as black males between the ages of 25 and 30.

One may have tattoos on his

hands or a long goatee, Book said.

Anyone with information about the car or the men are asked to call Det. Mike Schentrup at 352-334-2471.

To give an anonymous tip, call 352-372-7867.

Fla. sheriff fears missing lottery winner murdered

His mother said people always asked for money

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAKELAND — In 2006, Abraham Shakespeare — a truck driver's assistant who lived with his mother — won \$30 million in the Florida lottery. His good fortune may have cost him his life.

Shakespeare vanished months ago. His mother hopes he is somewhere in the Caribbean, lying on a beach and enjoying the good life away from all the hangers-on who were constantly hitting him up for money.

The sheriff has a more ominous theory: Shakespeare was killed.

"There are a lot of odd and bizarre circumstances in this case," Sheriff Grady Judd said. "We fear and are preparing for the worst. We're working this case as if it were a homicide."

On Wednesday, Judd said investigators have a "person of interest" in the disappearance: a 37-year-old woman who befriended

Shakespeare after he won the lottery.

Judd said Dorice Donegan "DeeDee" Moore has information about Shakespeare.

Shakespeare, 43, won the big jackpot after buying a lottery ticket at a convenience store in a town called Frostproof, claiming later that he gave the last \$3 in his pocket to a homeless man just before the winning numbers were announced.

Shakespeare — who had a criminal record that included arrests and prison time for burglary, battery and not paying child support — took a lump-sum payment of \$16.9 million instead of annual installments.

He bought a Nissan Altima, a Rolex from a pawn shop, a \$1 million home in a gated community. He talked about starting a foundation for the poor and insisted the money wouldn't change him.

"I'm not a material person," he said in 2007. "I don't let material things run me. I'm on a tight budget."

The money quickly caused him problems.

A former co-worker sued him in 2007, accusing Shakespeare of stealing the winning ticket from him. Six months later, a jury ruled the ticket was Shakespeare's.

Then there were the people constantly asking him for a piece of his fortune.

"They didn't wait. They just came right after they found out he won this money," his mother, Elizabeth Walker, said recently.

She said her son was generous, paying for funerals, lending money to friends starting businesses and even giving a million dollars to a guy known only as "Big Man."

Not long after he bought the million-dollar home in early 2007, he was approached by Moore, said family and officials.

Moore — who could not be reached by The Associated Press — said she was interested in writing a book about Shakespeare's life.

She became something of a financial adviser to Shakespeare, who never graduated high school.

Property records show that Moore's company, American Medical Professionals, bought Shakespeare's home for \$655,000 last January. His mother said the last time she saw him was shortly afterward, around her birthday in February.

Detectives said Wednesday in a news release that Moore began using Shakespeare's cell phone in April 2009 to text the man's relatives and friends to have them believe it was Shakespeare attempting to contact them.

Officials also said Moore is believed to have offered to give away a home worth approximately \$200,000 in exchange for making a false report to law enforcement regarding an alleged recent sighting of Shakespeare.

Detectives say Moore also paid one of Shakespeare's relatives \$5,000 to hand deliver a birthday card containing cash to Shakespeare's mother suggesting that the card was from her son.

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HSRN#3 First time local guests. 18 years and older. Expires February 28, 2010

Nigerian indicted in plot to bomb plane

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — A Nigerian man accused of trying to blow up a Detroit-bound Northwest Airlines flight on Christmas Day was indicted Wednesday on charges including attempted murder and trying to use a weapon of mass destruction to kill nearly 300 people.

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, 23, was traveling from Amsterdam when he tried to destroy the plane by injecting chemicals into a package of pentrite explosive concealed in his underwear, authorities say.

The failed attack caused popping sounds and flames that passengers and crew rushed to extinguish.

The bomb was designed to detonate "at a time of his choosing," the grand jury's indictment said.

There is no specific mention of terrorism in the seven-page indictment. But trying to use a weapon of mass destruction is a terrorism charge, U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade said.

President Barack Obama consid-

ers the incident an attempted strike against the United States by an affiliate of al-Qaida.

Abdulmutallab has told U.S. investigators he received training and instructions from al-Qaida operatives in Yemen. His father warned the U.S. Embassy in Nigeria that his son had drifted into extremism in Yemen, but that threat was never fully digested by the U.S. security apparatus.

National News

Since the failed attack, airlines and the Transportation Security Administration have boosted security in airports in the U.S. and around the world. Obama has said the government had information that could have stopped Abdulmutallab, but intelligence agencies failed to connect the dots.

Abdulmutallab faces up to life in prison if convicted of attempting to use a bomb on the plane.

He is being held at a federal prison in Milan, Mich., and a message seeking comment was left Wednesday with his lawyers, Miriam Siefert and Leroy Soles.

NATIONAL

Salvation army left short

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The The Salvation Army thought it had received a grand gift ahead of Christmas — a \$25,000 check. But the donation turned out to be an expensive hoax that may force the charity to cut back on winter assistance for the needy.

Investigators said Wednesday that more than a dozen Charleston-area charities received fake checks before Christmas purporting to be gifts from a genuine local company.

None of the other charities cashed theirs, but The Salvation Army deposited its check. It spent some of the money on food and toys for about 100 families, counting on the check to clear.

The bank called two days before Christmas to say the check had bounced, and the agency was left with less money than planned to help the needy this cold January.

"It's a matter of counting on that so we would have a cushion," said Kiki Cooper, the director of development for the local chapter. She said the single check represented about 10 percent of what The Salvation Army typically raises during the holiday season.

The check and accompanying letter appeared to come from Force Protection Inc., an armored vehicle manufacturer in Ladson. The letter said the company had enjoyed success and wanted to share with local charities.

Other charities called the company about the unsolicited donations and Force Protection sent out a memo Dec. 17 — the same day The Salvation Army deposited their check — saying it had been the victim of a holiday scam.

Officers were investigating but there had been no arrests in the case as of Wednesday, said Maj. John Clark of the Charleston County Sheriff's Department.

Tommy Pruitt, a spokesman for Force Protection, said the checks were written on a company bank account that had been closed months ago. He said he did not want to speculate on who might be responsible.

"It's a matter of counting on that so we would have a cushion."

Kiki Cooper

the director of development for the local Salvation Army

Cooper said the check arrived at the busiest time of year for the charity.

"People say why don't you check every check? We have old ladies who send us a dollar, and we're talking at this time of year we have anywhere from 500 to 1,000 checks coming in a week," she said.

Cooper said people were already offering to help offset the loss.

"We've actually had a couple of people walking in dropping off \$20. We have that at Christmas, never in January," she said.

Nationally, The Salvation Army raises about \$500 million each holiday season — about 40 percent of its yearly donations.

Gift checks sometimes bounce or credit card charges get rejected, said Jennifer Byrd, a spokeswoman for the national organization. "But it's so inconsequential in the overall giving we receive."

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Editorial

It takes two Indie SG parties smart to rejoin

It's almost that time again.

That time when no one is safe from the mass of blue, orange and red fliers.

That time known as Student Government elections.

However, this cloud does have a silver lining because there will only be two SG parties hounding you every time you walk through Turlington Plaza instead of three.

The Orange and Blue Party and the Progress Party have finally made amends and rejoined to try once more to defeat the behemoth known as the Unite Party (you know, that little ole' party currently holding 87 Senate seats and the executive branch.)

Party officials from the new, nameless, super-indie party (or is it just a regular indie party now since they broke up two semesters ago?) say the parties share a desire to give students a stronger voice and to make SG more transparent.

But we here at the Alligator suspect their reason for realigning may have stemmed from another issue.

It's clear to anyone with eyes that these two parties have had a measly existence the past two semesters with the Progress Party only holding seven Senate seats and the Orange and Blue Party only holding two Senate seats.

Whatever the reason may be, we're just glad to see those silly kids worked it out and put the past and bickering behind them.

Let's face it; if things continue the way they're going, the Unite Party won't just be the majority party, it'll be the only party, and that doesn't seem like much of a democracy to us.

Will we ever forget?

A group of students at a Dearborn, Mo., high school is in hot water over senior class sweatshirts depicting the number 11 as the twin towers and the school's bird mascot flying toward it above the words, "You can't bring us down."

The question is, nearly a decade later, is it still too soon for 9/11 references?

Michael Jackson jokes were acceptable the second Perez Hilton announced his death. Holocaust jokes will probably never be OK. But 9/11 falls into a gray area that no one can agree on.

Just weeks after the attack, Gilbert Gottfried joked during a Hugh Hefner roast that he couldn't get a direct flight to New York because of a detour to the Empire State Building. Definitely too soon.

But is there really any harm in students who hadn't even hit puberty at the time of the attack referencing it as a symbol of school pride?

The students were not punished because they

seemed not to mean offense. According to a Detroit Free Press article, the pardon earned the school a pat on the back from the American Civil Liberties Union—yep, the same ACLU that cried for Gainesville students' First Amendment right to wear shirts that read 'Islam is of the Devil' in red letters.

Now, though, they're happy with the absence of punishment because instead of only offending the sane, this message has the potential to offend America as a whole.

Offensive or not, though, the students should be allowed to wear the design. In its most innocent connotation, the design relates pride in a strong senior class acting as a microcosm of a strong country. At its worst, the shirts make light of an incident that still stings many Americans.

Either way, it's time to let go. To continue walking on eggshells is to perpetuate a sense of fear, and if America is going to move on, it needs to do it. All or nothing.

the independent florida
alligator

Chelsea Keenan
EDITOR

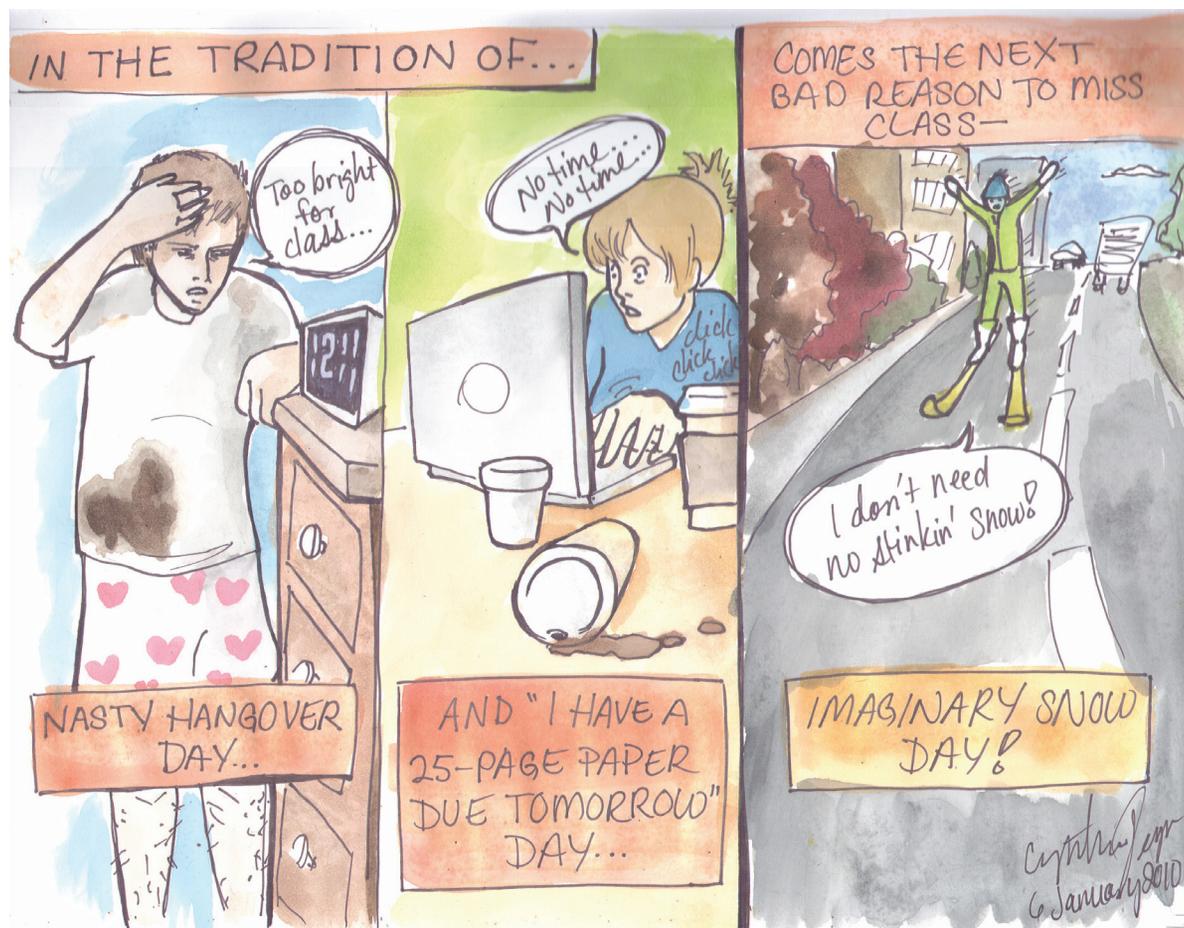
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The Alligator encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 150 words (about one letter-sized page). They must be typed, double-spaced and must include the author's name, classification and phone number. Names will be withheld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

Opinions

ALLIGATOR
www.alligator.org/opinions



Column

America has soft spot for aging rockers

The end of a decade is naturally a time for reflection, and the end of this decade has inspired overwhelmingly bad reviews from everyone who has taken the time to ponder the last ten years of depressing suckitude.

Although the desire to pile on and deliver a crushing death blow to the aughts is difficult to overcome, it is contingent upon me to find a silver lining to our decade of Enron and Viagra.

The last ten years have been exceedingly kind to old rock stars. Far from being cast onto the scrap heap of music and society, old rocker dudes have ascended over the last decade and now occupy a powerful spot atop our socio-musical structure.

The Rolling Stones are lining up stadiums to fill for their 17th annual retirement tour, and the hottest tickets in music for most of the recent past have featured bands that experienced the 1980s as taxpaying adults.

Don't get me wrong — I can't hear a good Billy Joel song without looking, to an impartial observer, like I just had a series of minor strokes, but my own dancing skills aren't important for the terms of this discussion. How can it be that our society has been sonically steered into the first years of a new century by people who were born before houses had microwaves?

This veneration of old rockers seems to be gaining steam even as the digital age threatens so many old paradigms and tired prophecies.

Our country virtually shut down when Michael Jackson mercifully died this summer, placing an international spotlight on our greatest cultural resource: the eco-friendly way we recycle popular music and pop stars. Dead superstars are an excellent source of fodder



Tommy Maple
letters@alligator.org

for our universal condemnation machine known as the 24-hour news cycle, and the cyclical nature of popularity ensures that somebody, somewhere, will always think Don Henley doesn't suck.

Since Justin Timberlake savagely revealed Janet Jackson's sad-looking boob to an audience

of millions at the Super Bowl in 2004, old rockers have absolutely dominated the entertainment at our nationwide sporting spectacles.

Michael McDonald is Yah Mo-booked for the next decade of national anthems at stadiums across our great land, thanks to our overzealous Federal Communications Commission and a teensy bit of breast.

But what is it about our venerated old rockers? Is it that they are simply the safe alternative to edgy new artists who may or may not become old rock stars themselves?

Are they clinging to a bygone era of power and influence by channeling their best years and riding as long as they can on accumulated goodwill?

Are we, as Americans, doing the very same thing geopolitically in the face of a wholly uncertain future?

I don't think I am allowed to answer that question without first getting express consent from our Chinese landlords, so I will leave it up to you to ponder that query. It sure got weird in this country, though, when the people who didn't trust anybody older than 30 got the keys to the kingdom.

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

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

Reader response

Today's question:

Do you think the merger will get the new party more votes?

Monday's question:

Are you against Obama appointing a transgender official?

32% YES

68% NO

109 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org



Guest column
Healthy Families Act necessary

Last year, in our tough economy, many of us asked for necessities and basics as holiday gifts. Among the gifts that would mean the most to families is the passage of the Healthy Families Act.

It wasn't the first time that federal legislation guaranteeing workers a minimum number of paid sick days had been introduced. Previous efforts were unsuccessful. But now, the Healthy Families Act has many Congressional co-sponsors and has been endorsed by the

Linda Meric American Forum
 Obama administration. There's something wrong when workers have to choose between keeping a job and taking care of themselves or their families. There's something wrong when going to a routine medical appointment or other preventative care could result in a pink slip. There is so much at stake here.

Linda Meric is executive director of 9to5, National Association of Working Women.

Guest column

Doctors not so 'greedy'

In his letter to the editor in Tuesday's Alligator, Kenneth Maness focused his entire letter on "greedy" doctors being the real reason for the current state of health care in the U.S. To place the majority of the blame for such a widespread problem on one group of professionals is absurd.

He could have pointed out the billion-dollar insurance companies that are swimming in cash like Scrooge McDuck or the hospitals that charge triple for household items like aspirin. He also could have ranted about occupations that glean their success from the expense of others. Some of these include Wall Street traders, billionaire bankers and even casino owners. All of these make significantly more than physicians, but they thrive on the weakness of others.

Perhaps Mr. Maness does not know what a typical doctor goes through to become a physician, so I will refresh his memory. Most doctors have to complete a minimum of eight years of schooling after high school, during which they are self-supportive. With in-state tuition for Florida medical schools being about \$40,000 per year for state residents, most graduates find themselves about \$115,000 in debt.

These numbers are significantly higher elsewhere nationwide and for out-of-state medical school students. After successfully completing

Jordan Miller Speaking Out
 medical school and amassing large amounts of debt, physicians then must complete another three to seven years of training during their residency programs. During this time, they are meagerly compensated for their time. Most physicians in residency end up making about minimum wage and work 80 to 100 hours per week. Clearly, it is easy and inexpensive to become a physician, so naturally they should not be paid much for their services. Or so Mr. Maness thinks.

I would suggest next time Mr. Maness has a medical problem, perhaps he should take care of it himself. This seems to be the best route for him because he does not want to compensate a highly trained professional for their expert opinion and service. Doctors are paid more than other professionals because they know and do more. I don't know anyone who wants to go to "Bill's Bargain Surgery Barn." It is not fast food, it's your health. If you do not want to pay for it, don't. Most physicians actually want to help humanity. So before you go pointing fingers at doctors for causing all the problems with health care, think about the facts.

Jordan Miller is a senior health science major.

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Pending cuts force Special Olympics to ax events

■ YEAR-END ASSETS FELL NEARLY \$30M.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Tommy Sliva takes great pride in his Special Olympics medals because they show he can ski better than many of his friends without special needs.

But the 19-year-old with Down Syndrome won't get to compete in the giant slalom at the Indiana winter games this year because they have been canceled.

"He was very sad. He said, 'Why, Mom?' Of course, he doesn't understand all of the financial situation," said Veronika Sliva, of Indianapolis.

It's been a rough two years for the Special Olympics, which endured the death of founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver in August and has seen sponsorship money dry up because of the poor economy. The Washington-based parent organization lost tens of millions of dollars when the stock market tanked in

2008. And many state affiliates have had to cut costs by trimming staff, canceling entire competitions or eliminating certain events.

Kirsten Suto Seckler, a spokeswoman for Special Olympics, said the movement has recently expanded into 20 new countries and now has more than 3 million participants from 160 nations. But she acknowledged that the decline in sponsorship and fundraising has forced some state affiliates to make tough decisions.

State affiliates raise their own funds and operate on their own budgets, but they also receive support and programming help from headquarters.

Groups across the country say they have tried to cut administrative costs first so that athletes aren't affected. But that hasn't been possible everywhere.

In Northern California, a lack of funding forced the cancellation of mountain sports like snowboarding and alpine skiing at its upcoming winter games. Affiliate spokeswoman Kirsten Cherry said it was hard to have to cut events, but that

the snow sports were axed because they had relatively few participants and cost a lot.

"Most of our athletes are involved in two or three sports. They can move on and still have something to do in the year," Cherry said.

She said many athletes were disappointed by the decision but understood the reasons.

"They see people losing jobs, they see the cutbacks," Cherry said.

National News

Oregon canceled its games last year and doesn't expect to reinstate them this year. But spokesman Mark Evertz said the organization tried instead to send athletes to smaller competitions in the state.

Jeff Mohler, vice president for programs for Special Olympics Indiana, said the skiing and snowshoeing events made sense to cut. They were the most expensive events and had seen 20 percent declines in participation each of the last two years. Only 147 of more than 10,000 athletes statewide participated in the two sports.

North Dakota plans to stage its winter games this month after taking 2009 off because of a lack of funding. The affiliate has taken steps to reduce administrative costs, including reducing staff and travel and having employees take turns shoveling when it snows.

Special Olympics Tennessee hasn't cut athletic events, but it has stopped allowing new participants in some events, and cut participation in some cases. It has also frozen salaries, canceled retirement contributions, limited travel and reduced office expenses, president Alan Bolick said.

"If contributions don't come back this year, or if we can't find new avenues for donations, then we will likely be faced with both eliminating some events and some staff by end of the year," Bolick said.

Dave Kerchner, who heads the Kentucky affiliate, said his group has left some staff positions vacant for the first time in memory.

"I've been on enough discussions with other execs to know the consternation over this been equal in all states. It's very difficult times,"

Kerchner said.

And Massachusetts has curtailed special events such as dances and opening ceremonies to save costs. It is paying for participants in its March winter games to stay overnight for one instead of two nights, saving about \$175,000.

Special Olympics Inc. saw its year-end assets fall to \$58.4 million in 2008 from \$87.8 million in 2007, a 33 percent drop, according to its most recent annual report. Much of that was due to a 36 percent decline in its trust from sales of the "A Very Special Christmas" albums. Due to investment losses while the stock market tanked, the size of that trust fell to \$38.9 million in 2008 from \$60.7 million in 2007.

Veronika Sliva said it's sad her son won't get to compete in the Indiana games this year and to hear the crowd cheering his name as he hurtles down the slopes. Skiing is special for him because it distinguishes him from friends without special needs who can't ski, she said.

"He feels like this is something he can do better than normal kids," she said.

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University of Florida Performing Arts is supported in part by University of Florida Student Government.

Events, dates, times and programs are subject to change.

NATIONAL

US mother, baby girl killed by elephant in Kenya

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NAIROBI, Kenya — A lone elephant charged out of the brush as an American family was hiking near Mount Kenya and trampled to death a mother and the 1-year-old daughter she held in her arms, officials said Wednesday.

Four adults and the baby were walking with an unarmed guide just outside Mount Kenya National Park on Monday morning when the elephant charged, said Kenya Wildlife Service official Michael Kipkeu.

The family was hiking on a nature trail about 1 mile (2 kilometers) from the Castle Forest Lodge, where the family was vacationing, said the owner, Melia van Laar.

"The elephant emerged from

the bush at full speed without any warning," van Laar said. "Everybody ran away, but the lady, burdened by the weight of the baby, perhaps, or in panic, was not able to run fast enough."

Officials identified the woman as Sharon Brown, 39, and said her daughter's name was Margaux. Brown, originally from New York, and her husband are listed as faculty members at the International School of Kenya. Friends and colleagues at the American-curriculum K-12 school held a memorial service Wednesday.

Walking tours of Kenya's many national parks are common, though hikers are advised to have an armed guard with them if the park is known to have elephants, said Kentice Tikolo, a spokeswoman for the Kenya Wildlife

"The elephant emerged from the bush at full speed without any warning.

Everybody ran away, but the lady, burdened by the weight of the baby, perhaps, or in panic, was not able to run fast enough."

Melia van Laar

Castle Forest Lodge owner

Service.

"It was a lone elephant and lone elephants can be quite dangerous," Tikolo said. "It probably felt quite threatened."

Tikolo said deaths by charging elephants are rare in Kenya, though they happen about once a year.

Because the Castle Forest

Lodge lies just outside the boundary of Mount Kenya National Park, the family was walking with a hotel guide, who is not allowed to carry a gun, said Tikolo. The national park is about 180 miles (300 kilometers) north of the capital, Nairobi.

Brown was a 1989 graduate of Miller Place High School on eastern Long Island, New York, and was a graduate of Binghamton State University with a degree in psychology, said her father, John Laurie. She later received a masters in library.

She joined the Peace Corps in 1999 and spent two years in Bangladesh before being transferred after the Sept. 11 attacks. Later, she worked for the Peace Corps in Uganda.

"She was an excellent student

and beautiful person," Laurie said. "She was loved by everybody and loved to travel extensively."

After leaving the Peace Corps, Brown returned to New York briefly before working for a year as a librarian at Antioch University New England in Keene, New Hampshire, her father said.

She went to the International School of Kenya about four years ago, where she worked as a librarian and teacher; her husband taught there as well.

Laurie, whose wife died in 1999, said he visited his daughter's home on the northern end of the Serengeti last February and March. "We had a wonderful time," he said. "Her daughter had been born the previous Dec. 14, so we got to spend time with her.

Census calls for local involvement

By ERICA JOHNSON

Alligator Contributing Writer

The local census office is calling all UF students to get involved in the upcoming 2010 census, which ends April 1.

Norm Sassner, the local census office manager, said part-time jobs as census takers, supervisors and crew leaders are still available.

Sassner urged locals to get involved in this year's census.

"They know the neighborhood and they know the community, making it easier for them to gather information than a stranger in a particular area," Sassner said.

Gainesville spokesman Bob Woods said this year's census questionnaire will have 10 questions on it. The topics covered include race, gender, age and number of occupants per household, Woods said.

But even those without homes will be counted.

"During a given time, we will actually go out and do a headcount and try to gather as much information from the homeless as we do from [homeowners]," Sassner said.

For more information, call 866-861-2010 or visit www.2010censusjobs.gov.



AP Photo

BURN NOTICE

A member of the Bridge Crew watches over a fire line Wednesday in case the prescribed burn jumps the line and ignites on the other side of Kings Pinnacle in Crowders Mountain State Park in Gastonia, N.C. The reasons for the burn were decades of forest refuse.

Abrupt Democratic retirements show tough landscape

Lost seats could hurt Dems in blocking GOP filibuster

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Two longtime Senate Democrats suddenly abandoned re-election bids, and so did a Democratic swing-state governor, underscoring the perilous political environment for President Barack Obama's party as anti-incumbent sentiment ripples across the nation. But stunning as they were, the retirements weren't as bad as they might have seemed for the Democrats.

Embattled Connecticut Sen. Chris Dodd was all but forced to quit, and North Dakota Sen. Byron Dorgan also ditched his re-election effort in the face of a difficult race. Dodd's announcement Wednesday may actually save the Democrats' hold on his seat — the party quickly recruited a stronger candidate — but Dorgan's re-

irement may cost the party a seat in his Republican-leaning state. And that would mean the loss of a critical 60th vote in the Senate.

Among governors, Democrats were heartened by two developments that cleared the way for stronger candidates not tainted by incumbency: Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, among the most vulnerable for re-election, chose not to seek a second term, and Michigan Lt. Gov. John Cherry, the Democratic front-runner to replace term-limited Gov. Jennifer Granholm, opted against running. Still, despite the moves, Republicans remain excited about the prospect of competitive races in those states.

Combined, the no-campaign decisions highlighted the challenges facing Obama's party. The Democrats are seeking to hang

onto comfortable majorities in Congress and a slim edge among governors in a year when voters are angry at lawmakers of all political stripes and likely to punish the party in power.

The bottom line for Obama: Losing even one seat in the Senate would make it more difficult to block Republican filibusters.



Dodd

All told, the latest developments mean 2010 is sure to see a slew of competitive races, though it's unlikely — at this point — that Republicans will win enough seats to retake control of either the House or Senate. Democrats currently control the Senate 58-40, and the two independents also typically vote with the party. The

House is now 256-178 for the Democrats with one vacancy.

Congress is expected to pass Obama's health care overhaul soon, but it will take years for that policy to be implemented and Democratic lawmakers' support will be crucial. Climate change legislation also hangs in the balance. With no re-election looming, retiring Democratic lawmakers have little incentive to fall in behind the White House on its priorities.

This week's are only the latest Democratic retirement announcements, accompanied by several in the House and the recent defection of Alabama Rep. Parker Griffith to the GOP, in a dispiriting trend for a party that had been soaring after winning control of Congress and the White House in back-to-back elections. The losses could hamper candidate recruitment, activist enthusiasm, and grass-roots fundraising.

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University Auditorium



Hairspray

Hairspray, Brooklyn Pulver and Constantine Rousouli in the national tour of Hairspray ©2006 Phil Martin.

All performances above are at the Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts unless otherwise noted. Events, dates, times and programs are subject to change.

* Plus applicable sales tax (final purchase price \$10.50).

*\$10 student tickets are available at the Phillips Center Box Office and the University Box Office. Each UF student may buy one student-priced ticket per event. Students must present their valid ID (must be valid at time of purchase and the time of performance) to be sold a ticket. Tickets are limited and subject to availability.

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For more information, call the Phillips Center Box Office at 352-392-2787 or visit www.performingarts.ufl.edu

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

feline frenzy!



Photo courtesy of Joan Marcus

Broadway phenomenon "Cats" opens at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts this weekend. But don't expect kitties to be on stage. These animals still have their claws and crazy costumes, too. Tickets can be purchased at the Phillips Center Box Office or any Ticketmaster location.

page 13

music 🎵

Michael Cera gets dangerous for 'Youth In Revolt' film

By JON SILMAN
avenue writer

What do Michael Cera, sex-crazed teenagers and gratuitous violence have in common? They are all mashed up in the new film "Youth in Revolt," a teen sex comedy opening nationwide in theaters tomorrow. You may have, by now, been exposed to the subtly salacious trailer or seen the posters with Cera's boyish face around campus.

The movie involves anti-teen heartthrob Michael Cera as the cynical and sex-crazed 16-year-old Nick Twisp, vying for the affections of Sheeni Saunders (played by newcomer Portia Doubleday). Saunders is not into the wimpy, quiet type, so Twisp creates another persona, a French persona, named Francois. Francois is a badass with a mustache, but he ends up making Twisp a wanted criminal.

This film was not plucked out of obscurity. It's actually based on a series of books written by Harvard-educated author C.D. Payne. Payne was 44 when he wrote the first book in 1993

and has been writing the Twisp story ever since, with book six released in 2006.

"Youth In Revolt" was written 16 years ago. Since then, there has been the advent of beepers, cell phones and Internet porn, to name a few things Twisp didn't have in the early '90s.

"It could be argued that Youth in Revolt had such a convoluted trek to the screen because it was ahead of its time. It was very close to receiving a green light at one studio when an executive killed the project because he said R-rated teen comedies couldn't find an audience. This was a few months before 'American Pie' roared onto the scene," Payne wrote in an e-mail.

Payne's series focuses on male teenage sexual angst, and he drew inspiration from his disturbing middle school experiences, which he calls the nadir of his life, to create Twisp's character.

"One does not forget such traumas, even when one has reached the lofty age of 40," he wrote. "I would say about 23.7 percent of Nick is actually me. The rest is entirely made up."

"It could be argued that Youth in Revolt had such a convoluted trek to the screen because it was ahead of its time. It was very close to receiving a green light at one studio when an executive killed the project because he said R-rated teen comedies couldn't find an audience. This was a few months before 'American Pie' roared onto the scene."

C.D. PAYNE
author

With Michael Cera's Tiger Beat popularity and every-guy awkwardness, it's easy to see why he was chosen for the role of Twisp. The question burning in the minds of females everywhere is: What is he like in person?

"Micheal Cera is even more adorable in real life than on the screen. He's a very funny guy

with a razor-sharp dry wit," Payne wrote.

It's not hard to see why Hollywood has come knocking on Payne's door — it's a symbiotic relationship that benefits both parties. If the movie is a success, there are a wealth of novels to march down the aisle as sequels. And as for the author, it can't hurt book sales. Payne said he wants people to walk away from the movie with an "extreme and overwhelming desire to read the novel."

Thankfully for Payne, there's a lot of press surrounding this movie. CollegeHumor.com is hosting a contest in which you dress up like Francois and "wreak public havoc." Whoever submits the most revolting video wins a trip to Vegas.

Payne has a good reason for wanting this movie to do well.

"The first sequel, 'Revolting Youth,' has been optioned by Weinstein Films, so if the movie does well, there might indeed be a follow-up. I hope so, 'cause they're on the hook to pay me considerably more this next time. Even more reason for everyone to see the movie!"

THIS WEEK:

PG 13: A review of the Sex and the City 2 movie trailer

PG 14: What's in and what's out for 2010

ONLINE: Lane Nieset offers fashion resolutions to keep your style fresh this year
www.alligator.org/the_avenue

REGULARS:

SEX: sexToon, page 13, and he says she says, page 14

FASHION: Stay stylish and warm in capes, page 12

COMING UP:

Next week, dance group Groovaloo comes to town. Plus, why we still love Chris Brown.

A-LIST

New Year. New YOU! Vow to lose some of that beer belly this decade by spending more time at the gym. Head over to the Student Rec Center or Southwest Rec for fun classes like kickboxing and zumba. Or sign up for the group fitness instructor training course starting Jan. 19.

the guide to DINING OUT

american

Cafe Gardens

For over a third of a century, the Original World Famous Cafe Gardens has been serving Gators with delicious food and a large selection of beers and wines. Located just across from campus near the Florida Book Store, this quaint landmark establishment with award winning courtyard dining is perfect for any date or gathering. For live music schedule, call 376-2233. Hours: Mon-Wed 11am-10pm, Thurs-Sat 11am-11pm, Sun Noon-9pm
1643 NW 1st Ave

Gator Dawgs

We have 26 styles of hot dogs to choose from. Chicago, Heart attack, Frito, Colombia, etc. Even create your own. Our burgers are prepared daily and cooked to order. Our fresh deli sandwiches come with over 1/4 lb of meat. Check out our full menu at GatorDawgs.com. Several delicious vegetarian & vegan options. We are located at 1023 W University Ave. 378-4353

J. Doobies

The Home of Wraps and Stacks. The only way to describe the Stack is that is outrageously delicious! Its uniquely different presentation—three 6 inch flour tortillas stacked high with fresh grilled ingredients and just the right accent of cheese— is strangely inviting to one's palate. Come out & try our 1/3 lb Burgers, steak seasoned Panchos, & Fresh Baked Brownies. Many vegetarian options available including the Home Grown and Homemade Black Bean Hummus! Now serving draft and Red Stripes beers! We deliver! Open late to serve your late night cravings! Sun-Wed: 11am-3am. Thurs-Sat: 11am-4am. 34th St Plaza (Sweetbay) @ 2124 SW 34th St 672-6111 www.jdoobies.com

barbecue

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Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Eat-in, Takeout, Drive-thru, Catering, or Tailgating. Everyone loves David's BBQ because, unlike ordinary BBQ places, David's cooks over a real wood fire! Eat where the locals eat! Voted #1 BBQ in Gainesville! Approved caterer for UF's Emerson Alumni Hall. Mon-Sat 7am - 9pm. Sundays open at 8am. Drive Thru until 9:30pm 7 days! 352-373-2002. Have David's BBQ delivered by Gatorfood.com. FREE WIFI. 5121 NW 39th Ave www.davidsBBQ.com

breakfast and lunch

Bagels Unlimited

Serving Gainesville for over 25 years. BU is a tradition of sorts. We offer many breakfast platters cooked fresh, featuring omelettes, eggs any style, large pancakes, French Toast, Knishes, 17 varieties of bagels and a large assortment of spreads. Also available are tofu and tempeh. Over 100 bottles of hot sauces are available for sampling. 1222 West University Ave. Open everyday from 6:30am-3pm.

chinese

Golden Buddha

Where eating well means eating healthy...Gainesville's best Chinese food. Now with more sizes available with more vegan options. As always, generous portions, fast service & super lunch/dinner combos. FREE DELIVERY. 613 NW 16th Ave. 372-4282 or 380-9076. Full menu and specials @ GoldenBuddhaSpecial.com

cracker cuisine

The Yearling

Come taste the cuisine of old Florida! Try our traditional items including venison, quail, frog legs, and alligator, as well as USDA Prime beef, seafood, grits, greens & hush puppies. Open Thursday & Friday 5pm-10pm, Saturday 12pm-10pm & Sunday 12pm-8:30pm. 14531 East County Road 325 352-466-3999 www.theyearlingrestaurant.com

cuban

Omi's Kitchen

Gainesville's Best in Cuban, Italian, and Mexican Cuisine. New menu items prepared daily! Come try our famous Cuban sandwiches and slow roasted pork. We cater 7 days a week! Visit us in the Tower Square 2 miles from Butler Plaza at 5729 SW 75th Street. 373-0301

frozen treats

D'Lites Emporium

Healthy never tasted so good! D'Lites has the lowest calorie ice cream in Gainesville—REALLY—and is the only low-calorie soft serve with NO artificial sweeteners. We rotate over 100 d'licious creamy flavors (see this week's at www.gatordlites.com) that are diet-friendly without the diet taste. We also feature a

frozen treats

whole array of cookies, chips, and various grocery treats that appeal to Atkins®, Weight Watchers®, and other dieters. Our every day daily specials make shopping at D'Lites a special value! Come weigh your options at the Marketplace Plaza at NW 16th Blvd. and 43rd St. (next to the Hollywood Video) or at the Shoppes of Williston at S.W. 34th Street and Williston Rd. (next to Publix) 375-4484 Find us on Facebook!

Karma Cream

Serving ORGANIC and fair trade ice cream, coffee, desserts, loose leaf teas, and beer, with lots of vegan options. Now open 24 hours. Free WIFI! Located 2 blocks east of campus at 1025 W. University Ave. 505-6566

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Try our premium self-serve frozen yogurt as a healthy dessert alternative. Our yogurt has 0% fat and contains live and active cultures. Choose any combination of 8 different flavors and over 30 toppings. Everything for just 45 cents an ounce. 3841 SW Archer Rd (next to Bento Red) Open from noon to midnight daily!

Yogaberry

OPEN LATE—ACROSS FROM THE UNIVERSITY IN TARGET COPY! Come build your healthy treat at Yogaberry! Our yogurt is 100% fat free and the only yogurt that is made with real organic milk. Choose from an array of fresh fruit toppings cut daily, candies and fun cereal. New flavors for you to try daily, and always free samples! In addition, we have the finest organic, free-trade coffee. Our coffee bar features lattes, cappuccino's, espresso, cuban coffee's, yoga mocha's and much more!

homestyle cooking

Let's Eat Diner

The best kept secret inGainesville, Let's Eat Diner is a small diner just off the beaten path on 39 Ave at NW 22 Dr. Open Mon-Sat 7am till 8pm serving breakfast, lunch, and supper and Sunday 11am till 2pm with a lunch buffet. We serve home style cookin'... "Just like Momma used to fix." 352-378-0738 www.letseatdiner.com Oh yeah, we also do catering!

indian and vegetarian

Green Mango

The best Indian food in Gainesville. Serving Gainesville since 1991. The best Samosas in Florida. Offering many vegan dishes. We are specialized in catering any group size. Delivery available-free delivery on any purchase over \$25! Open 7 days Mon-Sat 11:30am-9pm, Sunday 1pm-8pm. Call 352-505-6200. 7625 W Newberry Rd

japanese

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Check out Gainesville's most popular sushi joint. Enjoy our Bento boxes, boba tea, sashimi bowls, and noodle bowls in a hip, trendy atmosphere. Two great locations with outside eating. Open every day for carry-out or dine-in. Call our Newberry Rd. location at 377-8686 or our Archer Rd. location at 224-5123.

key west style

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latin chinese

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Happy Hour \$2.75 Drink+Appetizer from 3-7pm. \$5 To-Go Dinners. Mon-Sat from 4pm. Don't miss out \$4.95 dinner + soda on Thursday, student night from 4pm-10pm. Visit us at 5150 SW 34th Street at the new Publix Shopping Center 7 days a week. We cater. Check us out on GatorFood.com 352-378-1930 www.greenplantains.com

local & organic

THE JONES

Gainesville's own independently owned community restaurant dedicated to bringing sustainable, local, and organic food to the table. Oh, and it's really yummy. Herbivores, carnivores, & omnivores welcome! NOW SERVING DINNER EVERY NIGHT! New hours: open every day 8am-10pm. Check out our facebook page for specials and events. 401 NE 23rd Avenue. 352.373.6777

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Eat Gainesville's Best Food at Mildred's. We support LOCAL and SUSTAINABLE agriculture! Start Living Healthy! LOCAL. ORGANIC. GOOD. Fresh Dishes Made From Scratch! OPEN SUNDAYS! CONVERGED PATIO—JUST MINUTES FROM CAMPUS 3445 W. University Ave. 371-1711 MildredsBigCityFood.com

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mediterranean

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For more info on the guide to dining out, contact Alligator Advertising: Brittany Fayne, 376.4482

mexican

Boca Fiesta

Best Margaritas in Town! Fresh-squeezed + all natural! Tasty tacos, burritos, nachos! Cheap beer, full bar, open late! 232 SE 1st St Downtown 336-TACO!

pizza

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Bringing experience from New York & Italy to Gainesville! Offering a variety of gourmet pizza, homemade salads, pasta, & desserts. All you can eat buffet available! Outdoor dining. Visit www.newyorkpizzaplus.com for coupons. We Deliver! 490 NE 23rd Ave. 376-3444

vegetarian

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Vegetarian and Vegan cuisine. Natural, organic, fair trade, meals, sandwiches, soups, home-baked desserts. Brunch Weekends. Specials: Cupcake Mon., Southern Cooking Tues., Greek Wed 6pm, Ethiopian Thurs 6pm. MO-TH 10am-9pm. Fri - Sun 10am-8pm. 505 NW 13th St. 384-0090

vietnamese

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kicker

Avenue gets makeover, wants your opinions

By ASHLEY ROSS
avenue editor

Welcome back, boys and girls. I hope you're ready to get 2010 off to a fresh start because the Avenue is back, revamped and ready to keep you so entertained that you get in trouble in class for reading it but don't even care.

We've got new, cutting edge stories for you covering the latest in everything from fashion and music to nightlife and sex. But we want to know what you want to see. And if you want to help create the Avenue, even better. We're open to all ideas regarding photos, columns, stories and multimedia pieces.

Stop by The Alligator Friday between 2 p.m. and

5 p.m. to pitch your ideas, show us your work or give us any feedback. Can't make it? E-mail us at avenueeditor@gmail.com. We want to write what you want to read, and whoever said the sky's the limit has it coming. With the Avenue, there is no limit.

Check us out online at alligator.org/the_avenue and follow us on Twitter @GatorAve.

Musical is cat's meow

By MICHELLE PROFIS
avenue writer

Cats are coming to Gainesville. No, not the kind that kick up your allergies and require a litter box. These cats are the singing and dancing kind.

"Cats," a musical that has reached international success, is coming to the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts this weekend for three performances.

This feline phenomenon was first performed in London in 1981 and made its Broadway debut in 1982. With outrageous and outlandish cat costumes, "Cats" remains a Broadway force to be reckoned with. The musical features an eclectic fusion of pop, classical, jazz and rock music.

"It's really a story that crosses cultures," said Amy Douglas, director of marketing at the Phillips Center. "Cats" is all the experiences that we as humans have, but we get to see it through the eyes of cats."

And don't think that these are ordinary cats named Kitty or Fifi. These felines have names like Old Deuteronomy, Jennyanddots and Grizabella.

Based on T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" and composed by theater proficient Andrew Lloyd Webber, "Cats" celebrates the lives and stories of a variety of dancing, prancing cats. Even those not too familiar with the musical will probably have heard songs like "Memory" or "Magical Mr. Mistoffelees."

Not only is Gainesville one of many

stops on the current national tour, but it also boasts a great history with the show. The first performance at the Phillip's Center was "Cats" in 1992.

"It's just the universality of the show that makes it such a favorite with the Gainesville community," Douglas said. Known as a Broadway phenomenon, "Cats" has made its way into the hearts of audiences worldwide throughout its 27-year run: It's been acted throughout five continents, translated into 20 languages and performed in 26 countries.

Jason Wise, the actor who currently plays Tumblebrutus, an energetic and playful feline, could not be more excited to bring this show to Gainesville.

Wise, 20, first dreamed of starring in "Cats" at age 10 when he sat in the last row in the top balcony of a performance. Now, every time he takes a bow he glances up to the balcony and wonders what young actor is sitting up there with the same aspirations.

The unique details in the show have helped make "Cats" the force that it is today. After winning seven Tony awards in 1983, including Best Musical, "Cats" has become the longest continuously touring Broadway musical in history.

Performances are Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Tickets range from \$34 to \$66, except student tickets, which are \$10, and can be purchased at the Phillips Center Box Office or any Ticketmaster location. And remember, no anti-allergy medication is needed.

'Sex and the City 2' trailer: no plot, but lots of shoes

By Ashley Ross
avenue editor

◆ SPOILER ALERT!

When you're wearing metallic gold Christian Louboutin pumps, who needs a plot line?

Not Carrie Bradshaw in the new trailer for Sex and the City 2. The 1 minute, 19 second trailer released in mid-December offers a taste of what to look forward to in the long-awaited sequel. Although the clip does make it known that the girls are back (as is the fashion), it steered clear of any display of what the movie is about. But despite concealing the plot, which was far from the case with the original film's trailer, this one simply stirs the usual thrill and giddiness that comes along with hearing Sarah Jessica Parker's voiceover and an orchestrated version of the "Sex and the City" theme song.

Flashing a series of New York City sights to the beats of Alicia Keys' "Empire State of Mind," the trailer tells viewers this summer is time to "Carrie On." Now, it can be argued that using a pun with Carrie's name is quite cliché, especially considering it was done with the first film ("to get Carrie away"), but the silliness only adds to the fun of it all.

The trailer highlights the friendships, the fun and, naturally, the fashion. It gives you everything you've been waiting for: a look at Carrie in her closet, Charlotte (Kristin Davis) baking cupcakes with a baby on her hip, Miranda (Cynthia Nixon) happily married and Samantha (Kim Cattrall) — who would have guessed this one — sexing it up with a hot stranger. The best thing about the trailer — aside from the clothes — is that it focuses less on the ordinary SATC drama and more on the cherished friendships between the four girls we've all come to know and love.

Inspired by Candace Bushnell's novel, the series launched on HBO in 1998 and ran for six seasons. The episodes are now replayed on TBS, WGN and other cable channels, which have cut out explicit sexual content aired in the original episodes. But the 12-year run with the girls has made fans feel as though they're just as good of friends with each character as the characters are with each other. And the new trailer ends with a shot of the famous four strutting in flowy, fabulous outfits on vacation in the desert as Parker's familiar voice says, "Sometimes you just have to get away with the girls." It inspires the perfect, most fabulous summer vacation you could ever imagine.

But let's get down to what really matters: the fashion. The trailer shows Carrie in 14 different spectacular outfits, and even though the beloved Carrie necklace is nowhere in sight, she does wear everything from glitzy jewelry to adorable headpieces, marvelous Manolo Blahniks and even a simple J'adore Dior T-shirt. Charlotte, Miranda and Samantha are all in striking styles as well, each outfit exemplifying how meticulously one ages as a movie star.

Tabloids have exploited a few spoilers surrounding the reappearance of Smith (Jason Lewis), whom Samantha split with in the last movie, Miranda's unexpected career move, Charlotte's struggles as a mother and even a possible cheating scandal with Big (Chris Noth). But perhaps leaving the plot out of the trailer is a good thing; it just leaves us wanting more.

So shake up some cosmopolitans and rent every season and the first movie to catch up on the girls because no matter how cute and exciting the trailer may be, we've got five months until we can slip on our stilettos, book our tickets on Fandango and Carrie on.

For the trailer, visit sexandthecitymovie.com.



Alligator Staff

The Avenue has the scoop on 2010's hottest trends to keep you from being, well,
so last year.

What's IN	Technicolor prints	Avatar's Jake Sully	Shots of absinthe	Chandler Parsons	Super skinny ties	Vampire Weekend's new album
						
What's OUT	Schoolgirl plaids	Star Trek's Capt. Kirk	Sake bombs	Riley Cooper	Skinny ties	Edward Cullen's vampire clan
						

Hunter Sizemore / Alligator Staff

Sheer panties sex things up

By **JARED MISNER** and **ASHLEY McCREDIE**
 avenue writers

he says...

All right, boys, wake up.

These simple resolutions will help you score just a little bit more.

As for all you boys who like boys? Don't worry. I know your games, too. We'll get to you all soon enough.

First, those Guy Harvey T-shirts with the gaudy watercolor of a grouper, or any other type of seafood for that matter, belong in the garbage. Put it this way: Do sailfish make you want to dry hump? And for the sake of fashion and your libido, dump the jean shorts. They died with the '90s, along with your jean-short-sporting sex life.

"That's right, sex it up in different places because, let's face it, a bed can get a little old (and aren't you tired of hearing the same mattress squeaks every time?)"

ASHLEY McCREDIE
 avenue writer

Your first resolution is to go shopping for a few new additions to your lackluster wardrobe. I realize some of you boys might find this unnecessary and exhausting, but I promise you, the bedroom benefits of the newly dapper young Gator will surprise you.

ZZ Top knew what they were talking about when they said, "Every girl's crazy 'bout a sharp-dressed man."

Oh hey, you say you haven't showered in three days? Oh, and you have a 5 o'clock shadow at 9 in the morning?

Yeah, my girlfriends and I are wincing in our RTS seats as we look at you from behind our hands and whisper about you.

Ignoring shampoo and shaving cream for more than 24 hours will not make you a hipster. It's not even masculine. It's disgusting.

Take heed to my second resolution for you, boys. Pay attention to yourself for a change. Take care of yourself. Because if you don't, a sweet-smelling lady sure won't.

But I will let you in on a teeny, tiny secret: Girls and a good 10 percent of guys like to be underneath a good-smelling man.

There's a reason Gucci hasn't started bottling up the smell of sweaty, unshaven frat boy.

she says...

Welcome back my fellow females, it's time get a hold of life and realize that — OMG — it's 2010! When making resolutions for the first year of the new decade, your sex life should be at the top of your list. After all, a good sex life enhances every other part of life.

The first resolution can be conquered by even the shyest girls out there: Buy lingerie. Take a trip to the mall and do what we do best: Shop. High-tail it to Victoria's Secret and find that black lacey bra and panty set that your parents would never approve of. Or, for the more adventurous, go all the way with a sheer bra, garter belt and a matching lace-up thong.

For the single ladies out there, wearing something sexy underneath your outfit will make you feel sexier. And in return you will send out confident vibes to potential partners. You can also think of it as your own little secret that only those worthy will be let in on.

For girls who are taken, watch your boyfriend's jaw drop when you pounce in bed in your new attention-grabbing lace instead of the nude push-up bra and cotton thong that regularly adorn your body. And remember, there is no need for a special occasion. Pull it out to spice up a Wednesday night when all he's expecting is some cuddling and a movie.

With or without new lingerie, have a new sexual experience for the new year and change locations. That's right, sex it up in different places because, let's face it, a bed can get a little old (and aren't you tired of hearing the same mattress squeaks every time?) Go Luda style, "back seat, windows up," or make your own mark on the Florida Field. There is no limit on this one, just be sure not to get caught. Lastly, get to know yourself. You can't be fulfilled with anything in life until you find out what will satisfy you. And of course, none of us can read minds like Edward, so tell your man what tickles your fancy.

Get out there, ladies. Go turn some heads, makes some boys drool and unleash the updated, 2010 version of your sexy self.

fitness 

Scrawny's in for 2010

By **ERIK VOSS**
 avenue writer

Every January, after peeling off my Christmas sweater and shaking out all the sugar cookie crumbs, a pale, unchiseled torso frowns glumly back at me through the mirror.

"You'll start working out this year," I'll tell myself. "You're gonna get more ripped than Carrot Top."

Of course, I'm lying to myself. By the time I locate a gym, squeeze into an old summer camp T-shirt, admire how buff it makes me look and, panting, crawl the 20 feet to my car, I barely have enough energy to finish chewing the days-old half of a Snickers bar I found under my bed.

And besides, "Lost" is on!

At this stage in my life, the only practical benefit to regular exercise is improving my sexual attractiveness. (Health? I'm good, thanks. I voted for Obama, and he's got me covered there.) I'll pick up a dumbbell when the other channels of attracting women become obsolete.

I'm just not convinced the only route to women is on a treadmill. I've been working on a formula that includes dim lighting, alcohol, a sense of humor — maybe some cash if I make it to a second date — and that

seems to work well enough for me.

If pop culture is any indicator of female sexual desires, then Icabod is in. Coldplay's Chris Martin clings to that microphone pole as if a strong breeze might blow him away, and Joseph Gordon Levitt's starvation is so severe he constantly sweats.

If a majority of Twilight readers are members of "Team Edward," clearly there's still hope for the pale and frail.

And if you're still worried women want a bigger guy, sheep, shaggy dogs and wild turkeys provide us with an excellent solution: layering. Women deceive with makeup — why can't we do it with thick, wool sweaters?

The recent drop in temperature has given us a great excuse to hide our bony or flabby frames behind big, heavy coats. Never mind if it's only 55 degrees — in Florida, that's tundra weather. The ladies can only assume those sweatpants are covering the calves of a bike messenger.

Now, I have to admit I'm not completely happy with myself. There's always room for improvement, sure. But I'm going to feast on dust-covered caramel and try to predict Ben Linus' next move on "Lost" for as long as I can still get away with it.

See you not in the gym in 2010.

'Dead Man's Cell Phone' opens at Hipp

By **ALLISON BANKO**
 avenue writer

Some claim that the eyes are the windows to the soul. However, the truth can really be discovered in our iPhones and CrackBerries. Our photos, texts and voicemails are precious secrets we hope to keep safely concealed in our pockets. We keep our cells tightly strapped to ourselves at all times, shifting our eyes up from texting only to ensure we are able to walk across the street without getting hit by that clueless jackass in the Oldsmobile.

But imagine having that glue between you and your little darling pried off. What would happen if someone else had complete access to your cell phone, your world? Oh the secrets that they could uncover! (Cue a certain golfer who had been doing some putting around of his own). This heart-wrenching fear is played out on stage in Sarah Ruhl's comedy "Dead Man's Cell Phone" set to be performed at the Hippodrome State Theater from January 6 to 31.

Jean, a simple woman, was minding her own business in a quaint cafe when she suddenly found herself answering an abandoned cell phone. Much to her surprise, the phone belongs to a deceased man, Gordon. By answering the phone, Jean is soon sucked into Gordon's topsy-turvy life of lies, a hidden mistress and his kooky family.

"Dead Man's Cell Phone" is a production that is unparalleled not only

in its characters, but in its costumes and set designs, as well. Emmy Award-winning costume designer Marilyn Wall captures the oddities in her stylish designs.

"This play really is a feast for the eyes. The set, the lights, the costumes — it's really a spectacle that can only be experienced in a live theater," Altmeyer said.

Sure to evoke multiple laughs, "Dead Man's Cell Phone" also serves as a scope into the modern lifestyles we have adapted with our beloved technologies.

"The production poses many questions to the value we hold toward connection. We seem to be in the most contact we have ever been, and yet, we are less connected as a result. 'Dead Man's Cell Phone' allows a humorous look into this," Altmeyer said.

Under the direction of Lauren Caldwell, there will be eight shows a week. Tickets are priced at \$12 for students. For more information, visit thehipp.org.

"Dead Man's Cell Phone" is surely a production for the modern generation. And after leaving the theater, you may want to consider enabling a pass code on your mobile. After all, your secrets can all be uncovered in the pass of a finger on a screen or with the push of a button.



around gainesville

Deals help wallet, social scene

By **ALEX ORLANDO**
avenue writer

So, you're back in Gainesville from that relaxing cornucopia of holiday food, family and presents.

Your belly might be full, but your pockets are probably empty because, let's face it, the magic of Christmas isn't free. Imagine you have only \$30 left in your wallet. Here are the best deals around town to make your first weekend of spring semester a memorable one:

Friday night: The first week of classes are out of the way, so warm up a little on University Avenue before plunging into the downtown party scene.

If you're in the mood to throw back a few in an old-school bar scene, there are Balls and Salty Dog, which are positioned within about 50 feet of each other.

If you can manage to get over to Balls between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., you and your friends will be able to drink all you can for \$7.

And don't forget to eat on your drinking adventures. Further east on University Avenue, there's Mother's Irish Pub, which serves 10 wings for \$4.99 on Fridays.

There is also the Italian Gator Pizza, which serves two cheese slices with a soda for \$5.75.

By this time, it's around 10 p.m. You're full, maybe a little buzzed, and you've spent about \$12, depending on where you went.

Positioned almost directly above the Italian Gator is Grog House, a bar/night club, where, for a \$5 cover charge, you can play "beat the clock." Starting at 9 p.m., pitchers of beer cost 25 cents, and the cost increases a quarter every 15 minutes until midnight.

Maybe loud, thumping club music isn't your style. On Northwest First Avenue, Tim and Terry's — a music store and venue that doubles as a restaurant/bar and triples as a small convenience store in front — has free live and local music on Friday nights.

With your Friday night about wrapped up, you should be headed home with enough money in your pocket for tomorrow night's downtown run.

Saturday Night: Boca Fiesta, positioned next to the Hippodrome, has an exotic meat menu. This month, they have meal worm tacos for \$5. Also, for 50 cents with each shot, Boca Fiesta offers an eight ounce can of Miller Lite.

Also, on your way to the clubs is Big Uly's, a walk-up burger joint that usually has 80's rap pouring out its windows and cooks dancing in the kitchen.

If house music, laser lights and a smoky dance floor are more your scene, \$5 will get you into the Neon Liger Dance Party at Spannk night club. The club also has \$5 double wells and \$2 PBR on Saturday nights.

Your date and your wallet may also appreciate Saturday Ladies Night at 101 Downtown. The club has no cover charge and has two-for-one wells and \$3 house wines for your female friend, plus free valet parking.

By this time, it's 1 a.m. Sunday and you've probably danced yourself up another appetite. Five Star Pizza servers are out on the prowl with \$7 cheese and \$8 pepperoni pizzas for the last of your original \$30.

You split the pizza with your date and head home slightly drunk for some much-needed rest. After all, Monday morning is less than 23 hours away.



Ashley McCredie

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2010

ALLIGATOR
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\$430 per bedroom-All inclusive!
3/3 TH!! Roommate match avail
<1 mi from UF! Huge 24hr gym!
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Oxford Manor (352) 377-2777
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2's from \$789 * 3's from \$829
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4-21-09-71-1

1, 2, 3, 4BR Apts.
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\$399 all inclusive 4/4
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Roommate Match * Full Student Suites
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The coupon is good for a **\$1200 value**
Sign for a 2/2, 3/3 or 4/4 for fall 2010
Furnished. All inclusive. Student suites.
\$0 Signing Fees, 42" TV or New Sofas
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4-21-09-71-1

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Fully Furnished Rms Avail. In 4BR,
Call Drew Richards, Campus Realty,
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w/ private bath Clean, bus rte pool workout
room. Inc utilities cable internet wash/dry
\$435/mth for spr sem \$300 sec dep Jeff 904-
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Rent an entire 4BR or use Free Roommate
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\$479-\$504 * All-Inclusive * Fully-Furnished
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Rmrate wanted NOW to share very nice
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\$600 per month, utilities are included.
Two male room mates who are clean and
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Furnished Downstairs. \$450/month per
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954-598-3986. Available immediately or for
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●1BR cottage \$435/mo. Call 372-6881 or
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\$99 MOVES YOU IN!
1brs from \$539
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Wtr incl.*Pet Friendly*Spacious
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Quality & Affordability!
1br \$559 / 2br \$619--\$649
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Short term available. Private Owner. \$595-
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No deposit, No move-in fees!!!
Huge 1/1's 2/2's 3/3's
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1 For Rent: Furnished	6 Furnishings	11 Motorcycles, Mopeds	16 Health Services	21 Entertainment
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3 Sublease	8 Electronics	13 Wanted	18 Personals	23 Rides
4 Roommates	9 Bicycles	14 Help Wanted	19 Connections	24 Pets
5 Real Estate	10 For Sale	15 Services	20 Event Notices	25 Lost & Found

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Close to UF, Shands, Butler Plaza
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3 blocks to UF! Pets welcome!
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Studios - \$465, includes electric!
Wood floors available. FREE parking.
1225 SW 1 Avenue * Pets welcome
372-7111 No move-in fees!
4-21-09-71-2

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* Inclusive Pkgs Available
* Pet Friendly!
* Immediate or Fall Move In
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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
4-21-09-71-2

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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.
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Gore Rabell Real Estate 378-1387
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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 1-29-10-60-2

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\$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR, privacy fenced. SW. 352-331-2099 1-8-09-43-2

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* 2 BR from \$625
* 3 BR from \$745
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Close to UF, cute & clean 2BD/2BA
1000sq ft, storage/laundry room with W/D
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mo Phone (352) 359-8311 1-29-09-35-2

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 contrl, lawn main, security lites. Near bus rte. Sorry no pets \$635/mo Call 727-423-9463
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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
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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

2 For Rent unfurnished

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 1-7-09-10-2

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2BR \$300/br * 1BR \$599 * Studio \$720
Dorm style \$509 Roommate Matching Avail
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100+ apts: Live by UF
* Affordable & Luxury * 4BR \$479/br
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2BR/2BA, kitchen, living room, loft, laundry, patio, large 6 ft fenced backyard, small pet allowed; excellent, clean; minutes to all shops & UF. \$800/mo. Call Hal at 653-281-7414 or 800-248-7788 1-13-10-10-2

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Luxury Student Condos Close To Campus
Includes internet and utilities
From \$385 per month each.
Please call us for the details.
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1-29-09-20-2

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Includes internet & tuillities
From \$385 per month each.
Please call us for the details.
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2BR/1BA w/ small study near Shands. Large screened room w/ W/D hook-ups. Available now. \$650/mo. Sec dep \$650. Pets ok 3300 SW 23rd St. Apt #1. Call 352-371-3473 leave message. 1-15-10-10-2-

Townhouse 2BR/1.5BA, WD hook-up. New kitchen w/ private courtyard. \$700/mo, Sec dep \$700. Pets ok. 4007 B SW 26th Terr. Call 352-371-3473 leave message 1-15-10-10-2

2/2.5 Beacon Hill Condo. 1400sgft built in 2006. 1.5mi to Shands/UF. Jet tub in Master bath with dual sinks. Balcony in 2nd bedroom. pets ok. \$800/mo. 352-256-0639 or gqgator07@yahoo.com
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Historic Pettit House in dntwn Waldo. 1 bdrm apt \$575.00 (1st, last & security). front & back porches, fenced yard. convenient to G/vlle & Starke. Coffee cafe next door. Great for grad student. 378-2141 lv. msg. 1-11-10-5-2

SWEET 2/1 POOL HOUSE
Prime location, 708 NW 10th Ave. incl all Utills, W/D, beamed ceiling, swimming pool. Avail 1st Jan. \$440 + sec. Call Karl 332-5030 1-8-10-4-2

\$400/mo Room to rent Rockwood Villa Condo, pvt bath, on bus route, wd, cent h/a, cble/intrnt some utilities, non-smoking, female only - 904.874.6877 1-20-10-10-2

\$99 Move-IN Special
\$500-\$700 2 bed/1 bath
Walking distance to UF and downtown
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MAGIC MAZE ●

WORDS THAT APPEAR WHEN VIEWED IN A MIRROR

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

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

ATOYOT	MUMIXAM	TUOHTIW	YMMAHW
HTOMMAM	OOHAY	YAWIXAT	YMMUY
IIAWAH	OTAMOT	YHTOMIT	YTTIW
IMAIM	TAMOTUA	YHTOOT	

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A ₁	I ₁	H ₄	M ₃	R ₁	W ₄	S ₁		RACK 1
I ₁	O ₁	T ₁	B ₃	N ₁	R ₁	B ₃		RACK 2
E ₁	I ₁	I ₁	F ₄	L ₁	M ₃	D ₂	Double Word Score	RACK 3
E ₁	E ₁	O ₁	P ₃	L ₁	D ₂	V ₄	4th Letter Triple	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 216

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 4th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

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2 For Rent unfurnished

Holiday Special/ Valentine's Day NO MOVE-IN COSTS - Free Rent
(Don't Pay Anything til 12/14/10)
Please Hurry.... Only A Few Units Avail!
(Se Habla Español)/ 352 240-9009
2-12-09-27-2

Rocky Point Apts 3100 sw 35th pl- 376-1619
Country Garden 2001 sw 16th st- 373-4500
Regency Oaks 3230 sw Archer rd 378-5766
Southwest Villas 3643 sw 20 ave 336-9000
Archer Woods 3020 sw Archer rd- 373-8727
2-12-09-27-2

UPPER WESTSIDE & NANTUCKET WALK
1 & 2 bdrm. Luxury Apartments
Granite counters. Parking avail.
Walk to campus & the stadium
For info. call 352-872-4644
4-21-10-73-2

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 1-12-10-5-2

Cute & Clean! Vintage 1-BR with wood floors & great front porch in quiet NW area. Walk to Ward's, Publix & buslines, bike to downtown & UF. Avail. NOW! \$575/mo. 352-338-7670 or email shepley@cozygator.com 1-12-10-5-2

Rm/mate wanted NOW to share very nice 3BR/3BA condo. Very close to UF & Santa Fe. Fully furnished. Prvt BR/BA. Pool & porch. No pets please. \$550/month ALL UTILITIES INC!! Call Talia (305)304-1703. 1-13-10-5-2

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 1-13-5-2

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 1-29-10-16-2

LARGE 1BR HOUSE
Urban loft design - fully remodeled. Very nice. Backyard, trees, downtown, big city cracker. 316-6667. \$670/mo. Available now 1-21-10-10-2

Spacious 1, 2, & 3br starting at \$495. Many floor plans, some with enclosed patios or balconies. Italian tile, bedrooms carpeted. DW, W/D hook-ups, verticals, CH/AC. Near bus route, some walk to UF. Call 352-332-7700 3-31-54-2

1BR home on a hill, 14' x 24' living room with view, dining area seats 6, huge patio, private entrance, carport, near UF, NW 8th Ave. All utilities paid. \$850. 352-395-6250 or 332-1429 1-29-10-16-2

Luxury 2BR/2BA condo in prestigious Charleston Pl. Quiet NW nghbrhd, uf bus rte. \$800 p.m. D/W W/D Pool avail mid jan Call 443-949-9815 1-13-10-5-2

3 Subleases

FIRST MONTH FREE
1/1 in a 4/4 in Gainesville Place \$399/mo all inclusive - best deal in town!
AVAILABLE ASAP
(727)804-4765 or smithse@ufl.edu 1-8-5-3

Male sublease in Biven's Cove available anytime January thru July. Only \$323 a month plus utilities, W/D, direct bus route to campus contact Trevor at 239.682.6351 1-11-5-3

<<<SUB-LEASE SIGNING BONUS>>>
3br/3ba @ The Enclave apt. Two great male roommates, full kitchen, w/d, patio, fully furnished! \$375/mo lease ends @ end of July. Contact BL @ 954-701-0487 1-13-6-3

4 Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE
Oxford Manor 377-2777
The Landings 336-3838
The Laurels 335-4455
Greenwich Green 372-8100
Hidden Lake 374-3866
4-21-71-4

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1BR INDIVIDUAL LEASES IN FURNISHED 4BR CONDOS. 2 blocks to UF. \$299/mo incl elec, cable tv, internet, pool, laundry facility. 914 SW 8th Ave. 378-4626 4-21-09-71-4

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 1-11-10-37-4

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

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

Grad student seeking two female roommates (NS/ND) to share a new 4/2 house in a quiet neighborhood 3 mi. W of I-75. With cable, internet & security alarm. 475/mo., util. incl. Please call 352-331-8794. Rooms are available immediately. 1-12-12-4

Beautifully renovated, furnished condo, 1 mile from UF, \$399/MO includes cable, internet, utilities, pool + fitness room and on bus route, Female roommate needed, 352 262-2871 1-20-10-17-4

2BRs in 4/2 house \$375 ea. (or \$700 both) + share util/cable/DSL + dep. Craigslist ad: http://gainesville.craigslist.org/roo/1495891104.html. 352 376-9200 1-8-10-5-4

1-2 Roommates needed for 4br/4ba \$385 Fully Furn Condo. ALL UTIL Incl., Pvt. bath walk-in closet, w/d, pool. Short ride to UF on 2 bus routes. STUDENTS ONLY, non-smoking 954-593-3063 1-8-10-5-4

HISTORIC HIBISCUS PARK!! 2 rooms avail/ share common area/beautiful kitchen/all appls/\$500 mo. all inclusive. WALK TO LAW SCHOOL AND SWAMP!! Grad student owner occupied...Call 561-222-9383 for more info. 1-12-10-5-4

Looking for roommate to share 3BR/2BA house with large yard. 2 rooms available, common area and kitchen furnished. Located off NW 14th Place. \$400 plus electric. 561-222-4111. Must like dogs. 1-12-10-5-4

1 ROOMMATE NEEDED ASAP For 4bd/3ba House. Shared With 3 UF Dance Students. \$440 + 1/4 Utils. House Fully Furnished. Private Bath! Car Garage. W&D Incl. Call Jessi 813 244 1919 Ready To Move In! 1-29-10-17-4

2 rooms for rent in house by Duck Pond. Common areas furnished. W/D, Dishwasher. Available immediately. \$425/mo incl utils & basic phone. \$100 deposit. Phone 904-797-5487 night. 904-547-3482 day Mon - Thurs 1-12-5-2

2 spots available 4/2 house. 1.5 mi from UF. .5 from bus depot. Weight set, cable, net \$285 month + utilities. for more info, contact Quin at 352-514-2105 Hurry! 1-13-5-4

5 Real Estate

Sell your house, condo, acreage, mobile home and much more in the ALLIGATOR CLASSIFIEDS! Reach thousands of possible buyers! Mastercard and Visa accepted over the phone, by fax, email or **CHECK OUT PLACING YOUR AD THRU OUR ONLINE AT www.alligator.org.** or please call 373-Find (373-3463)

SEE ALL CONDOS
WWW.UFCONDOS.COM
Matt Price Campus Realty, 352-281-3551 4-21-71-5

NEW CONDOS -WALK to UF
3 Blks to UF. For Info on ALL 1, 2, 3, 4 Bedrooms for Sale, Call Eric Leightman, Campus Realty at 352-219-2879. 4-21-71-5

AFFORDABLE LUXURY NEW CONSTRUCTION NEAR UF, SHANDS, LAW SCHOOL 2Bed/3 Full Baths + Office. Granite Counters, 2 Direct Bus Stops to UF. Matt Price, Campus Realty 352-281-3551 4-21-71-5

WALK TO UF & DOWNTOWN! THE PALMS - New Ultra-Luxury Condos. Granite, Huge Closets, Pool, Call Eric Leightman, Campus Realty, 352-219-2879 4-21-71-5

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

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3/2 - Great Community
Owner Financing
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2 & 3 bdr's
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Owner Financing
Low down
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Move In Ready
3/2 Adorable
>From \$99.00/mo
Westside/owner finance
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Great Locations
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For 1st time home buyers
3 & 2 bdrs avail
WE FINANCE
Call today! 352.378.4411 1-15-10-8-5

FOR SALE 2006 Fleetwood 16 x 80 Mobilehome
Available immediately - located in Arrendondo Farms,7117 SW Archer Road Lot #2611. Call 386-208-3949for information. 1-12-10-5-5

NEW HOMES - 3.2 MILES NORTH OF UF
US Dept of Energy, professionally energy tested, est elec bill \$80. 3 different plans, starting at \$208,900. Schackow Realty, developer 352-514-5060 or rlschack@aol.com 1-13-10-5-5

6 Furnishings

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 4-21-09-71-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-21-09-71-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400
Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 4-21-09-71-6

6 Furnishings

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. 4-21-09-71-6

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

Sofa \$175 Brand new in pkg 333-7516 4-21-71-6

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 4-21-09-71-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather. Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$2650. Sacrifice \$750. Call 352-377-9846 4-21-09-71-6

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 4-21-71-6

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

DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box. Never used. 352-377-9846 4-21-09-71-6

6 Furnishings

BEDS - ALL BRAND NEW
Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200
Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 4-21-71-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 4-21-71-6

Bed- All New King! 3pc Orthopedic pillowtop mattress set. Brand NEW, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$200 352-333-7516. 4-21-71-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
Still in boxes! 6 pieces include: Headboard, 2 Nightstands, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 4-21-09-71-6

FUTON - \$60 Solid Oak Mission Style. With plush mattress \$160. All brand NEW still in box. Can deliver. 352-333-7516 4-21-71-6

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

SOFA \$185 Brand new! Love seat \$150 still in pkg. Can del 352-333-7516 4-21-71-6

7 Computers

CASH PAID: Laptops & Cameras
Parts & Repair Mac & PC laptops
Laptop Chargers. Joel 336-0075
www.pcrecycle.biz 4-21-09-71-7

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

ACROSS
1 Cool one
4 Overused
9 Drink with a "generation"
14 Kitchen catchphrase
15 Implied
16 Betting everything, in poker
17 Food made from 35-Down
18 Where yearbooks are made?
20 Uncaptured
22 Spring celebration
23 Surrender
24 Beam
25 That, in Monterrey
26 Where Hershey's makes new discoveries?
31 Long, on Lanai
32 Broods
33 What some tickets are for
37 Russian-born Deco designer
39 Anger
40 Bare-bones subj.?
41 Some religious observances
43 Rub out
46 College sr.'s test
47 Where astronauts worship?
50 Prof's helpers
53 Bullring cry
54 It will come back to you
55 Esoteric
57 Maddened
60 Where little necks try their luck?
63 Living cell constituent: Abbr.
64 Prefix with tropic
65 Unwise homebuilder's material, so the story goes
66 Put together
67 Lip-curling look
68 Early five-and-dime entrepreneur
69 Howard of the Three Stooges

DOWN
1 Bit of bullring gear
2 Loads
3 Men's formalwear
4 Made-it-big status
5 Hybrid fruit
6 Teen's concern
7 Actress Lucy
8 Two after epsilon
9 Melonlike fruits
10 Wings with blueprints
11 Likely spot for dinner?
12 Trig functions
13 Words about a speaker, briefly
19 Sharon of "Boston Public"
21 Post-WWII nuclear org.
24 Stitch over
26 Staff symbol
27 Romanian dance
28 Individually
29 Lafayette's land
30 Arthur who played Maude
34 Cardiologist's request
35 Source of 17-Across

36 Early submachine gun
38 "The War of the Worlds" invaders, e.g.
42 One buying time, perhaps
44 Raw or burnt pigments
45 Typical home-loan contract obligations
48 Actor Baldwin
49 ___ Na Na
50 Dash instruments
51 Senator Specter
52 Model proportion
56 Friend in France
57 Pierce Brosnan's homeland
58 Prefix meaning "within"
59 Miami-___ County
61 Invite
62 Narrow channel: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

C	A	C	H	E	T	A	F	I	T	S	A	X
A	R	R	I	V	E	C	I	T	E	H	E	M
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D	E	L	R	U	E	D	S	T	O	R	E	D

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/07/10

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By Robert W. Harris
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7 Computers

COMPUTER & LAPTOP REPAIRS
Network specialists
We buy computers and laptops
Working and Non-working
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4-21-10-69-7

9 Bicycles

In the market for a new set of wheels or just looking to add a second to that collection? Want personalized handlebars or a fitted seat? Check in the Alligator Classifieds

10 For Sale

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Next to McDonalds NW 13th St.
Call for semester rates: 352-538-2454.
1-15-10-8-10

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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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12 Autos

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●Running or not!
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●Over 15 yr svc to UF students
●Call Don @ 215-7987 4-21-71-12

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Cash vehicles \$1000 and up.
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No credit check
Cars, SUVs, Trucks & Vans
30 day warranty
352-375-9090 4-21-71-12

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92 Nissan Stanza \$1499 cash
98 Pontiac Grand Am \$1499 cash
96 Kia Sephia \$999 cash
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

96 Lincoln Mark 8 \$999 cash
95 Pontiac Bonneville \$999 cash
98 Chrysler Cirrus \$999 cash
96 Chevy Cavalier \$1499 cash
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

92 Honda Accord \$1499 cash
97 Mazda Millenia \$1999 cash
92 Chevy Camero \$1999 cash
96 Mits Galant \$1999 cash
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

97 Jeep Cherokee \$1900
96 Chevy Astro Van \$1900
96 Chevy Blazer \$1499
98 Ford Expolorer \$2500
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

95 Dodge Ram PK \$2900
98 Dodge Ram PK \$2900
98 Pontiac Transport \$2900
94 Toyota Camry \$2900 SOLD
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

97 Mercury Grand Marquis \$2900
00 Hyundai Elantra \$2900
94 Toyota Station Wagon \$2900 SOLD
97 Mits Diamonte \$2900
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

96 Honda Accord \$2500
94 Toyota Camry \$2900
96 Cadillac Deville \$2900
01 Hyundai Sonata \$2900
352-338-1999 4-21-71-12

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Pay off time negotiable
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2003 Honda Civic, 79k \$8999 CASH
2003 Honda Civic, 115k \$8499 CASH
2003 Honda Civic, 69k \$8999 CASH
2002 Honda Odyssey, 117k \$6999 CASH
352-375-9090 4-21-71-12

12 Autos

2003 Nissan Sentra, 80k \$6999 CASH
2005 Nissan Altima, 94k \$9999 CASH
2006 Suzuki Aerio, 54k \$8999 CASH
2001 Nissan Altima, 99k \$5999 CASH
352-375-9090 4-21-71-12

2002 Toyota Camry, 76k \$8999 CASH
2004 Toyota Corolla, 111k \$7999 CASH
1999 Toyota Sienna, 135k \$5999 CASH
2002 Toyota Corolla, 68k \$6999 CASH
352-375-9090 4-21-71-12

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WHEELS. BRAND NEW TOP & INTERIOR.
EXCELLENT CONDITION. EVERYTHING
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13 Wanted

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OZZIE'S FINE JEWELRY 373-9243. 4-21-71-13

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VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED
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Please call
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BE AN INSPIRATION!
Take a blind lady to Mass on Sundays and for walks and shopping as needed. We'll have lots of fun! And you will make a new friend! Contact 219-6948 1-8-09-71-13

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO HELP ME LEARN TO RAKE KNIT A HAT, second and fourth wednesdays of each month. These hats are made for people in Haiti. Come and have fun with Lenora. Call 219-6948. 1-8-09-71-13

Have transportation and want to help?
We need volunteers who are available to help with trapping projects in mobile home communities all over Alachua County. Opportunities are available to help trap for Operation Catnip Sunday Spay Days and during the week for surgery at Operation PetSnip. Operation Catnip will supply you with all the information and equipment you need! Email us [mailto:operationcatnip@nmhp.net] or call to get involved! 352-380-0940
OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TOO!
1-15-8-13

LIONS CLUB IS SEEKING ASSISTANCE
The Newberry Lions Club is planning a trip for the visually impaired community of Gainesville to Daytona Beach on January 15th to attend the "Magic of Braille" exhibit which is touring the US. A total of \$700 is needed to ensure transporation for the group. Any amount donated is truly appreciated. Donations can be made to the Newberry Lions Club, PO Box 1439, Newberry, FL 32669. For further information, please contact Bob Respass, Secretary/Treasurer at 352-472-5434. Newberry Lions Club is a 501(c)(4) organization registered with the State of Florida. 1-11-3-13

Finders Keepers? If you find something, you can place a FREE FOUND AD in our lost & found section. Be kind to someone who's lost what you've found. Call 373-FIND.

14 Help Wanted

This newspaper assumes no responsibility for injury or loss arising from contacts made through advertising. We suggest that any reader who responds to advertising use caution and investigate the sincerity of the advertiser before giving out personal information or arranging meetings or investing money.

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Sales driven person to train student sales staff in outside newspaper advertising sales. Motivator needed who works well with a constantly changing staff.
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Bright? Enthusiastic? Like people? Must be over 22, stable work history, clean driving record, drug-free, personal references.
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Now hiring Delivery Drivers - \$12-\$16/hr. You need a great attitude & dependable car. Hiring lunch, dinner & late night shifts. Our closing drivers earn \$100 per night. Apply @ any of our 8 location or @ gatordominos.com/jobs. 4-21-09-71-14

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by David L. Hoyt 1-7-10

1		2		3		
						4
5						
		6				
		7				

CLUE ACROSS ANSWER

1. _____ basket CIPCIN
5. Relating to birds VAINA
6. Join into REENT
7. Legal _____ DTERNE

CLUE DOWN ANSWER

1. Baseball _____ PREALY
2. _____ food NICHEES
3. Set off EIGDNIT
4. _____ movie ROORHR

CLUE: This is equal to 43,560 square feet.

BONUS ○○○○ ○○○○

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

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ANSWERS: 1A-Avian 5A-Avian 6A-Enter 7A-Tender 1D-Player 2D-Chinese 3D-Ignited 4D-Horror B-One acre

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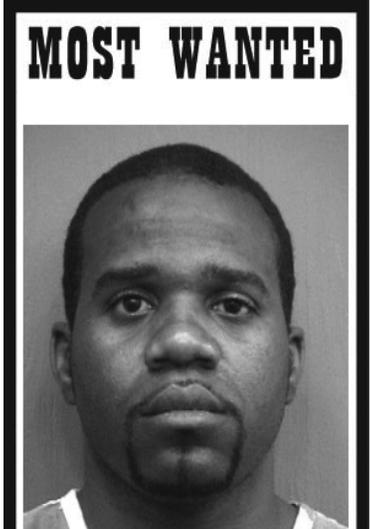
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M A M M O X T H A
Y O U O W A M T
T T M M A T
U I M I I Y
A T O O T H Y M

Hernandez skipping senior season for NFL Draft

■ THE JUNIOR LED UF IN RECEPTIONS WITH 68.

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

The hits keep coming for Florida.

As expected, junior tight end Aaron Hernandez declared Wednesday that he will skip his senior

season to enter the NFL Draft.

"It is really special for me to take this first step toward my lifelong dream of playing in the NFL on the fourth anniversary of my father's passing," Hernandez said in a press release. "I know he would be proud of not only me, but of my whole family, whose love and support are the only reasons I am where I am today."

Hernandez led the Gators in



Hernandez

receptions (68) and was second on the team in receiving yards (850) and receiving touchdowns (five).

His outstanding year earned him the John Mackey Award, given to the nation's top tight end.

The All-American topped his

season off with one of his best performances. He had a career-high in receptions (nine) and his second-highest total in yards (111) during Florida's 51-24 win against Cincinnati in the Sugar Bowl.

Cornerback Joe Haden announced earlier in the week he would also be skipping his senior season, and there are still about five UF players considering going pro. Hernandez could be the toughest

to replace. The only other scholarship tight end on the roster is Desmond Parks, who was redshirted this season.

The Gators also tried out freshman quarterback Jordan Reed at tight end this year in practice.

Also, two tight end recruits, Palm Beach Dwyer High's Gerald Christian and Tampa Blake High's Michael McFarland, have committed to UF.

Gators win streak on the line

By **EUGENIO TORRENS**
Alligator Writer
etorrens@alligator.org

Coach Amanda Butler said her team came back mentally refocused after Christmas.

Whatever the players did on their own time in that period has paid immediate dividends. UF is 3-0 after Christmas and looking to push that win streak to four games tonight when the team plays its first home Southeastern Conference game of the season against Auburn at 7 in the O'Connell Center.

"There's absolutely no replacement for the confidence a win gives you. The way we've played after Christmas has been what we needed, more than anything."

Amanda Butler

UF women's basketball coach



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

Florida will face Auburn tonight in its first home conference game this season.

tion the team has given to playing man-to-man defense instead of zone. Even with the shift in emphasis, Butler admitted that her team should be playing better zone defense than it has up to this point.

The switch to more man-to-man defense has paid off though, and Butler said that scheme will serve as the "backbone" of what the team does defensively from here on out, though she won't limit her team to it.

"We had a bunch of kids that came back with renewed minds," Butler said. "Maybe a little bit of a physical break helped them, but I think just a renewed spirit. We're turning the page here, it's a different part of the season."

Before the Gators (8-6, 1-0 SEC) even step foot on the court, they'll need to keep their concentration on the Tigers (9-5, 0-1 SEC) because mistakes are magnified in conference play, where many games come down to the last possession.

"There's no gimme games," guard Jennifer Mosor said. "You have to have extra sharpness because one turnover might cost you the game. One missed layup or one bad pass, or anything like that; you have to have that extra bit of focus you normally may not have."

After opening up SEC play with a win in Fayetteville, Ark., the team is riding high — and is feeling the best it has about itself all season.

"There's absolutely no replacement for the confidence a win gives you," Butler said. "The way we've played after Christmas has been what we needed, more than anything."

One of the most noticeable changes to take place over winter break on the court has been the atten-

Alabama will claim another title for SEC

An undefeated season and the chance to win a second BCS National Championship in the last five seasons gives Texas a lot to play for today.

But that's the least of it.

The Longhorns have a chance to shut up people like me.

It's not that I think Texas isn't a good team. Or even a very good team. Or maybe even a great team.

It's not that I don't like Colt McCoy or Jordan Shipley or Earl Thomas.

The problem is: Alabama plays in the Southeastern Conference.



Kyle Maistri

Kyle Points

kmaistri@alligator.org

And from what I think I know, that means the Longhorns are in for a long night against Heisman Trophy winner Mark Ingram and the Crimson Tide.

The SEC is the best conference in the country, and every year its teams prove how wide the talent gap can be between them and good teams from other conferences. Just ask Cincinnati.

When I fill out my bowl pick 'em every year, just being from the SEC is enough for me to give a team a three-point advantage.

People from all around the country can say whatever they want about the league's quarterback play or lack of creativity on offense, but the SEC wins big games. Period.

Even this year — a down year for the SEC by all accounts — the conference has a chance to go 6-4 in its bowl games, including two BCS bowl wins if Alabama can knock off Texas.

The 6-4 record might not be too impressive, but a Sugar Bowl win and BCS National Championship Game win says everything casual college football fans need to know about the strength of the best teams in the conference.

If the Crimson Tide defeat the Longhorns in Pasadena, they will bring home the fourth-consecutive national championship for the SEC.

That's domination.

And for the second-straight season, the SEC will have taken down the Big 12 in the national championship and the Cotton Bowl, where Ole Miss has knocked off Texas Tech and Oklahoma State in consecutive seasons.

The Big 12 has been the second-best conference over the

SEE KYLE, PAGE 23

SEE WHOOPS, PAGE 23

TEERING OFF WITH PHIL KEGLER

■ Congrats to former UF receiver Percy Harvin, who was named AP Offensive Rookie of the Year and earned a Pro Bowl bid after his first season with the Vikings. The success of Harvin and Louis Murphy (Raiders) should help change the stigma about Florida WRs. ... A few weeks ago, I said I wish the next decade would include sports in 3D. ESPN isn't going to make me wait long.

FORMER GATORS

■ WR Percy Harvin was named AP Offensive Rookie of the Year on Wednesday. He was in the top two for receptions, receiving yards and TDs among rookies.

POLL QUESTION

Today's question: Who will be the next Gator to announce he is leaving early for the NFL Draft?

Gators expect more from 2010

■ UF BROUGHT IN THE NO.1 RECRUITING CLASS.

By **EUGENIO TORRENS**
Alligator Writer
etorrens@alligator.org

Florida is fourth in the pre-season rankings. Coach Rhonda Faehn knows it, accepts it and understands it.

But that doesn't mean she feels the same way.

"I genuinely feel the potential of this team is far greater than we are preseason ranked," Faehn said. "But I understand that position simply because of where we finished last year and maybe coaches' apprehension of not knowing what our newcomers are doing."

Last season, the UF gymnastics team finished fourth at the NCAA Championships with just eight gymnasts on the roster after losing a third of the team to injury.

This year's squad returns all but three members of that team.

Corey Hartung graduated, Melanie Sinclair was dismissed from the team after facing legal problems in October, and Kailey Tissue decided to apply for a medical scholarship.

Hartung and Sinclair both competed in the NCAA Championships.

Faehn said Sinclair, who is still

attending school, promised her she would earn a degree.

"That's the most important thing, that she gets her life back on track," Faehn said.

Armed with the nation's top-rated recruiting class and following last year's fourth-place finish, the sky is the limit.

Well, Gainesville is the limit, as this year's NCAA Championships will be held in the O'Connell Center.

Senior Amanda Castillo, who was hampered by bursitis before getting season-ending surgery for her Achilles heel last season, said she feels healthier this season and that the team is more prepared as a whole.

"My goal is to be back in the all-around (category) this year," she said. "I don't want to put too much pressure on myself. I want to go out enjoying it, not regretting it. I'm going to have fun and I know that if I do that, I'll meet my goals."

With Castillo and eight other veterans around, finding the right combination of returning and rookie gymnasts is a must.

"We have a very talented freshman class," sophomore Amy Ferguson said. "They've adjusted so

well. I'm really excited for them to have a chance to compete because you try to describe to them what it's like and you say, 'It's so fun,' but that doesn't even describe it.

"There aren't even words to describe how much fun it is out on the competition floor."

The five freshmen — Ashanee Dickerson, Liz Green, Marissa King, Dali Lemezán and Randy Stageberg — join five seniors, one junior and three sophomores to create more of a balance between the classes.

As much as 50 percent of the new routines this year could come from freshmen, Faehn said.

"It'll definitely be different from last year," she said.

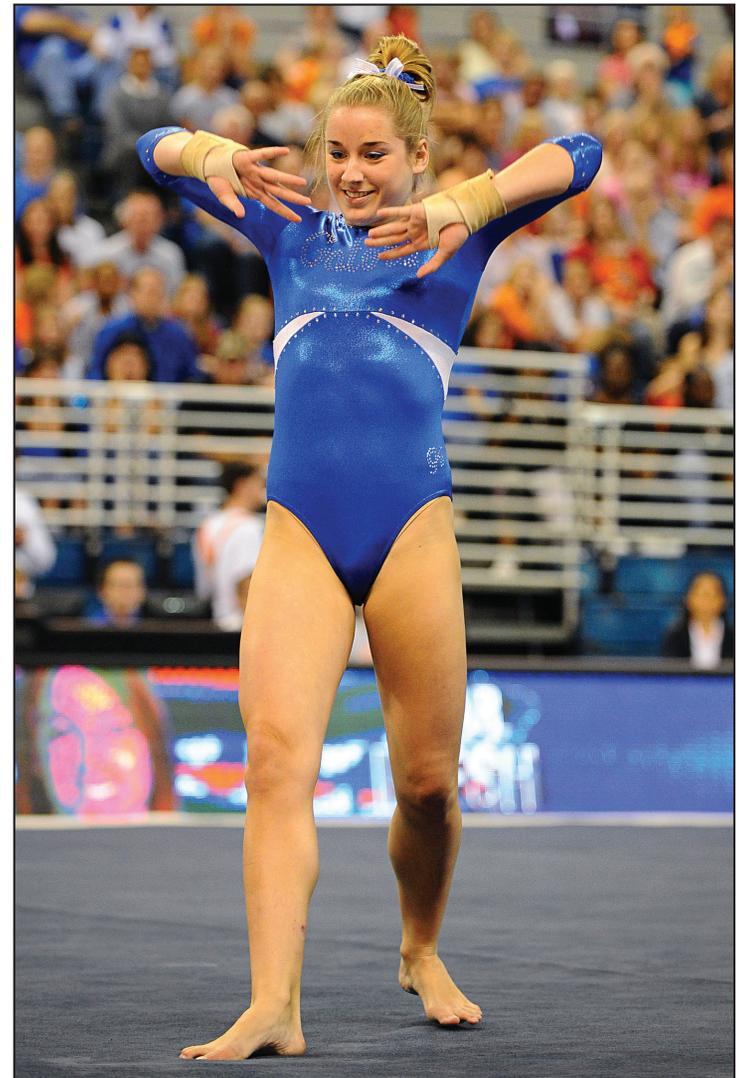
The addition of five first-year teammates, coupled with a returning core from last year's team gives the Gators more depth than Faehn has seen in a number of years at UF.

That will prepare the team to deal more effectively with injuries and hold off putting some gymnasts on every event until later in the season.

One example is Maranda Smith, who competed as an all-around gymnast towards the end of 2009 and may perform in just three events against Oklahoma on Friday to open the season. The meet will begin at 8 p.m. in Norman, Okla.



Gymnastics



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF sophomore gymnast Amy Ferguson is one of nine returning athletes the Gators will rely on along with a talented freshman class when they open the season Friday.

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Interviews will be held on-site, so please bring your resume, clips and portfolio if you have one.

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Arenas suspended for gunplay

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Washington Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas was suspended without pay by NBA commissioner David Stern on Wednesday

for behavior that made him “not currently fit to take the court.”

A day after Arenas was photographed before a game in Philadelphia pointing his index fingers, as if they were guns, at his teammates,

Stern warned the three-time All-Star that his conduct will “ultimately result in a substantial suspension, and perhaps worse.”

Arenas is under investigation by federal and local authorities after admitting to bringing guns to the locker room. Stern originally planned to wait to take action, but he tired of Arenas’ behavior.

“The possession of firearms by an NBA player in an NBA arena is a matter of the utmost concern to us.”

David Stern
NBA commissioner

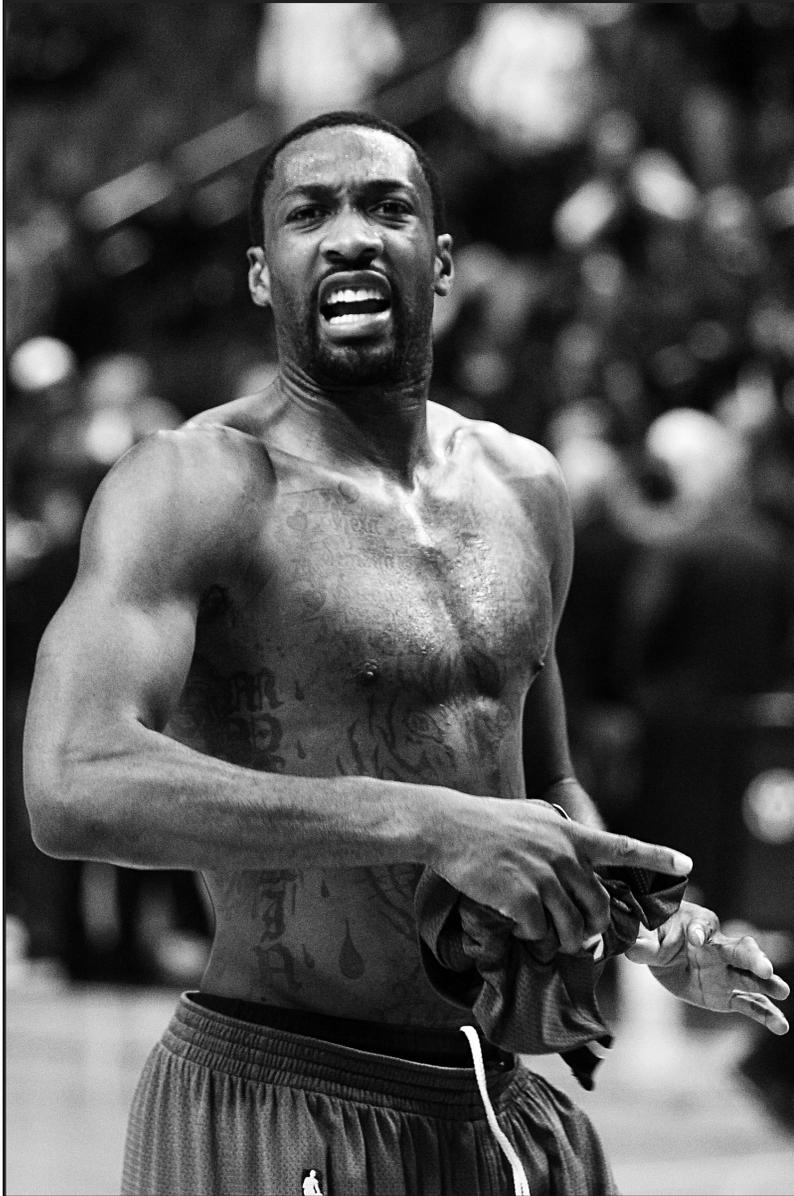
On Tuesday, a day after meeting with law enforcement officials, Arenas said he feared Stern more than the authorities because the commissioner was “mean.”

Though Arenas first apologized on Monday for his poor judgment and promised “to do better in the future,” he also joked on Twitter about the incident and the media firestorm it created. That was exactly the wrong tact for Stern, whose league has taken another public relations hit.

“The possession of firearms by an NBA player in an NBA arena is a matter of the utmost concern to us,” Stern said.

“Although it is clear that the actions of Mr. Arenas will ultimately result in a substantial suspension, and perhaps worse, his ongoing conduct has led me to conclude that he is not currently fit to take the court in an NBA game,” Stern said in a statement. “Accordingly, I am suspending Mr. Arenas indefinitely, without pay, effective immediately pending the completion of the investigation by the NBA.”

With each game he misses, Arenas will lose about \$147,200 of the \$16.2 million he will earn this season in the second of a six-year, \$111 million contract. The punishment came on his 28th birthday.



AP Photo

Washington Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas was suspended Wednesday for allegedly bringing handguns to the team facility. During pregame introductions Tuesday, he was photographed jokingly using his hands as finger pistols.

KYLE, from page 21

last few seasons, and its elite quarterback play and flashy offenses are a bold reminder of exactly what the SEC isn’t.

But the cliché has proven to be true time and again: Defense wins championships.

The SEC plays defense.

And we all damn well know the SEC wins championships.

If Texas is going to beat Alabama, the Longhorns’ No. 1 run defense is going to have to contain Ingram, something Florida’s then-top-rated defense couldn’t do in the SEC Championship Game.

And McCoy is going to have to make enough plays to win against a top-two scoring defense, something he couldn’t do against Nebraska in the Big 12 Championship Game.

At risk of being called an “SEC homer,” I think Nick Saban wins his second crystal ball and the Tide rolls all night long.

But Texas has a chance to prove me, and thousands of people who think like me, wrong.

And that’s a chance not often afforded in college football.

UF focusing on SEC play

W-HOOPS, from page 21

“That’s hard to do in our league,” Butler said. “It’s hard to go toe-to-toe with every team you play and say, ‘We’re going to man up and be better than you.’ That’s very hard to do night in and night out.”

The Gators will test their man-to-man defense against Auburn, the defending SEC champs, which is on a two-game losing streak.

Unlike Florida’s last few opponents, whom have boasted smaller front courts, the Tigers are ready to unleash 6-foot-7 senior KeKe Carrier, who comes in averaging 13.6 points per game along with 7.7 rebounds and 30 blocked shots this season.

The Gators know it’s im-

portant for the team to build on its recent run of good form. The early part of the schedule pales in comparison to the importance of conference play because a strong showing in the SEC could book a spot in the postseason.

“The main goal is to get to the NCAA Tournament, and no matter what you do in non-conference (play), if you go above .500 in the SEC — because it’s the best league in the nation — you’re automatically going to get a look for the NCAA Tournament,” redshirt senior guard Susan Yenser said.



Women's Basketball

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2010 Spring Fraternity Recruitment



Recruitment Kickoff Forum
Sunday, January 10, 6:00 p.m.
Reitz Union Ballroom

Learn about the IFC community, find out about the recruitment process, and meet representatives from all IFC chapters at once.

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 10 THROUGH JANUARY 15

Lunch: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dinner: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Evening Event: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.



For more information, visit our website at:

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