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VOLUME 103 ISSUE 104

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010

BREAKING NEWS

Gators defense player arrested

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

UF defensive tackle Gary Brown was arrested early Sunday morning and charged with two counts of misdemeanor battery after police said he slapped one female and scratched another after they asked him to leave a party.

Brown and a friend, Theodore Davis, attended a party at The Crossing at Santa Fe Apartments, and when Davis was asked to leave, he grabbed a fire extinguisher and sprayed its contents on those near him, according to a police report.

Alachua County sheriff's deputies responded to the incident at 5:27 a.m., and upon arrival, they were told by two females hosting the party that the 6-foot-4-inch, 275-pound Brown slapped and scratched them.

Neither victim required medical

attention.

Brown, 19, and Davis had left the party by the time officers arrived, but they were arrested at a traffic stop and booked into the Alachua County Jail shortly before 8 a.m.

A five-star recruit from Greensboro West Gadsden High School, Brown did not see any game action as a freshman this past season, and his recent arrest doesn't bode well for future playing time.

The Gators signed three highly rated defensive tackles in their 2010 recruiting class – Sharrif Floyd, Dominique Easley and Leon Orr – and the team is expected to have to cut two scholarships before the fall to make the limit of 85.

Spring practice begins March 17.



Brown



Thomas Plevik / Alligator

Everybody was Kongfu Fighting

Sylvia Tseng and Bryant Nguyen from the Meihua Student Association of Martial Arts perform kongfu at the 2010 Chinese New Year Talent Show Monday. See Story, page 4.

Subway reopens in Reitz

By **TATIANA QUIROGA**
Alligator Contributing Writer

The revamped food stores on the ground floor of the Reitz Union did not come cheap.

Aramark, UF's food provider, spent about \$520,000 to create the new Subway location, said Reitz Union executive director Eddie Daniels.

The relocation of Freshens and the addition of the Provisions on Demand (P.O.D.) Market cost about \$456,000 and was paid for by Aramark, the Reitz Union and the UF Business Services Division.

Subway was relocated to the ground floor of the Reitz Union and opened Saturday, while Freshens and P.O.D. Market, a convenience store, opened Monday in the space across from Subway.

Subway, Freshens and P.O.D. Market locations are open from 9 a.m. to midnight daily.

"The new Subway location is larger and will offer a three-line ordering system, which will in-

crease speed of service for our customers," said Jill Rodriguez, marketing program manager for Gator Dining Services.

During Summer B of this year, the old Subway location will be replaced by a Panda Express, she said.

"The new Subway location is larger and will offer a three-line ordering system, which will increase speed of service for our customers."

Jill Rodriguez

marketing manager Gator Dining Services

Rodriguez said grand opening week specials will include a free cookie with a purchase at Subway this week.

Interior design junior Xhylin Chediak said she likes the new Subway location.

"It's a lot more space," Chediak said. "Subway is always packed."

Frat raises funds

■ ABOUT 1,600 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE EVENT.

By **CJ PRUNER**
Alligator Writer

Dressed in cheerleading outfits bearing their letters, members of UF's Greek community strutted their stuff Monday in the second annual Beta Bring It On philanthropy event sponsored by Beta Theta Pi Fraternity.

Performing in front of about 1,600 people at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, more than a dozen sororities leaped and cartwheeled to the enthusiastic chants of audience members.

The sororities each had their own cheers promoting their organizations and praising Beta Theta Pi.

Judges of the cheer competition included former Gators foot-

ball players Riley Cooper and Joey Sorrentino and Gators quarterback John Brantley.

The group with the best cheer earns a free limousine ride and a megaphone award. The name of the winning sorority was not available at press time. Event proceeds go to the National Alzheimer's Association and the Thomas Oliver Brown Scholarship, named after a former Beta brother killed five years ago at the Florida-Georgia game.

Greek Life Adorned in brightly colored exercise shorts, Eric Russell and Anthony Crawford, both seniors in Beta Theta Pi, acted as emcees for the event.

According to Russell, members of Beta Theta Pi have been practicing for months for the show.

"We're not just having fun; it's also for a good cause," Russell said. "We're the right men for something like this."

■ UF senior center fielder **Matt den Dekker** is the favorite to replace Avery Barnes as the Gators' leadoff hitter this season. He was at the top of the order 29 games the last two years. See Story, Page 14.



Two arrested after beating and leaving homeless man to die

Two St. Francis House residents were arrested and charged with attempted murder for beating a homeless man Saturday.

Anthony Fox, 38, and Beverly Thornton, 37, visited the victim, Thornton's ex-boyfriend in his tent at Tent City, to pick up some of her things, according to the Gainesville Police Department report.

Fox cut into the tent, then punched the man in the face, put a knife to his neck and said, "I'm gonna kill you," the report stated.

Thornton grabbed a tree limb and beat her ex-boyfriend in the face, arm, knee and pelvis. He was left unconscious, swollen, bruised and bleeding heavily, police said.

The victim woke up six hours later and called for help until someone took him to the emergency room at Shands at UF. Fox admitted he "beat his ass with the stick" in self defense and was found carrying a knife with blood on it.

— KATHERINE BEIN

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53/29

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News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The Hip-Hop Collective Presents: "Turlington Takeover"

Wednesday, 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m.
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Breakdancers, emcees, disk jockeys, singers and beatboxers will gather on Turlington Plaza for a jam session. This will be a great way to gain a hands-on experience of true hip-hop culture. Bring your friends and your cameras to this free event because there will be flips, beats, breaks and rhymes that you do not want to miss.

LOCAL

Alachua County sees drop in registered voters

Voter registration for the 2010 election ended Monday evening with 2,669 less registered voters in

FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
SUNNY 53/29	SUNNY 55/29	PARTLY CLOUDY 58/32	PARTLY CLOUDY 62/34	CLOUDY 65/41

Alachua County than in 2009.

The number of registered Gainesville voters reached 72,550 Monday.

The change in numbers could have resulted from the required file-maintenance that's performed during off-year elections, according to Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Pam Carpenter.

For comparison, Levy County has 24,477 registered voters, and Suwannee County has 24,419 registered voters as of Monday.

Any registration forms the

Supervisor of Elections Office receives postmarked before today's deadline will be processed, Carpenter said.

-SAMANTHA DELGADO

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

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UF Voices

Graham Center focuses on civic engagement

In 2008, Florida ranked 34th in voter turnout. Some 70 percent of Floridians report cutting back on civic activities in the past year. Our state faces a civic crisis.

At the Bob Graham Center for Public Service, these statistics caused us to ask what contribution our university is making to prepare students for active citizenship. In addition to the excellent education provided, are we specifically training students to become the citizens our democracy requires, or do we assume that a fine – but general – education is sufficient?

Derek Bok's book, "Our Underachieving Colleges" (2005), makes a compelling case that colleges need to do more. Bok will be at Digital Worlds Institute at 3 p.m. on Feb. 23, to start a dialogue that we hope will result in a more visible focus on civic engagement.

The Bob Graham Center also has received an Americorps grant, "Making Citizens." This will assist in efforts to increase the number of immigrant staff and community members who take and pass the citizenship exam, help new citizens become active community members, and train Americorps members/students to become more engaged citizens.

For more information, visit bobgrahamcenter.ufl.edu.



Ann Henderson

Ann Henderson,
Director, Bob Graham Center

'Extreme Makeover' has UF connection

Most college students can't claim to have worked on the set of a national television show.

Ryan McGinn and Aaron Wilbur can.

Both students at the University of Florida's College of Design, Construction and Planning volunteered their time as production assistants for "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," during its Gainesville build.

McGinn, from Sebastian, Fla., is a master's student studying architecture. Wilbur, from Melbourne, Fla., is a fifth-year senior in landscape architecture.

They assisted with security, beverages and food, and moving television cameras and furniture. As fans of the show, it gave them a chance to see things from the other side.

"There is more to that show than what TV viewers might think actually happens," McGinn said.

According to Wilbur, the house wasn't the only thing they built.

"You're around those people a lot and you develop friendships with them," Wilbur said.

He is already making plans to work with the show again someday.

By Allie Layos

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
The Foundation for The Gator Nation



Deborah Hendrix

Students and faculty of SPOHP, (left to right) Daniel Navarette, Candice Ellis, Khambria Clarke, Amanda Noll, Paul Ortiz and Marna Weston, pose in front of a mural outside the B.B. King Museum in Indianola, Miss.

UF helps preserve the voices of history

Students of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, known as SPOHP, will bring history to life in the Gainesville community during Black History Month.

"A lot of people on campus are pushing for major initiatives for black history," Paul Ortiz, director of SPOHP, said.

University of Florida faculty and students of the SPOHP are working to preserve and promote local history by educating the community on past projects in Mississippi, and by implementing similar initiatives locally.



UF students Khambria Clarke (left) and Amanda Noll (not pictured) interview an Indianola, Miss., resident at the town's Henry M. Seymour Library.

Ortiz led a small group of students on a research trip this past summer to expose them to the prominent black history of Indianola, Miss. For five days, the students recorded personal anecdotes of locals who experienced the civil rights movement.

The public is invited to a multimedia presentation of the Mississippi project from 6 to 8 p.m. on Feb. 17 at Gainesville's Civic Media Center, 433 S. Main St. The presentation will include a question-and-answer session with a panel of SPOHP students.

Currently the project interviews are in the process of being uploaded as part of a digital library. Select narratives will be available through iTunes podcasts.

Candice Ellis, UF senior, conducted about five interviews during the research trip. She said that hearing the stories really brought history to life and changed her perspective.

"You can't compare reading a history book to speaking to these people in person," she said.

Because the oral histories are subjective, they provide deeper insight to history than a text book, Ortiz said.

"They can tell you what it feels like to step into a ditch because a white person was walking on the sidewalk," Ortiz said. "Or how it feels to have to explain to your daughter why she can't drink out of the water fountain."

By Kristie Andres

Fact

To arrange a local oral-history recording, e-mail Kirsten.wetherbee@gmail.com.

Your campus news source

UF Calendar

Feb. 17

"Florida in World War II," 7 p.m., guest speaker Gary Mormino, Pugh Hall Ocora.

Feb. 18

"Philharmonia of the Nations," Jon Nakamatsu, piano, 7:30 p.m., Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Feb. 20

"Beyond the Bog Road," Eileen Ivers, 7:30 p.m., Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Feb. 21

"Gone with the Wine," WUFT-FM and WJUF-FM, 1 to 4 p.m., Reitz Student Union.

Feb. 23

Harvard President Emeritus Derek Bok, "Making Citizens," 3 to 4:15 p.m., Digital Worlds Institute.

Feb. 24-25

UF Water Institute Symposium, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., UF Hilton Conference Center.

This is a sampling of events from the electronic UF calendar.

For more event details, or to submit an event to the calendar, click "UF Calendar" at www.insideuf.ufl.edu.

Note This

Seeking Engaged Scholarship nominations

The College of Education at the University of Florida has announced the 8th annual Engaged Scholarship award competition for faculty, graduate students and community members. The awards are presented in the following categories: university, College of Education, graduate student, school district and community.

Nominations are due March 15. For more information, contact Jenny Palgon, jpalgon@coe.ufl.edu or 352-273-4135.

Seeking Fellows in Sustainability Prairie Project nominations

As part of a broader, universitywide awakening to environmental and sustainability concerns, the University of Florida Fellows in Sustainability Prairie Project focuses on curricular change to support faculty intellectual development to address such societal issues.

Deans are requested to submit nominations to Whitney Sanford, wsanford@ufl.edu by March 5. For more information, contact Jeff Burkhardt, burk@ufl.edu.

View these stories and more at www.insideuf.ufl.edu. Follow us on Twitter.

THE TALK

Produced by the University Relations Office for faculty, staff and students
Editor - Susan Stewart
February 16, 2010

Students share faith

■ TESTIMONIAL TUESDAYS TAKE PLACE ON TURLINGTON PLAZA.

By **ASHLEY WILLIAMS**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Each week on Turlington Plaze, a group of students participates in Testimonial Tuesdays and tell stories about how they became Christians, offering their message to anyone who wants to listen.

"I know for me, when I'm out there, it's amazing to hear what God has done," said Shawn Findlater, the group's founder. "He's really worked some miracles in people's lives."

Right now, the participants are a few members of Findlater's church at First Assembly of God. The group meets at 11:45 a.m.

Findlater said he got the idea to create the group while he was praying because he felt it would be a good way for others to hear how good God is.

Findlater believes that giving a testimony helps those who are listening relate to the message.

Although there are various ways to share beliefs, not every method is suc-

cessful in making a connection with the listeners.

"You can talk about what God says and still not get across what God is," he said.

Bringing people to God isn't the only benefit the group gets from giving testimonies.

Wesla Bourdeau, a member of the Rock of Gainesville's Rock Your Life program, said that members of the group can be reminded of how far their faith has brought them and get a sense of fulfillment of doing something asked of them.

On Campus "We're all called to be a witness, and I think by giving our testimony we're being a witness to God's grace," she said.

Bourdeau feels that using a person's story to witness helps make a personal connection to those listening.

According to Bourdeau, it draws them in more than simply spouting out rules and regulations. But the best part for him is seeing how it affects those who listen and truly take in the message.

"You can see a glimmer of freedom in their eyes, and you know that it's really helping them," Findlater said.

Talent show draws 200

By **ASHLEY HEMMY**
Alligator Contributing Writer

When four UF professors walked to the front of room 109 in Little Hall, they didn't start lecturing.

They sang a song in Chinese to the crowd of about 200 students and faculty gathered Monday night to celebrate the Year of the Tiger at the Chinese New Year Talent Show.

Students stood up, clapped and sang along. They also performed by singing, dancing, reading poetry and performing a "Finding Nemo" skit in Chinese at the talent show, which was sponsored by the Asian Studies program and the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

The Chinese New Year began Sunday, and the year of the tiger stands for bravery and independence.

Students performed with energy, confidence and humor. Many joked as they performed and kept the audience laughing throughout the show.

The audience clapped the most during

the performance of a group of freshmen who danced and sang to "Beijing huanying ni."

The students pranced around the stage as they sang the words in a range of different pitches.

Between performances, the six emcees led games like jeopardy and trivia, drew raffles and handed out prizes.

"You perform because you don't want to let your classmates down."

John Mahoney
UF sophomore

Professor I-Chun Peir said participation in the talent show is voluntary, but students love the event.

John Mahoney, a sophomore Chinese major, said students do not just perform for themselves.

"You perform because you don't want to let your classmates down," Mahoney said.



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TUES Feb. 16	Engineering & Science Fair Day 2: Grand Ballroom 9AM - noon
WED Feb. 17	Field Day: North Lawn 9AM - 2PM
THURS Feb. 18	Engineering Extravaganza: North Lawn & Reitz Colonnade 10AM - 3PM
FRI Feb. 19	Meet the Deans Barbeque: New Engineering Building Lawn noon - 2:30PM
SAT Feb. 20	American Society of Mechanical Engineers Swampfest 2010 Car Show: Commuter Lot 2PM - 8PM
SUN Feb. 21	Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers' Goals for Tomorrow Soccer Tournament: Flavet Field, 10AM - 5PM

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Constitution Amendments for the 2010 Spring Ballot

Fellow members of the Gator Nation:

As you may know, Student Government elections are upon us. While you may or may not vote in these elections, it is important that you know that this election is a bit different than most. Every 10 years, our student body Constitution demands that a Commission convene to draft revisions to our constitution, and this process has occurred over the last 14 months. The results of the Commission's work will be on the ballot during this election and you will have the opportunity to accept or reject the changes. I write to you today, as the Chairman of this Commission, to encourage you to vote in favor of these changes.

The 20 members of the Commission are proposing many important changes to our Constitution. The process was not a political process, but one designed to ensure that this important document holds our elected leaders accountable, that this document is updated and current, and that our student body has access to our student courts and student leaders. Our changes lower the threshold for impeachment for Student Senators that have been accused of official misconduct. We lowered the threshold to submit constitutional initiatives to the Student Supreme Court. In light of Florida Board of Governors Resolution 08-23, we ensured the continued viability and presence of the former office of Honor Court Chancellor by creating a presidentially appointed position.

The 20 members of this Commission span the entire spectrum of our Gator Nation community. From Majority and Minority party senators, the Interim Dean of Students, the current Senate President Pro-Tem, the current Chief Justice of the Student Body Supreme Court, the Director of Student Activities and Involvement, to many involved undergraduate, graduate, and law students. The result is a comprehensive and united effort to help ensure that our student government, like our student body, remains unrivaled in reputation, both today and into the future. I would encourage you to review the proposed changes and email me directly to discuss any questions you may have. We hope you will take the time to vote to pass this new Constitution.

Sincerely,
David M. Kerner
Chairman, 2009-2010 Constitution Revision Commission
3 LAW
dkerner@ufl.edu

On Behalf of the Full Commission: Taylor Tribou, Ben Cavaturo, Thomas Cockriel, Matt Michel, Jay Miller, Naadira Renfroe, Dan Siegel, Jacqueline Acosta, Victoria Ajayi, Kirby Bissel, Brooke Eisen-smith, Audrey Goldman, Kara Olesky, Frank Pierce, Whitney Smith, Josh Winegar, Dr. Paige Crandall (Interim Dean of Students), Dr. Nancy Chrystal-Green (Director of Student Activities and Involvement), Mr. Chris Loschiavo (Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution).

Language as it will appear on the ballot:

Should the Student Body Constitution be amended to: change the time for appointment of Summer Replacement Senators from May 1 to the last meeting of spring term; remove verbiage that purports to allow the Student Senate to contract on behalf of the student body; permit the Student Senate to amend election laws within four weeks, rather than five weeks, of an election; comply with Florida Board of Governors Resolution 08-23 by preserving the role of the Honor Code Chancellor, now referred to "Honor Code Executive Director," and allowing this executive director to be appointed by the Student Body President; amend Article III to read "Funding Fee Increase Restrictions", instead of "Budget Restrictions"; ensure that terms of executive department heads expire concurrently with the terms of the elected executive officials; remove any reference to the "Student Honor Court" and "Student Honor Court Bar Association;" direct the submission of proposals by initiative to the Chief Justice of the Student Body; amend the proposal initiative process to provide that a petition carrying the signatures of 5% of the student body shall be placed on the ballot; authorize the Elections Commission to determine if initiative ballot titles and summaries are accurate and lawful and amend ballot titles and summary if they determine that they are not accurate, subject to appeal to the Student Body Supreme Court; require 2/3 of the trial body of the Student Senate for conviction of impeachment, instead of 3/4; make grammatical and other minor corrections and replacements.

Summary of changes proposed in the amendment:

1-1: Article II: Changes various wording in the article. For example, this proposal removes the words "by law", and replaces this phrase with "provide by Student Body law". Further, where the article used list every judicial office, it now simply states "Student Government offices of the Judicial Branch". Where the article used to use the word "de jure", it now reads "automatic". Moves the non-discrimination clause to Article I. There are no major substantive changes in this proposal.

1-2: Article I: The non-discrimination clause is added here. Further, the basic rights under section 2 are now listed in a bullet point form, instead of reading as one full paragraph. The Honor Code is within this article.

1-3: Amends the preamble to read:

We, the Student Body of the University of Florida, in order to:

- Represent and defend the rights and interests of students to the university, the community, and government;
 - Provide a forum for the expressions of student views and interests;
 - Promote the academic freedom and responsibility and high standards of education;
 - Provide services and organize events for the benefit of students; and
 - Help promote understanding and recognition of the responsibilities of students to the university, the community, and humanity,
- Do hereby establish this Constitution.

2-1: Article III: Amends section 1 to read "All legislative powers of the Student Body shall be vested in a student senate.", instead of reading "All legislative powers of the Student Body shall be vested in the student senate."

2-2: Article III: Capitalizes "Student Senate" (where it used to read "student senate"). Further, it changes the deadline to appoint summer senators from May 1, to the last meeting of spring term.

2-3: Article III: Amends section 5 to mandate that the Student Senate President and the Student Senate President Pro Tempore shall be elected by the members of the senate according to their rules and procedures.

2-4: Article III: Amends section 6 by removing subsection (i), which purported to give the student senate the right to contract on behalf of the student body.

2-5: Article III: Amends section 7, subsection (i) to read "change the election laws during the four weeks before the scheduled election to be effective for that election.", instead of five weeks.

2-6: Article III: Amends section 7 by adding the office of "Executive Director of the Honor Code Administration" to the list of officers allowed to address the student senate.

2-7: Article III: Amends section 9 title to read "Funding Fee Increase Restrictions" instead of reading "Budget Restrictions".

2-8: Article III: Amends section 7 by removing subsection (h), which purports to give the student senate the authority to regulate a student honor court bar association.

3-2: Article IV: Amends section 4 to allow the student body president to appoint a "Student Honor Code Executive Director" to the cabinet. Further, it mandates that the terms of the heads of executive departments shall expire concurrently with the expiration of the regular terms of the elected executive officials. Finally, it changes the term "University Cashier" to read "University Controller".

4-1: Article IV: Eliminates section 4 (student honor court) and other references to it. It clarifies that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall appoint law students to serve as temporary justices where an Associate or the Chief Justice is subject to recusal.

5-1: Article V: Amends section 6 to require that the student senate to validate the general and run-off elections "in the next regularly scheduled senate meeting", instead of reading "no later than 10 school days after the last day of the final election an election cycle" Further, it amends section 7 to read that campus wide officers elected in the spring general election in races requiring a majority vote shall assume office "on the last regularly scheduled class day", instead of reading "at 8:00 PM on May 1st". Further, it amends section 8 to require a member of student government to hold a 2.5 GPA instead of a 2.0 GPA. Finally, it amends section 8 to read "Center for Student Activities and Involvement" instead of "Office of Student Activities".

6-1: Articles VII and VIII: Amends these articles to reverse the composition of the Impeachment Body and Trial Body and apply the same voting threshold of 2/3 for each body. The prior burden for the trial was 3/4. Amends the article to demand that 5% of the electorate sign any initiative before it will be placed on the ballot and directs that any initiative be directed to the Chief Justice of the Student Supreme Court. It further allows the Elections Commission to review the ballot title and summary of any initiative to ensure it complies with the law, and allows them to amend it if they find it does not comply with the law, subject to Supreme Court jurisdiction. Further, it amends the constitution to demand that a Constitution Revision Commission convene in 2019. Finally, regarding the CRC, it demands that the Director if CSAI be a member of the 2019 CRC instead of the Dean of Student.

Please contact David Kerner, Student Body Supreme Court Chief Justice and Chairman of the Constitutional Revision Committee, with any questions at chiefjustice@sg.ufl.edu. A copy of the changes can be found at www.sg.ufl.edu. Elections will be held February 23-24. Please visit www.sg.ufl.edu/elections for polling locations and a list of candidates.

Editorial

Feel Beta

Fundraiser too busy stroking egos

As Americans, the Editorial Board understands that people stroke egos in exchange for money. When bragging and brown-nosing rears its head in charitable events, however, we have to draw a line.

Beta Theta Pi's philanthropy raised money to fund a scholarship and combat Alzheimer's disease. It also raised our eyebrows because the fraternity used sororities performing cheers about their own houses to draw an audience.

Reliving their glory days as cheerleaders is one thing, but the sisters focused on being judged for praising their groups. The objective of the competition spotlights a glaring narcissistic problem at an event which should humble the people involved.

It seems to us that the Greek community tends to put up an if-we-throw-money-at-a-charity-they-can't-say-jack shield to defend from attacks on its self-serving entertainment choices.

As if setting up a contest to be told how great they are isn't bad enough, we question the necessity of the cheers in the first place.

Why would people train for months to sing the praises of their own organizations? We're not saying cheers raising awareness about Alzheimer's come by the dozen, but with the time and effort used to practice, coach and set up for the fundraiser, we're sure more people could have been helped. Imagine if the practice times were used to build houses for Habitat of Humanity, not to mention the potential power of an ex-Gators football player's endorsement.

It's time for the people leading these events to redirect their efforts away from vanity and toward the well-being of their fellow men.

NoSCAR

Nothing says love like "Gentlemen, start your engines!"

We can practically read the Hallmark cards now: "You rev my engine harder than Dale Earnhardt Jr. Happy Valentine's Day, honey. Now hold my beer!"

Call us strange or even outdated. But we at the Editorial Board enjoyed our boxes of chocolates and flowers our significant others showered us with on Valentine's Day.

We're sentimental. We're sappy. And, most importantly, we're normal. Some of us ruined special breakfasts we planned for our sweethearts. Some of us spent the day with family. But none of us took our honeys to the NASCAR event of the season to watch a 500-mile race in a certain sandy town to the south called Daytona Beach.

And we can't seem to understand how others did.

Don't get us wrong, some of us are very in tune with our Southern roots. One of us spent part of Valentine's Day at the Bass Pro Shop in Orlando. (We're judging, too.)

But for the most part, we can't seem to understand the concept of spending the holiday of love watching a set of cars take 200 laps around one big circle with thousands of other NASCAR-jacket and camoflage-hat wearing, die-hard fans hoping for a fiery crash over a photo finish.

And does anyone else think that whole pothole thing delaying the Great American Race is just a little bit funny?

We usually aren't particularly fond of potholes, but this one was like a special delivery from Cupid himself — a Valentine's Day gift for all.

the independent florida
alligator

Chelsea Keenan

EDITOR

Emily Fuggetta

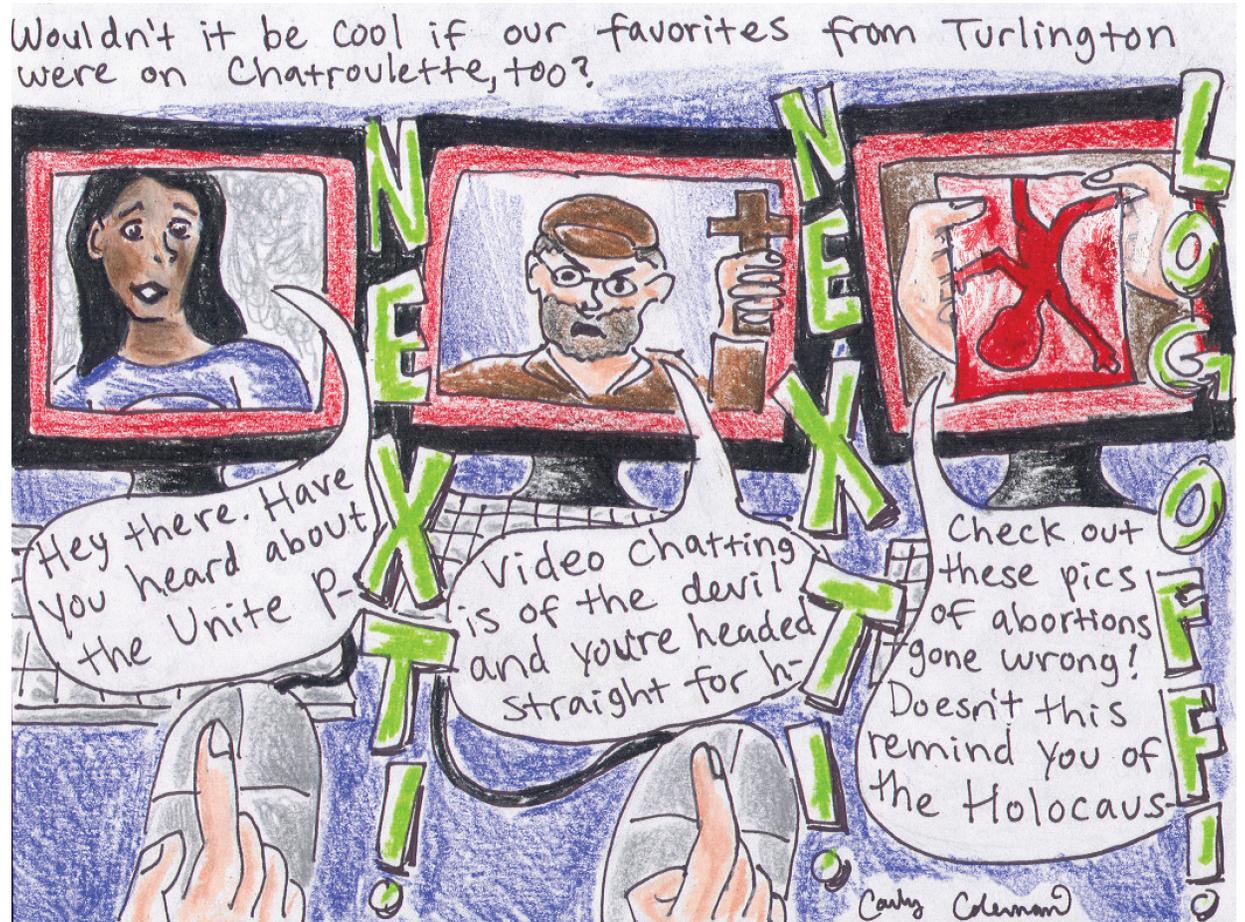
J. Hunter Sizemore

MANAGING EDITORS

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

Unconditional love not a realistic goal

Unconditional love is a strange thing to think about. It's often held up as the purest, most sincere sort of love — the sort of special love that transcends the pettiness and jealousy associated with most of the flawed relationships that supposedly make up the majority of our everyday connections.

Conversely, conditional love is often lambasted as something that doesn't even count as actual love. It's not really love, some might argue, if you have to fit some criteria before it's given to you.

This is all well and good for the universal sort of love that we should give and feel for each other as members of the human family. But for the specific, personal love that defines our relationships with our friends and significant others, I'm not completely sold.

It's a pretty bold statement to say that you love someone unconditionally. That literally means that you have no conditions on the love you offer them. There are no circumstances under which you'll stop offering it, and there is nothing that the recipient of your love can do that will cause you to cut it off.

And that sounds dangerously close to a sort of emotional enslavement — love that's offered involuntarily and without limitation. Besides, being possibly unfair to yourself and easily abused by the unscrupulous sounds utterly unromantic.

It's akin to when people say "I need you" as a way of conveying how much they love someone. Necessity is a poor basis for love because, by definition, it can't be the basis of selfless love; when you feel that you need someone, there's always something intrinsically self-serving playing some role in the decision to keep that person in your life. And thinking back to the people I've loved the most in my life, it's not that I needed them to be happy, it's just that there was no one I'd rather share my happiness with than them.

On the other hand, the conditions we set on our love can give it meaning. On the most basic level, it's a show of self-respect to say that your love is important enough to give it only



Joe Dellosa
letters@alligator.org

to those who demonstrate that they value it. Loving someone uniquely, the sort of love that gives the recipient a warm feeling of being appreciated, requires some measure of condition-setting. Knowing that love can be lost provides a reason to take steps to protect it.

But this might be an overly pedantic way of looking at unconditional

love.

I don't think it's unreasonable to say that many aspects of mainstream culture are conducive to making people feel inadequate. As much as people talk about how overly feel-good we've become, it's not hard to be told, implicitly or otherwise, that we're not smart, interesting, pretty, funny, put-together or just altogether worthwhile enough to be worthy of consideration. Media messages, TV commercials, cutthroat job interviews and hypercompetitive academia are all more than happy to drive that home.

It's not hard to see how some stability of love could be appealing. If not unconditional love, then love with some room for error. Or at least love that feels like it'd take some serious scrubbing before it wears off.

Truly unconditional love is just as meaningless as love based on too many conditions. Nobody should have to feel that the love they're receiving is generic and unearned, nor should anybody feel compelled to jump through hoops and perpetually impress somebody to earn that love.

Ultimately, it's not really about unconditional love in the strictest sense of the phrase. It's just about being aware that you'll find no shortage of people who are willing to tell you, "I'll love you only if ...," and feeling a little appreciative whenever you find someone of sound mind and judgment who's willing to tell you, "I'll love you even if ..."

Joe Dellosa is an advertising senior. His columns appear on Tuesdays.

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

Reader response

Today's question:

Does the Genocide Awareness Project have a place on campus?

Monday's question:

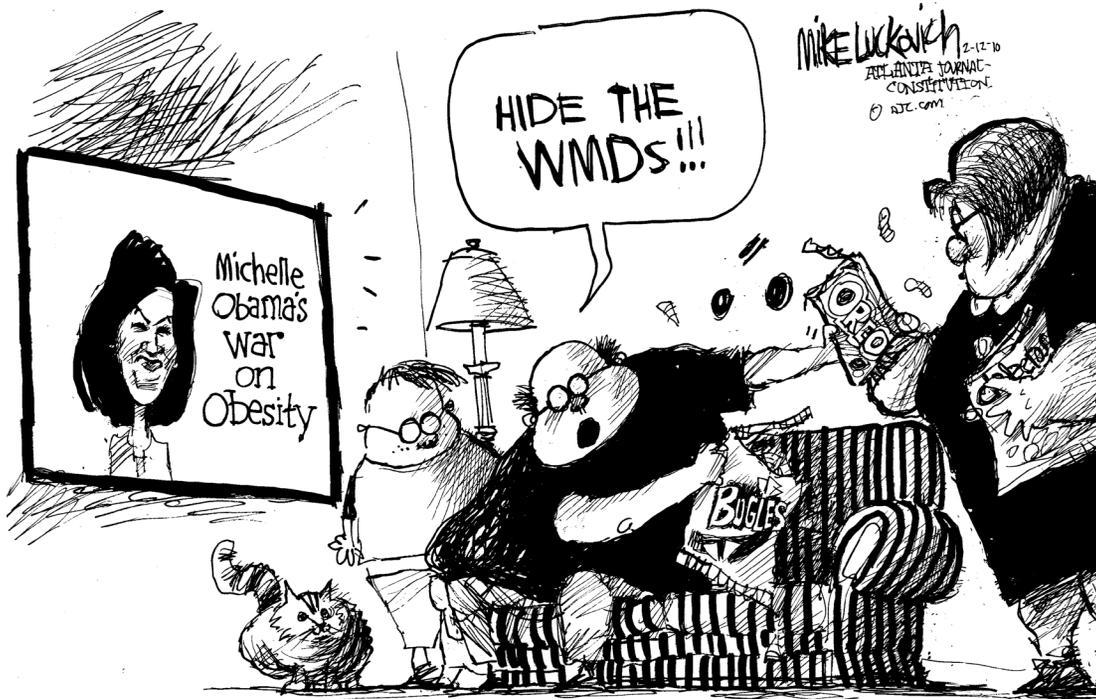
Have you been watching the olympics?

56% YES

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82 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org



Column

Genocide, abortion not the same

Genocide is the systematic and deliberate slaughter of a specific race, nationality or culture. This term applies to what happened in the concentration camps in Hitler's Germany, as well as to the slaughter of non-Arabic people of Darfur, Sudan, by the militant government. It does not apply, however, to abortion. No matter how you feel about the issue of abortion, everyone should be able to agree that it is not, at least, a genocide.

No mother is going to get an abortion because she doesn't want to propagate her own race or religion. Abortions are considered and undergone for



Paul Murty
letters@alligator.org

many different reasons, but genocide is not something that is considered.

For the anti-abortion protesters to have pictures of Darfur and of the Holocaust on the Plaza of the Americas, likening the two to abortion, is shameful. By calling abortion a genocide, they are purposely misleading students who walk through the plaza every day.

For the rest of Murty's column see alligator.org
Paul Murty is an English sophomore.

Letters to the Editor

Student Alliance party should stop negative campaign

Jonathan Ossip's guest column today was simply a joke. Very funny, Ossip, but we all know you don't have any friends on Fraternity Row.

Ossip's letter is indicative of the anger and fear that the Student Alliance party must be having. I'll tell you what makes me believe that his party was responsible for the fliers: the fact that they've done this before.

The Orange and Blue Party littered campus with "I voted" stickers in order to discourage Greek turnout in the fall elections. Now, Orange and Blue 2.0 is continuing the tradition of spreading hate and dividing the campus.

Ossip has to realize that he actually has something in common with the students who write letters in support of the Unite Party: His letters are about the Unite Party.

When will Jonathan Ossip and his party end their negative campaign? When will they realize that students want to see results? When will he realize that as much as changing the name and logo of a party can be aesthetically pleasing, it doesn't hide the fact that the party is Orange and Blue 2.0?

Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me. You're not fooling anyone twice, Jon, so shame on you.

Ryan Scott
UF student



Student Alliance party asks students to contribute ideas

The Student Alliance party has taken an unprecedented look at the issues. Instead of using regurgitated talking points, we've put serious thought and effort into a real platform. Most impor-

tantly, the Student Alliance party has focused on innovation and real ideas to improve student life and build a great future for UF.

Here are a few unique and innovative ideas for 2010: Bring video rental machines to campus. Bring Redbox or Blockbuster \$1 DVD rental machines to the Reitz Union or Hub to provide affordable movie rentals and generate revenue to be directed back to students.

Create a speakers and performers' endowment. The Student Alliance party vice presidential candidate, Sagar Sane, created a \$2 million speakers' endowment at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

If we raise money from Gators alumni and the University Athletic Association, we can bring quality speakers while taking a million dollars annually off the budget. Fire the ineffective Student Government lobbyists.

SG spends \$55,000 every year on part-time lobbyists who have failed to protect the Bright Futures Scholarship Program. Fire the lobbyists and use that money to fund a direct student lobbying campaign in City Hall, Tallahassee and Washington.

Expand off-campus Gator 1 Card partnerships. The Student Alliance party wants to reach out to off-campus businesses to set up Gator 1 programs like the one currently at Target Copy.

Expand support of graduate research. Double the amount of money given to the Graduate Student Council for travel and research grants to support vital graduate research in a down economy.

These are just a few of our 70 ideas - but we still want your ideas. See our full list and give us your own ideas at <http://www.ufstudentalliance.com>.

Yevgen Sautin
2CLAS

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Fliers create conflict

By **ELIZABETH BEHRMAN**
Alligator Writer

A war of words between the Unite Party and the Student Alliance party is already underway even though students have a week to wait before Student Government elections.

Students found fliers critical of the Unite Party placed on the windshields of cars parked along Fraternity Row and Sorority Row and distributed on the Plaza of the Americas late last week.

The fliers featured the Unite Party symbol and the message, "Obey?: A message from Greeks for a Democratic campus."

In the Friday edition of the Alligator, letters from students said the Student Alliance party distributed the fliers.

But Jonathan Ossip, the Senate leader of the Student Alliance party, said the party did not distribute the fliers.

He said the letters were from students who did not confirm who made the fliers before attacking his party.

"I just think they saw this as an opportunity to attack their opposition, and they did so with little regard for the truth," Os-

sip said.

Unite Party spokesman Ben Meyers said the Unite Party does not want to focus on the message of the fliers, which were attacking the Unite Party.

"We really want to concentrate on the campaign, and hopefully stuff like that doesn't happen," he said.

Part of the Unite Party's campaign includes a party video available on YouTube and the Unite Party's Web site, uniteparty.com.



Ossip

The video was created by Unite Party volunteers and features students expressing pride in SG.

Nick Mildebrath, campaign manager for the Student Alliance

party, said his party's video is also available on the Student Alliance party's Web site, ufstudentalliance.com and on YouTube. It includes students describing how it is time for change in SG.

The Action Party could not be reached for comment about its party platform or campaign tactics.



Steven H. Keys / Alligator Staff

Scare Tactics

Kristin Chizmar, a member of Alpha Epsilon Delta, passes out fliers discussing the dangers of drunken driving for the Premedical Honor Society.

Anti-abortion group hosts campus event, draws protestors

Photographs showing bloody fetuses were displayed

By **MINCH MINCHIN**
Alligator Writer

Hundreds of students walked past towering photographs about 8 feet tall of bloody fetuses displayed on the Reitz Union North Lawn and the Plaza of the Americas Monday.

The presentation of images, which lasted from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., was part of the Genocide Aware-

ness Project, an anti-abortion campaign that attempts to draw parallels between abortion and genocide by showing graphic pictures of dead genocide victims alongside equally graphic pictures of aborted fetuses.

"It's by showing these pictures that we can make abortion unthinkable," said Lukas Bebjak, a representative for the Center for Bioethical Reform, an anti-abortion

organization that co-sponsored the event with the UF Pro-Life Alliance. "Like slavery, 150 years from now, people will look at [abortion] and say, 'How did we let this happen?'"

On Campus

The two fenced-in displays of images also drew about a dozen sign-holding protestors from Planned Parenthood.

"They're using atrocities in his-

tory to make a political statement," said Natalie Muniz, the director of education and communication for Planned Parenthood of North Florida. "We're just here to educate. If a woman has an unwanted pregnancy in this country, she has options."

Students had the chance to voice their opinions and ask the event staff questions during an open microphone session.

Most questions focused on the differences between genocide and abortion.

"The difference is that the [unborn] are not aware of anything," UF freshman Kenya Johnson said. "I think abortion is wrong most of the time, but there is a difference."

Nick Tomlinson, a UF geography senior, disagreed.

"[A fetus] is just a string of cells," Tomlinson said. "It's not a human yet. That's the difference."

For more on the event see alligator.org

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376-2507 * www.bivenscove.com
4-21-09-71-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

●●●●PARKING●●●●
Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF.
Reserve now! Reasonable rates. 352-538-
2181. Can leave msg. 4-21-09-71-2

Madison Pointe Apartments
1/1-\$699 2/2-\$799 3/2-\$899
Enormous Screened Patio!
W/D~Walk-in closets~Tanning
Fitness Center~Full size bball court
NW 23rd Blvd 352-372-0400
Text MADISON to 47464
4-21-71-2

●THE POLOS●
Already have your roommates?
ALL utilities Included
2's: From \$479/person; 3's: From \$399/person
(352)335-7656 www.thepolosuf.com
4-21-09-71-2

Huge Private Dog Park
1's from \$499 * Waive all fees
Close to UF, Shands, Butler Plaza
Pet Friendly * 376-1248
www.hiddenvillageapt.com
2725 SW 27th Ave
4-21-09-71-2

1's, 2's and 4's
AS BIG AS A HOUSE!
Great School Districts
Free Personal Training
75 SW 75th Street Call 332-7401 4-21-
71-2

No Move-In Fees
1/1's from \$659 * 3/2's from \$799
FREE Tanning*Pool*Gym
www.aspenridgeuf.com
352.367.9910
4-21-09-71-2

Move in Today!
All Inclusive roommate matching - \$606
Spacious 2/2 Townhomes - & LOCATION!
Park-n-Ride Bus Route-So you can sleep in!
3500 SW 19th Ave*www.MuseumWalk.com
379-9255
4-21-09-71-2

SORORITY ROW 2BR
2BR/2.5BA for \$1199
W/D & utils included. We <3 pets!
No move-in fees! FREE Parking!
372-7111 * www.CollegeManor.org
4-21-09-71-2

LAKWOOD VILLAS
Large 1, 2 & 3 bdrm Floor Plans;
Starting at \$830. Corporate units available.
Furniture Packages Include: Washer/Dryer;
Workout Rm, Tennis Court; Swimming Pool;
Sauna etc. Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 10-3
700 SW 62nd Blvd 877-781-8314
www.lakewoodvillas.com
text (lakewood)@65586
4-21-09-71-2

● SPYGLASS ●
Individual Leases: Furniture Packages
Incl Washer/Dryer, FREE Hspeed Internet;
Rates start at \$399
Every Unit is an End Unit
Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 10-3
701 SW 62nd Blvd 888-267-5078
www.spyglassapts.com
text (spyglass)@65586
4-21-09-71-2

ACROSS FROM UF!
Studios from \$475, includes electric!
Wood floors available. FREE parking.
No Move-in Fees * We <3 Pets!
372-7111 www.CollegeManor.org
4-21-09-71-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

BRAND NEW REDUCED RATES!
1's, 2's, 3's
* Inclusive Pkgs Available
* Pet Friendly!
* Immediate or Fall Move In
352-374-3866
4-21-09-71-2

WALK TO CLASS!
1brs from \$505 - 150 ft from UF!
Move-in today. FREE parking!
We <3 Pets! No Move-in Fees.
372-7111 * 1216 SW 2nd Ave
4-21-09-71-2

\$394 ALL INCLUSIVE
Upscale Student Living
TV IN YOUR APT!*Ask how
Bus line through the Complex!
GainesvillePlace.com*352-271-3131
4-21-71-2

Action Real Estate Services
Houses to Condos
1-4 BR, Starting at \$450
www.action-realtors.com
352-331-1133
4-21-09-71-2

WALK TO CAMPUS
1BRs from \$550 2BRs from \$600
Sun Bay ● Sun Key ● Sun Harbor
352-376-6720 www.sunisland.info
Ask about our new pet policy & other specials
4-21-09-71-2

Wake Up 10 Min Before Class
...AND be on time!
Studios from \$499, 1s from \$575
\$0 M/I Fees, Pet Friendly
371.7777 CollegeParkUF.com
4-21-09-71-2

● Check out our apartments. Priced from
\$400-\$525. Close to shopping & university.
● Also 3BR/2BA house available. \$900/mo.
No section 8. Call 335-7066 for info. 4-21-
09-71-2

FOX HOLLOW
Gated Entry
ASK ABOUT OUR MOVE-IN SPECIAL
7301 W Univ Ave
Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 10-2
352-332-3199
www.cmcap.com/foxxhollow
4-21-09-71-2

WALK & BIKE TO UF
●1BR/1BA \$425
● 2BR \$450-\$600 - W/D incl
Gore Rabell Real Estate 378-1387
www.Gore-Rabell.com 4-21-09-71-2

The Grove Villas
Rental Community
Ask about our Move-in Specials
Gated Community
6400 SW 20th Ave
888-373-0849
4-21-09-71-2

1Bdrm 1 bath apt, w/ full kitchen, and pri-
vate gated court yard \$450/mo. Great loca-
tion @ 3320 SW 23rd Street. On bus routes,
close to most everything. 352 377-2150 or
paloverde3320@yahoo.com 2-19-10-75-2

1, 2, 3 BR's - WE'VE GOT IT ALL!
1/1 from \$589 * 2/2 from \$649
3/2 from \$769 * Washer/Dryers
Free Tanning * Fitness * Pool * Pets Loved!
Tennis*1 mile to UF*Huge Laundry Facilities
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4-21-09-71-2

BLOCKS TO UF
Available August 2010. Now showing
multiple houses. 2BR/2BA, 3BR/2BA,
4BR/3BA, 5BR/3BA. www.dalyproperties.
com or call Carol 359-3341 2-26-10-43-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

100+ apts: Live by UF
 * Affordable & Luxury * 4BR \$479/br
 3BR \$550/br * 2BR \$420/br * 1BR \$689
 Studios \$605 * Virtual Tours * Avail Fall
 352-376-6223 * www.LiveNearCampus.com
 4-21-71-2

WOODLAND TERRACE APTS
 Off SW 34th St near post office. 2BR \$540;
 1BR \$465. Call for daily specials. 352-335-
 0420 3-31-10-58-2

SERENOLA PINES APTS
 Off SW 34th St. near post office. 1BR \$490;
 2BR \$590 Call for daily specials 352-335-
 0420 3-31-10-58-2

\$199 Move-In Special
 \$500-\$700 2 bed/1 bath
 Walking distance to UF and downtown
 800-805-7379 or (352)505-9264 2-17-10-
 30-2

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

Spacious 1, 2, & 3br starting at \$495. Many
 floor plans, some with enclosed patios or bal-
 conies. 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

★CAMPUS EDGE CONDO★
 2BR/2BA Walk to UF, Shands & VA. Tile
 floor, W/D in unit, avail fall. Reasonable rate.
 239-250-6149 2-26-10-35-2

One Block to UF:2/2.5 bath townhouse. W/D,
 Dishwasher, Garbage Disposal, wood floors,
 ceiling fans, GUARANTEED Parking call
 Todd at 514-4915, VERY Nice townhouse
 2-26-10-33-2

AVAILABLE AUGUST 1st Nice large
 4BR/2BA house. Big bedrooms, big living rm
 W/D provided, game rm \$1425/mo. 2100 NW
 8th Court. Call for directions. Pets ok, fenced
 yard. Other houses available 352-339-2342
 2-19-10-33-2

**** Across From UF ****
 Closest Luxury Apartments to Classes
 2BR / 2BA Starting @ \$1080
 www.LookingGlassApartments.com
 111 NW 16th St. -- Call 376-1111
 4-21-65-2

*** One Month Free and \$40 Moves you In!!**
 Pine Rush Villas Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
 1/1 \$499 2/1 \$639
 Near UF and Oaks Mall
 Ph. 375-1519 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

*** 1st Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Homestead Apts Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
 2/1 from \$599 2/2 from \$699
 Additional \$200 off next month
 SW Archer Rd. Area
 Ph. 376-0828 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

*** One Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Sunrise Villas Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
 1/1 \$509 Additional \$200 off the next month.
 NO APP FEE. Near UF, Shands and VA
 Ph.372-4835 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

*** 1st Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Courtney Greens Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
 Totally Renovated 1/1 \$599
 Near Oaks Mall
 Ph. 375-3077 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

*** One Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Villas at Ashton Square
 Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
 2/2 \$719 3/2 \$849
 Huge floorplans.
 W/D hookup Near Oaks Mall
 Ph.333-1120 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

*** One Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Summer Place Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
 1/1 \$519
 Just off SW 34th St.
 Ph. 376-0828 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

*** One Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Sundowne Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
 Studio \$469 1/1 \$519
 Walk to Butler Plaza and Regal Cinemas
 Ph. 377-2596 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

*** One Month Free and \$40 Moves You In!!**
 Gator Village Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
 1/1 \$489
 Near Downtown off 6th Street
 Ph. 372-3826 www.gremco.com
 4-21-10-65-2

Walk to UF. Openings in Feb, May & Aug.
 ● 2BR/2.5BA \$850 ● 2BR/1BA \$700
 ● 1BR/1BA \$585 ● studios \$475-\$430.
 1 yr lease, SD, NS, NP. Call/Text
 352-870-7256 or gvl132601@gmail.com
 2-26-10-32-2

Renting Now and for Fall!!
 We have REAL 1/1s
3 blocks to UF - GATORNEST
 575 sq ft, \$550 PLUS ONE MONTH FREE!
 300 NW 18th Street
4 blocks to UF - GATORSIDE
 400 sq ft, only \$450!
 1600 NW 4th Avenue
BIKE to UF - CENTERPOINT
 530 sq ft, only \$450!
 1220 NW 12th Street
 No application fee, most pets ok.
 For info call E.F.N. Properites, 352-371-3636
 or visit our website at www.efnproperties.com
 3-18-10-40-2

The Retreat at **Madison Pointe**
 2/2 Flats and 3/3 Townhomes
 Private Garage~Vaulted Ceilings
 Screened Patio~W/D~Microwave
 All furies and fuzzies WELCOME!!!!
 2701 NW 23rd Blvd
 352-372-0400 madisonpointe.org
 Text MADISON to 47464 for info!
 4-21-60-2

GOT ROACHES?
 Buy Harris Famous Roach Tablets.
 Guaranteed to kill. Available at: Zells
 Hardware, 3727 West University 3-17-10-
 35-2

4 BR's FOR FALL!
 ONLY \$1089 * 1525 square feet HUGE!!!
 Washer/Dryer* Fireplace * Water/Sewer incl.
 Free Tanning * Fitness * Pool * Tennis
 Individual Leases * Pets Loved
 376-2507 * www.bivenscove.com
 4-21-10-55-2

Move in Special: No Security Deposit
 2/2 Condo with washer/dryer, screened-
 in porch, newer condo, near UF. Shands,
 located off 34th & Archer Rd. 2 units
 available \$750/mo. Call 317-5060 215-5996
 3-1-10-27-2

★★★HOUSE 4BR/2BA★★★
 Available 8/1. Lovely, remodeled. W/D. Bike
 to UF. No pets. 3532 NW 7th Ave. \$1400/
 mo. 373-1558, 246-8645, or 256-8370 2-16-
 10-15-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1. Large 4BR/2BA house,
 Wash/dry provided, privacy fenced, pets ok,
 full sized hot tub on back screened porch,
 dishwasher, carport, \$1600/mo. 3413 NW
 8th Ave 352-339-2342 2-19-10-15-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1. 3BR/1BA house. Nice.
 Nine blocks from campus, wash/dry pro-
 vided, cent H/AC fenced private backyard,
 hardwood floors, detached garage. \$1125/
 mo. 924 NW 9th Ave. 352-339-2342 2-19-
 10-15-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1. Clean modern 4BR/2BA
 house. fenced backyard, pets ok, fireplace,
 wash/dry provided, wooded private big yard.
 \$1425/mo, central heat/air. 2606 NW 34th
 Street. 352-339-2342 2-19-10-15-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1. Clean nice 4BR/2BA
 house, privacy fenced backyard, pets ok,
 hardwood floors, fireplace, plenty of parking,
 wash/dry provided, dishwasher, cent heat/air
 \$1400/mo 830 NW 16th Ave 352-339-2342
 2-19-10-15-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

FIRST MONTH FREE MILLRUN CONDO
 Close to UF, cute & clean 2BD/2BA
 1000sq ft, storage/laundry room with W/D
 hk-ups, pool. Pets considered. Rent \$695/
 mo Phone (352) 359-8311 3-31-37-2

★A Place in the Sun★
 Walk/Bike to UF
 Big 3 bd/ 1 ba
 New Kitchen / Huge Yard
 Must See, \$1,500/mo
 352-375-8256
 4-21-52-2

★★Sorority Row Area★★
 Historic 3 bd/ 2 ba
 Completely Remodeled
 W/D inc. Spiral Staircase
 Walk to Class, \$1,500/mo
 352-375-8256
 4-21-52-2

★★8 Blocks to UF★★
 Great Deal on Large Upstairs
 2 bd/ 1 ba Hardwood Floors
 Save Money @ \$750/mo
 352-375-8256
 4-21-52-2

★Walk to Class & Stadium★
 2/1, W/D, Granite Countertops
 Hardwood Floors & Fireplace
 Huge Bedrooms.Covered parking
 \$1300/mo
 352-375-8256
 4-21-52-2

★★Large 5 Bedrm House★★
 1 full & 3-1/2 baths
 Plant Atriums, Unique floorplan, W/D
 Plenty of Parking, 8 blocks N of UF
 \$2,500/mo 352-375-8256
 4-21-52-2

WOODBURY ROW LUXURY HOMES
 Walk to UF/Sorority Row 4bd/4.5ba
 3 stories w/ 4 master suites. w/d incl.
 Near corner of SW 5th Ave & SW 12th St
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 4-21-10-36-2

LEASING NOW FOR FALL
 Many properties avail near campus.
 1,2,3,4, & 5 bedrooms!!
 www.rentgainesville.com
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 4-21-10-36-2

5 BD 4 BA Home for Rent
 2521 SW Williston Road
 Huge home on a large lot.
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 4-21-10-36-2

2BD 1 BA WALK TO UF
 Charming Quad near AGH
 1005 SW 3rd Ave
 Hardwood floors & parking
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 www.rentgainesville.com
 4-21-10-36-2

3 & 4 BD WALK TO UF
 We have Homes near
 Sorority Row & Stadium!
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 www.rentgainesville.com
 4-21-10-36-2

NEWLY REMODELED
 Chelsea Lane Apts!
 Close to UF & on Bus Route
 W/D incl. Call today
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 www.chelsealaneapartments.com
 4-21-10-36-2

3BD/3BA Homes Near UF
 Washer/Dryer incl. \$1,200/mo
 Newer homes/ limited avail.
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 4-21-10-36-2

1 BDs Near UF
 Starting at \$375/mo!
 Reserve now for Fall
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 4-21-10-36-2

University Terrace West
 4BD/BA Individual Leases
 \$350/mo w/d incl. Call
 Union Properties 352.373.7578
 4-21-10-36-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

●●●THE OASIS APTS ●●●
 Large 1 & 2BD apts, w/ huge private patio.
 Park at your door in small quiet complex
 in SW Gainesville on bus rt. Call 377-3149
 2-26-18-2

\$100 OFF 1st MONTH RENT. 2 BR/1BA
 Phoenix apt. 1 mile to campus and Shands.
 W/D conn. Fenced yard. \$500sec., \$495/
 month. 3120 SW 26th Way Unit A. 562-2782
 or 514-6869 if interested. 3-16-25-2

A MUST SEE! 2/1 across the street from
 Shands/VA. Walk/bike/bus to class/work.
 New appliances/flooring. Low utilities. \$700/
 month. Call Tim to see- 352-843-0220.
 2-26-18-2

2BR/1BA cent heat mobile home. Shady lot.
 From \$300 - \$450/mo incl water. No pets.
 4546 NW 13th Street. 376-5887 3-2-20-2

1BR apt. for rent off Tower Rd. \$385/mo. We
 accept Section 8. We will pay you \$500 cash
 back for 1 year lease on Section 8. 352-498-
 3035 3-2-10-20-2

705 NW 10th Avenue <9Blks from UF
 3BR/1BA, 8rooms + 400 sq.ft.porch, Central
 A/C, W/D, \$1,250 + util. Avail. Aug. 275-
 1259, ATucker458@aol.com 3-5-10-22-2

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 2-17-10-2

★★MUST SEE - IN-LAW SUITE★★
 1BR full BA, living room, dining room, full
 kitchen. w/cable & W/D. Incl all utils. Near
 Haile. Quiet. \$750/mo. Call 352-367-0372
 3-5-1-21-2

10houses.com for more info
 2 & 3 bd Houses for August 1
 w/d, cent h/ac, wood fls, quiet
 \$840-\$1400 Bike to UF
 352.336.6116 nancy@10houses.com
 3-5-10-20-2

WALK ONE BLOCK TO CAMPUS!
 1, 2, 3, and 4 BR units available now and
 for Fall 2010. Locations between SW 1st
 ave, SW 5th ave & SW 12th St. Call Kinetic
 Properties at 352-337-9600 (no dogs please)
 3-19-10-25-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

4Br/3Ba Large Home w/ 2 car gar, 8 min from
 UF, large fenced yard, dogs ok. Exquisite
 oaks & landscaping, wood & tile floors, new
 appliances. \$1,600/mo. 352-466-0358. Avail
 summer or Aug. 3120 NW 31st Blvd. 3-5-
 10-20-2

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 2-19-
 10-10-2

BRIDGELIGHT
 1 BR Loft Style
 starting at \$530 mo.
 M-F 1-6 Sat. by appt.
 3006 SW 23rd St. 377-5221
 www.cmcp.com/bridgelight
 4-21-10-35-2

PET'S PARADISE
 \$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR,
 privacy fenced. SW. 352-331-2099 2-22-
 10-10-2

Available now. HOUSE 3BR/2BA, 1.5 miles
 to UF, near Landings Apts. On UF bus rte.
 Bike to UF. Fenced backyard, fireplace,
 cent H/AC. 3627 SW 15th St. \$900/mo. All
 4BR/2BA \$1100/mo. 327-2931 or 376-6183
 2-23-10-10-2

Female roommate pref for furn/unfurn
 1br/1ba in a 2br/2.5ba townhouse in quiet
 SW neighborhood near UF & Shands. AVAIL
 NOW, M-to-M lease, \$450/month & \$250
 refundable deposit. Call Ann 352-870-7414
 2-26-10-13-2

Baxter Cottage 2 blks to UF campus, 1013
 SW 4 Ave 2BR/1BA, Bright, clean, complete-
 ly remodeled, 500 sq ft, Cent AC/Ht,wood
 flrs, DW, W/D, NS, NPets. \$550+util. Lease
 runs thru 7/1/10 ATucker458@aol.com 3-5-
 10-18-2

Lakefront House/5 Acres/Quiet
 2BR/2BA/FI Rm w/pri ent/Lg Kit
 LR w/Fire Pl/Washer Dryer/2-car
 Carport/Interlachen \$1500./mo
 813-473-3713 swellgirl@gmail.com 2-26-
 10-13-2

\$650, 2 bdrms, 1 block Shands, VA; Vet
 school & campus - short walk. Available now;
 Prefer calm, quiet, stable, mature residents.
 Carpets, Some utils furnished; Parking; 352
 376 0080; 352 284 3873; postj@bellsouth.net
 3-5-10-17-2

SCRABBLE BRAND **G₂ R₁ A₁ M₃ S₁**

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E ₁	E ₁	U ₁	N ₁	T ₁	V ₄	R ₁			
A ₁	A ₁	E ₁	Y ₄	W ₄	C ₃	R ₁			
E ₁	I ₁	I ₁	U ₁	T ₁	M ₃	L ₁			
A ₁	E ₁	O ₁	R ₁	P ₃	M ₃	C ₃			

2nd Letter Triple **RACK 1**

RACK 2

RACK 3

Double Word Score **RACK 4**

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 211

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

HAILE PLANTATION CONDO FOR RENT 2/2 condo near the Village Center, walk to restaurants, shops, and coffee houses, jogging trails, golf course. Call 352-258-4695 2-17-10-5-2

Beautiful 3/3, close to school, dir. on bus! Brand new appl, paint, bedding, remold bthrms, Frnt bldg, upstrs. \$1250/mo. bdduf86@comcast.net 3-4-10-14-1

2BR/2.5BA townhouse condo, 1 mi from UF on bus route. Incl W/D, community clubhouse, pool & fitness center. Wired for internet & security sys. \$878/mo. Avail May 1 or Aug 1. 332-8841, lindalu@gatorhomes.com 3-1-10-10-2

7 Blks UF, 4 bed 3 bath, 2 masters, POOL HOT TUB, 2500 sq ft, 2 porches, 5 car parking, responsible students, professionals only, will leave plasma on wall, \$2375 a month starting May, Jordan 352-222-0211 2-22-10-5-2

THE POLOS

"You want it, We got it!" #1 in Amenities

2/2's: From \$799; 3/3's: From \$979 Includes FREE Internet 352-335-7656 www.thepolosuf.com 4-21-10-42-2

NW - Appletree, Contemporary Home. 3BR/2BA, 2 car garage, sunroom, cul-de-sac st. 1700 sq ft. NICE \$995/mo. Irene Larsson Owner/Realtor 352-373-2605, 352-538-1218 3-1-10-10-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

NW - Home 3BR/2BA, 2 car carport, large family room, fenced yard, extra storage, W/D. \$980/mo. Irene Larsson Mgmt Service 352-373-2605 3-1-10-10-2

3 Subleases

DON'T WAIT TO PLACE YOUR SUBLEASE AD
Last spring semester paper published on April 21st.
CALL TODAY!!!
or
PLACE YOUR AD AT WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG

1BR available in 2BR/1BA University Commons, 3rd Floor, pool view. Share with male student. \$400/mo + \$30 util. 3 month lease - May, June, July. Furnished + W/D. Call 863-381-1161 2-17-10-11-3

3 Subleases

Arlington Square 207 SE 2nd Place. Downtown near the Hipp. on bus routes. 2BR/2bath townhome. Available immediately. \$650.00. Lease expires 7-30-10. 863-258-6350 2-18-10-5-3

Summer Sublease 2 Blocks from campus Windsor Hall \$300 per month, all utilities included fully furnished 407-314-0535 2-10-4-3

4 Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE Oxford Manor 377-2777 The Landings 336-3838 The Laurels 335-4455 Greenwch 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 - \$260 + \$50 utils charge/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 now for responsible mature individual. \$400-\$800/mo OBO + utils. Brandywine on Archer Rd. yttek@hotmail.com or 305-332-6566 2-16-10-61-4

Enjoy A Romantic Old House Near library downtown. \$295-\$375/rm + utils. Short term. No pets. No smoking. 378-1304 2-26-10-28-4

Female seeks roommate for 4/2.5 townhouse, cricket club, all included, no pets, \$400 954-557-4769 3-4-10-30-4

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 2-26-10-20-4

4 Roommates

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1 br w/ private bath in beautiful NW home. rent 375/mo. Washer/dryer, central AC/heat. Pics on Craigs list. Mike 352-316-3930 2-16-10-5-4

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4BR/4BA fairly new condo for sale. Ideal for students or family. Within 2 miles of everything: school, shopping, library. Quick sale. \$139,000. University Terrace on 34th St. Call 941-232-1960 3-3-10-20-5

3BR/3BA, 4171 sq ft, heating & A/C, 3-car garage, 20'x40' screened pool, small office, sauna hottub, 1 1/4 acres. 1410 NW 110th Terr, \$422,500. 352-332-1050 2-22-10-10-5

Short Sale Condo!!! Beautiful Carriage House Lane Townhome 2BR/1.5BA, fireplace. Laminated wd flr downstairs/Carpet upstairs. For more info, please call 407-709-2703 ExitRealtyProducers 2-16-10-5-5

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

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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

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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

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

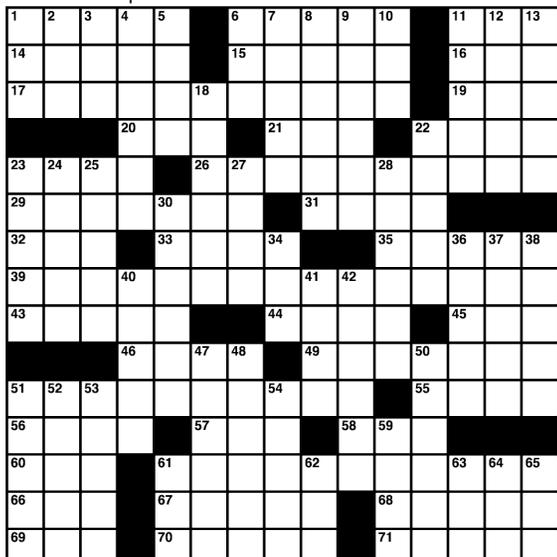
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Western Florida city
 - 6 Rice
 - 11 Air gun ammo
 - 14 Catherine of "Beetlejuice"
 - 15 Binary system digits
 - 16 Exercise unit
 - 17 *Relaxing soak
 - 19 Brew in a yard
 - 20 "Just ___ suspected!"
 - 21 "... have you ___ wool?"
 - 22 Company whose calling is calling
 - 23 Bio kin
 - 26 *Great concert turnout
 - 29 Sympathetic connection
 - 31 Cease
 - 32 Blood system letters
 - 33 Confirmation, e.g.
 - 35 Outperforms
 - 39 *Many an exec's remuneration
 - 43 Work with hair
 - 44 Pre-coll. catchall
 - 45 Bit of Internet mirth
 - 46 Binary system digits
 - 49 Pulls an all-nighter
 - 51 *Unlucky selection
 - 55 Course with many problems
 - 56 Hip-swiveling dance
 - 57 Beachgoer's shirt
 - 58 Rioting group
 - 60 Former California fort
 - 61 What you can say about sketches, and about the answers to the starred clues
 - 66 NFL's Cardinals, on scoreboards
 - 67 Free-for-all
 - 68 McDermott of "The Practice"
 - 69 Soap-making need
 - 70 "___ my case"
 - 71 Figure out
- DOWN**
- 1 Heavy weight
 - 2 Bigeye or yellowfin, at a sushi bar
 - 3 Cheese partner
 - 4 Radio signal booster
 - 5 Sighs of contentment
 - 6 HIV-treating drug
 - 7 Masonry-reinforcing rod
 - 8 Tree-dwelling apes
 - 9 "Almost ready—be patient"
 - 10 Suffix with Brit network
 - 11 "Top Chef"
 - 12 Downstairs, at sea
 - 13 Blow, as dough
 - 18 Well driller
 - 22 Skin care maven Adrien
 - 23 Uncouth
 - 24 Good thing to kick
 - 25 Hobbyist's glue
 - 27 Westernmost Aleutian island
 - 28 Kurt of Nirvana
 - 30 Point in the right direction
 - 34 Preceding, in poetry
 - 36 Tex-Mex dip
 - 37 "Rainbow" fish
 - 38 Mythical air dweller
 - 40 Regional plant life
 - 41 Corsica neighbor
 - 42 Skeptic's demand
 - 47 Her book is read during the Jewish holiday Purim
 - 48 "Remington ___"
 - 50 Pre-fetus stage
 - 51 Shallow sea area
 - 52 Speed things up
 - 53 Song from the past
 - 54 Three-time N.L. stolen base champ José
 - 59 Gambler's concerns
 - 61 Pa. plant in the 1979 news
 - 62 Like Gen. Powell
 - 63 Every last one
 - 64 Sound file suffix
 - 65 L.A.-to-Helena dir.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 02/16/10



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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

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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

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12 Autos

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OPERATION CATNIP
 Many needs and opportunities can be found at www.nmhp.net. Feral cat capture, spaying, volunteering, office work earn Disney Tix, etc. Email: operationcatnip@nmhp.net

13 Wanted

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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Differences: 1. Mailbag is black. 2. Apron is different. 3. Door has small window. 4. Woman has headband. 5. House is missing. 6. Mailman's arm patch is gone.

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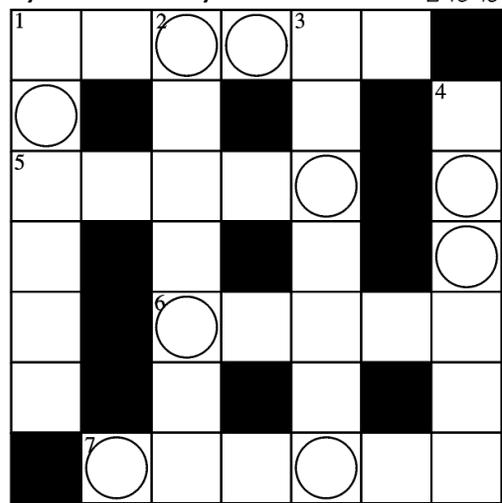
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UF looking for new leadoff hitter

By TYLER JETT
Alligator Writer
tjett@alligator.org

Florida seems to have everything figured out entering the 2010 season.

Coach Kevin O'Sullivan said the No. 7 Gators are two-deep at every position except for pitcher, where UF has a stable of young, live arms thanks to two-straight recruiting classes ranked in the top five by Baseball America.

UF also has the middle of its lineup loaded with 2009 Southeastern Conference Co-Freshman of the Year Preston Tucker batting third and newcomer Austin Maddox, physically one of the biggest players on the team, hitting cleanup.

"Losing Avery, it's a lot from our lineup. He was really tough to strike out (and) had a knack for getting on base. We're going to look for someone to hopefully fill that role."

Kevin O'Sullivan
UF baseball coach

But, with just three days left until opening night, one important question still lingers: Who's up first?

For the past two seasons, outfielder Avery Barnes was a constant atop UF's lineup, hitting leadoff in 93 of 122 games. Barnes, who was drafted in the 11th round by the Colorado Rockies in July, led the Gators in hits (90), stolen bases (18) and runs scored (76) in 2009.

But now, Barnes is gone, and O'Sullivan needs a new No. 1.

"Losing Avery, it's a lot from our lineup," O'Sullivan said. "He was really tough to strike out (and) had a knack for getting on base. We're going to look for someone to hopefully fill that role."

Senior center fielder Matt den Dekker and freshman shortstop Nolan Fontana are the leading candidates to bat first this season, O'Sullivan said.

Fontana, who is competing with fellow freshman Cody Dent for a starting shortstop position, hit leadoff for the 2008 USA 18-U National Team at the World Junior Championships. Although he said he's wil-



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF center fielder Matt den Dekker returned to UF for his senior season despite being selected in the MLB Draft. Den Dekker will look to improve from his disappointing junior campaign.

ing to hit anywhere, Fontana added he's most comfortable batting first.

O'Sullivan said Fontana is patient at the plate, can bunt well and is a threat to steal bases — all characteristics of a productive leadoff hitter.

But the favorite to bat first is den Dekker, who hit leadoff in the 29 games Barnes didn't the past two seasons.

Den Dekker was projected to be an early selection in the 2009 MLB Draft entering last season, and those expectations negatively affected his performance at the plate.

He said he pressed too much, trying to pull home runs instead of going the other way on outside pitches.

"You say you're not worrying about it," den Dekker said of the expectations. "You obviously have it in the back of your head."

Not including a 19-game hot streak, den Dekker hit .263 last year.

After falling to the 16th round of the draft, where the Pittsburgh Pirates selected him, den Dekker elected to return to Gainesville.

Instead of playing in a collegiate league or for Team USA, like he has the past two summers, den Dekker stayed on campus and tried to relax after a disappointing year.

In the offseason, the coaches have worked with den Dekker on hitting outside pitches to the opposite field

SEE LEADOFF, PAGE 15

Smith expected to add power to order

■ HE WILL REPLACE BRANDON McARTHUR AT THIRD BASE.

By ANTHONY CHIANG
Alligator Staff Writer
achiang@alligator.org

Bryson Smith has been impressed by the quality of pitchers he has faced so far, and he has only seen action in scrimmages against his teammates.

Smith, a transfer from Young Harris College, has not played a game in a Gators uniform yet, but he can already tell the difference from his junior college days.

"I come down here and everyone is so good and so talented," he said. "So, it's been quite a change from junior college because there is not as much depth as there is here."

The adjustment at the plate shouldn't be a problem for the junior third baseman, who will likely start at that spot in No. 7 Florida's season opener Friday.

He won National Junior College Player of the Year last season after hitting .467 along with 21 home runs and 90 RBIs.

SEE INFIELD, PAGE 15



Baseball

It's time for the Gators to fix their arrest problem

Under Urban Meyer, Florida has come to be known for three things: Tim Tebow, winning and getting arrested.

Tebow is gone, and winning may take a brief hiatus, meaning it's time to take care of what's behind Door 3.

Freshman defensive tackle Gary Brown continued the tradition over the weekend, getting pinched for allegedly slapping one female and scratching another after they asked him and a friend to leave a party around 5 a.m.

Brown's arrest puts the Gators' total around 27 since Meyer arrived in 2005, according to the Orlando Sentinel's tally.



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

All the usual caveats apply. These are just charges right now, and he'll probably lawyer up and get out from under them without too much trouble.

Or maybe he didn't even do anything wrong.

There's also a question of who to blame here.

Is it the coaches? They can't be on top of these guys 24/7. Then again, they recruited them.

SEE MIKE, PAGE 16

TEING OFF WITH KYLE MAISTRI

■ Gary Brown had every right to be upset that he was getting kicked out of a party at 5 a.m. Everyone knows the party don't stop 'til 6 in the morning. ... Tiger Woods allegedly impregnated a porn-star mistress twice due to his aversion to using contraceptives. We shouldn't be surprised. He's a golfer. He's shooting for the fewest amount of strokes as possible.

POLL QUESTION

Today's question: Who's to blame for the Gators' rash of arrests under Urban Meyer?

BUBBLE WATCH

■ After falling to South Carolina and Xavier, UF slipped into the "Last Four Out" section of ESPN's Bracketology with Joe Lunardi. Lunardi had the Gators pegged to make the NCAA Tournament in last week's edition.



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

UF coach Kevin O'Sullivan has been impressed with junior-college transfer Bryson Smith's dedication to improving his fielding this offseason.

Transfer likely to start at third INFIELD, from page 14

"Velocity was about the same as junior college, but the off-speed (pitches) guys have here is ridiculous," Smith said. "It took a little adjustment to get used to."

He was limited during the fall because of a mid-June surgery on his wrist, but Smith has been going at it 100 percent in the spring.

UF coach Kevin O'Sullivan envisions Smith hitting either second, fifth or sixth in the lineup. His speed and ability to hit for contact make him a viable option for the top of the order.

His former coach at Young Harris, Rick Robinson, remembers a point in the 2009 season in which Smith had only struck out twice through 100 at-bats.

He finished the year averaging only one strikeout for about every nine at-bats.

Defensively, however, he did not enjoy the same success.

Smith ended last season with 17 errors and a .899 fielding percentage.

But some of his problems with the glove stemmed from the circumstances he was put under.

"The biggest thing for us was that we really didn't know where Bryson was going to play," Robinson said. "We were moving him around an awful lot. We didn't really give him an opportunity to settle into a position."

He saw time at second and third

base and in the outfield at Young Harris.

But since coming to Florida, Smith has worked solely at third, where he will replace Brandon McArthur.

Smith takes 100 ground balls every day from UF assistant coach Brad Weitzel.

"I've been working on it daily," Smith said. "I've seen dramatic improvement, so I feel a lot better and lot more comfortable now."

It hasn't been easy, though. The coaches had to re-teach the fundamentals to Smith, who needed to sure up both his fielding and throwing.

"I've been working on it daily. I've seen dramatic improvement, so I feel a lot better and lot more comfortable now."

Bryson Smith

UF junior third baseman

Den Dekker top choice to replace Barnes LEADOFF, from page 14

and becoming more comfortable against left-handed pitchers. Left-handed hitters like den Dekker have more trouble recognizing pitches from southpaws than they do from righties.

The coaches have also stressed putting the bat on top of pitches to produce more ground balls.

"Matt runs so well that any ball hit on the ground to the left side of the infield that the short-

stop has to go to his right (den Dekker) has a chance to beat out," O'Sullivan said.



Baseball

Den Dekker also wants to be more relaxed so minor slumps don't become year-long problems.

"(I) just go out there and have fun every day playing something I love," den Dekker said. "That's the way I'm going to look at it this year. That's the way I'm going to try and look at it for the rest of my career."

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HOT SHOTS

Stats shown are from South Carolina and Xavier games



Chandler Parsons

It was hardly a good week for the Gators, as they lost both games to make their NCAA Tournament chances even more unclear, but Parsons continues to impress. The 6-foot-9 forward had his second-straight double-double, scoring 13 points and grabbing 11 boards against South Carolina, and came just two rebounds short of a third against Xavier on Saturday (15 points, eight rebounds). In addition to his improved all-around game, Parsons showed flashes of potential above the rim, throwing down nasty dunks at South Carolina and taking a crowd-pleasing alley-oop (layup) from Erving Walker in the O'Connell Center.

Stats: 28 points, 12-24 shooting, 19 rebounds, 7 assists



Erving Walker

Walker did his best to keep UF in the South Carolina game, dropping a team-high 20 points on 6-of-10 shooting, and when his shot faltered against Xavier, he dished out eight assists. The point guard isn't putting up shooting numbers like he was earlier in the conference season, but he led the team with 31 points on the week and at times seemed to be the team's only dependable free-throw shooter. The Gators will need Walker to perform more consistently to have a shot at making the Tournament, as his 3-of-10 shooting Saturday made the team's offensive weaknesses seem even more glaring.

Stats: 31 points, 9-20 shooting, 10-14 FTs, 11 assists, 5 rebounds



Alex Tyus

We thought about giving this spot to former Gator Jonathan Mitchell, whose 24 points and seven rebounds helped lead Rutgers to an upset of then-No. 8 Georgetown on Sunday — and not just because we love JMitch. Our voters were divided, but we agreed on one thing: Nobody aside from Parsons and Walker put together a particularly impressive week. So, we're giving the third-place spot to Tyus, whose 11-point, 15-rebound performance at South Carolina gave him the edge over freshman guard Kenny Boynton. Tyus was great at times against the Gamecocks, blocking three shots and shooting 5 of 7 from the field, but he barely showed up against Xavier. The junior power forward scored nine points on 4-of-13 shooting and only grabbed four rebounds against the Musketeers, and he recorded a team-high seven turnovers on the week.

Stats: 20 points, 9-20 shooting, 19 rebounds, 4 blocks

STANDINGS

Parsons - 9	Boynton - 3
Tyus - 8	Macklin - 2
Walker - 8	

Adam Berry and Erica Ervin / Alligator Staff

MIKE, from page 14

Is it the players? They are adults. Shouldn't they be capable of handling themselves?

Is it society's fault for building them up to feel like they're above the law?

Is it on the high school teachers, coaches or parents for letting them slide by?

There are plenty of ways to look at it, but at a certain point, the blame game has to take a backseat to just fixing the prob-

lem.

That point is now.

Florida is quickly becoming a national punchline when it comes to arrests, and without Tebow around, the Band-Aid covering up UF's ugly scars has been peeled away.

The program doesn't have a face right now, and if the Gators aren't careful, that face is going to be a mugshot.

For me, the answer isn't to just kick these guys off the team. And Meyer doesn't believe in that ei-

ther, unless the crime is particularly heinous.

He learned that lesson a few years ago with cornerback Avery Atkins, who was booted out and later would up dead.

Meyer feels a responsibility to try to give second chances and develop players into better people.

He always gives the spiel about how his players are high-quality humans and how his coaching staff is all about developing good people.

Well, it's time to do that.

The first thing to say is, "STOP HITTING WOMEN!" This really shouldn't be that hard, and it has become something of a trend lately.

Also, there have to be some punishments other than making them run or kicking them off the team that could do the trick.

Don't let these players think they can spend a night in the pokey, have super-lawyer Huntley Johnson fix the situation then get back on the field after some

extra conditioning.

From Day 1, they should know that if they can't behave, they can't play.

You know how players lose playing time if they suck and can't make tackles?

Make it clear that slapping, choking, shooting, stealing or fighting will be treated as more seriously.

Until that's understood, Florida is going to keep heading toward being known as the new Thug U.

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