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Tom Plevik/ Alligator Staff

**Mirrored Music**

Catalan singer/songwriter Pau Alabajos, left, is reflected in a ceiling mirror as he performs Catalan folk songs with the collaboration of the Catalan actress/poet Susanna Sebastià at the Thomas Center on Tuesday evening. Students from a UF Catalan language class were in attendance.

# Ticket sales crawl for UF-Georgia

■ THE PAST TWO YEARS, TICKETS RAN OUT WITHIN ABOUT 10 MINUTES.

By **THOMAS MORRELL**  
 Alligator Contributing Writer

Students did not have to scramble to purchase their tickets to the Florida-Georgia football game this year.

According to ticket sales officials, tickets to the game usually sell out within minutes of going on sale. This year, however, tickets were still for sale hours after they became available.

Mark Gajda, the assistant athletics director for ticket operations, said tickets for the Florida-Georgia game sold much slower this year than in previous years.

"For 2008 and 2009 ticket sales went very quick, it was probably 10 minutes for the completion of the sale," he said Tuesday. "This year it went to midnight and didn't even sell out until this morning."

Senior John Tracy said he didn't want to spend the money on a ticket and go all the way to Jacksonville to watch the Gators lose another game.

But buying a ticket to the game was nearly impossible last year, Tracy said.

He said he got home from work last year at exactly 6:09 p.m. and logged online to purchase his Georgia tickets at 6:12 p.m. Ticket sales were open at 6 p.m., but the tickets were already sold out by the time he logged into the student lottery system.

"I was running a little late, but never thought I wouldn't be able to get a ticket," said Tracy. "In my mind there was no way that everyone was waiting at their computer for 6 p.m. to come."

Tracy said that even though he didn't get a ticket online, he still went to the game. All of his friends were going and he knew it was a big game for UF.

Ted Spiker, professor of the Sports and Media Society class at UF, said there are other reasons besides the three losses for why ticket sales have been down this year.

"This program has extremely high expectations, so when you don't meet these expectations, then you're going to see some sales suffer," Spiker said. "You're not winning. You're not getting as much attention. You're not getting as much interest."

**LOCAL**

# Charities suffer in poor economy

By **MINA RADMAN**  
 Alligator Contributing Writer

In spite of the recession, Gainesville charities remain confident the upcoming fundraising season will be strong.

Local chapters of numerous national charities, including the United Way of North Central Florida and the Ronald McDonald House of Gainesville, have been finding new ways to remain active in the community, despite a decline in donations.

"Things are down, but not as much as the recession proves it should be," said Deborah Horvath, executive director of the Ronald McDonald House. "We're still paying our bills, so I think things will be okay."

Nationally, charities have experienced steep declines. The Philanthropy 400 report released Monday shows donations to the nation's 400 biggest charities have

decreased by 11 percent in the past year, the worst decline in 20 years.

However, a few national charities continue to bring in large donations, including United Way and Habitat for Humanity.

**"From all the early results we're seeing right now, we see that the community is very supportive and generous in spite of the economic times."**

**Mindy Underberger**  
 United Way

The United Way of North Central Florida, based in Gainesville, brought in \$8.5 million this past year through a combination of volunteer work, donations of food and books and federal programs and grants.

"For areas with sizes similar to ours,

we're second in the country," said Mindy Underberger, vice-president for marketing and communications at the United Way.

The fundraising season begins with the onset of the holiday season. Local charities have begun looking at new outlets to spread the word about helping the community. The Salvation Army has signed an agreement to receive donations by text message, while the Ronald McDonald House of Gainesville recently created a Facebook page to promote upcoming events. According to Horvath, these actions alone do not necessarily lead to donations.

However, for United Way, this season already appears to be a good one.

"From all the early results we're seeing right now, we see that the community is very supportive and generous in spite of the economic times," Underberger said. "We will be able to continue our support to the community."



**48.5-inch Nevada cat breaks record for longest domestic cat**

RENO, Nev. (AP) — A Reno cat has broken the Guinness record for world's longest domestic cat.

The Reno Gazette-Journal reported that a 5-year-old Maine Coon named Stewie measured 48 1/2 inches from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail bone. Robin Hendrickson and Erik Brandsness purchased the cat from a breeder in Hermiston, Ore., in 2005.

The previous record holder was another

Maine Coon that measured 48 inches. It was owned by Frieda Ireland of Chicago.

Hendrickson said Maine Coons are one of the oldest natural breeds of cats and are known for their mellow, relaxed temperaments. She says they're known as "the gentle giants" of the cat world.

Hendrickson said she and Brandsness decided to try for the record after hearing countless people said they were amazed by Stewie's length.

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Sunny  
 86/58

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

# News Today

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Supranational Identity: Cross-Level Relationships between Self-Identifications in a European State

Today, 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Turlington 3312

Come to a brown-bag talk by political science doctoral student Victor Olivieri. This talk explains how identity shapes political behavior by presenting a mechanism that combines the explanatory power of social identity theory and predictive power of rational choice across levels of analysis. Snacks and sodas will be provided.

### The United World Organization Meeting

Today, 6:15 p.m.

Little Hall, Room 121

Bianka Lucia Ballina, a senior UF student from Nicaragua, will be talking about her documentary, *Missing Seeds*, a true story of the banana workers who fight for survival.

### A Spring of Hope

Today, 6:15 p.m.

Matherly 51

The UF chapter of A Spring of Hope, a nonprofit organization, is having its second meeting of the semester. Come out to join a great cause and enjoy some free pizza.

### Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honor Society Meeting

Today, 7 p.m.

Anderson Hall 034

We are happy to be hosting a friendly dialogue between the College Democrats and the College Republicans. They will be presenting a pre-election discussion on their respective candidates running for senator, governor, etc... as well as

## FORECAST

TODAY



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THURSDAY



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FRIDAY



SUNNY  
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SATURDAY



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SUNDAY



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discussing their views as parties and as organizations on campus. The discussion will also be open to your input. In addition, we will be having Malvina Binjaku, a representative from Children Beyond Our Borders, talk about an international service opportunity founded by UF students.

### Golden Key Meeting

Today, 7 to 8 p.m.

Turlington L011

Looking for a way to get involved on campus? Look no further than Golden Key. With our emphasis on service, academics and leadership, there is guaranteed to be an opportunity for you to get involved. We will be discussing our upcoming service projects including March for Babies, Light the Night and volunteering at a Halloween carnival. We're always excited to see new faces, and as always, free pizza and drinks will be provided during the meeting.

### Psychology Club & Psi Chi Meeting

Today, 7:20 p.m.

LIT101

Do not forget to bring your receipts for your club shirts. Tickets for the annual Halloween party will be sold at tonight's meeting. Come early at 7 p.m. for free pizza.

### RUB Entertainment Student Standup Competition

Today, 8 p.m.

Orange & Brew

Come laugh along as your fellow students perform their most hilarious original jokes in front of an audience and panel of judges to win a slot as the opening act for a RUB Entertainment Comedy Series this semester and various other prizes. If you are interested in participating, come prepared on the night of the event, sign up at any of RUB's Get Crafty or Wake Up With RUB events or contact us at [Incomedians@gmail.com](mailto:Incomedians@gmail.com).

### The Hip-Hop Collective Presents: "The Hip-Hop Discussion"

Today, 8:15 to 9:30 p.m.

Rinker Hall, Room 210

UF Sociology Professor Steve Jacobs will be our special guest and will be presenting on the topics: Is hip-hop culture homophobic? Does cultural background matter when it comes to being an Emcee?

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

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**LOCAL**

# Friends of Buchholz grad hope rapper will give nod

By **RACHAEL PINO**  
Alligator Writer

Friends of a Buchholz High School graduate who passed away are tweeting to remember.

Anthony Taylor Minzie, 19, died early Saturday morning in his hometown of Gainesville, but his friends are using the social media tool to help his memory live on.

Minzie, who went by the nickname "Tizzy," was a Taylor, the name given to fans of rap artist Wiz Khalifa, and he had VIP tickets for one of his concerts.

As a freshman at Florida State University, Minzie had planned to go to the artist's show on Nov. 3 in Tallahassee.

His friends have been repeatedly tweeting messages to Khalifa, hoping that the rapper will agree to give a shout-out to Minzie during the concert.



Minzie

"It would be awesome if Wiz Khalifa could just give him a shout out for like two seconds," said Santa Fe College student Brittney Kelly, who met Minzie over the summer.

The two are "married" on Facebook, and she said that he was known for his positive outlook on life.

"I've literally never heard anything bad talked about him. Everyone loved him," Kelly said.

She said that by Tuesday friends had sent more than 1,000 tweets to the artist.

Most of the tweets are variations of this: "Give Tizzy a shout-out @ tally, FL show. He repped taylor gang & passed away the 16th. It would mean the world."

In addition to Twitter, some have chosen to get permanent reminders of Minzie by getting tattoos of his life motto, "Living the dream."

If you'd like to help Minzie's friends contact Wiz Khalifa you can visit [twitter.com/Tiz4Khalifa](http://twitter.com/Tiz4Khalifa) and click retweet.



AP Photo

## Tea Toddler

Seven-year-old Lennox Purinton of Ely, Nev., sings the national anthem at the start of a Tea Party Express rally Tuesday in Ely, Nev., The Tea Party Express bus is on the second day of its 29-stop tour which will cross 20 different states ending up in Concord, N.H., on Nov. 1.

# Schools locked down after robbery

■ **LAWTON M. CHILES ELEMENTARY AND THE ROCK SCHOOL WERE LOCKED DOWN FOR A FEW HOURS.**

By **KAT BEIN**  
Alligator Staff Writer

Two west Gainesville schools were temporarily locked down Tuesday as the county sheriff's office searched for the man who robbed a local store at gunpoint and has yet to be caught.

At about 11 a.m., the man walked into Haile Jewelry and Loans, at 2725 SW 91st St., and pointed a handgun at the clerk,

according to ASO spokesman Art Forgey.

He demanded jewelry and ran away northward into a nearby neighborhood. ASO searched the area with patrol cars and helicopters and had Lawton M. Chiles Elementary and the Rock School put on lockdown for a few hours, Forgey said.

ASO called neighborhood residents to tell them to be on the lookout; however, the man hadn't been caught as of Tuesday night. The suspect is described as a 5'8" white man between 140 and 180 pounds.

Anyone with information can leave a tip by calling 352-955-1818.

**Public Safety**

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Fall 2010

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# Deli owner fights tough times, remains optimistic

## The 43rd Street Deli has been in business for 25 years

By **JON SILMAN**  
Alligator Staff Writer

Behind an unlit neon sign on 43rd Street, there's a 25-year-old Gainesville institution. Paul Cakmis owns the place. He's 61, round like Santa Claus but without the beard. When things were good — before the crash, the layoffs and the lists — the Gator football team would come and eat at the 43rd Street Deli.

When he was the king, and he sold one of his restaurants for an obscene amount of money, he had enough to put away to give his family a good life. Things were easy.

But that nest egg he worked so hard to nurture is running out. And not enough money is coming in.

"When you're successful you take it for granted," he said. "When the shit hits the fan it's a whole different operation."

Cakmis' Greek immigrant parents were both restaurateurs, a word he uses with pride. One time his dad, a handshake man, bought him a black Schwinn Jaguar bike, then gave it to an orphanage because he didn't keep up with chores.

According to Cakmis, at one point his parents owned 30 different restaurants. They worked hard, long hours. His said his dad died from the stress, and his mom was stuck with the responsibility of the restaurants. The restaurants went like a "fire sale," he said.

He grew up, got married and then di-

voiced.

In 1983 he opened his first restaurant in downtown Gainesville. He was 35, and he learned what it took to run a business. How to treat customers. How to cook. At times he was a janitor and a maintenance man, but he was a restaurateur just like his dad. In 1986 he moved to his flagship location on 43rd Street. He remarried and continued working. His wife worked, too, while pregnant.

He had a philosophy about give-and-take with his customers.

"People want to feel important when they come into a restaurant," he said. "And you want to make them feel good, because without them you're nothing."

His business grew, as good ones do, steadily over the years. But he couldn't forget about his dad and all those restaurants in Ohio. He wanted more. After 10 years, he opened a restaurant on 13th Street. The students found him, the money found him, and Tim Tebow and the Gators found him, too.

He would set up a breakfast buffet and close off the back of the restaurant for the football team. He loved that Urban Meyer, and before him, Steve Spurrier, were spending their money locally. Four years later he opened a third location at Williston Road and I-75.

"That'll be a little goldmine in a few years." Cakmis was the breakfast king. Three restau-

rants. A nice house for his wife and kids and some nice cars. But three places meant triple the problems and a strain on the marriage. He went through a few managers because he kept catching them stealing. His health started to flicker. In 2008, CVS wanted his real estate, and offered him buckets of money, so he sold.

**"You could just tell people were tightening up with their money."**

**Paul Cakmis**  
Owner, 43rd Street Deli

After all, hadn't he been working hard all this time? Didn't he deserve to put a little away for his wife and kids? He did well from the sale and didn't notice at first when monthly profits started to drop.

One less restaurant meant fewer customers. Die-hards who came in four times a week only came once. Fewer students. Something was in the air.

"You could just tell people were tightening up with their money," he said. "You could just sense it."

Deliveries got more expensive. Food prices started to spike. Then they soared. A gas surcharge and an insurance hike hit, while his income dropped by a third. The banks started having trouble and wouldn't lend money anymore. He lost his left eye to a virus. Now he was living off the sale because no

checks were coming in. His marriage was dissolving. He was drinking too much for a man his age. He had a heart attack. He didn't want all those years of hard work to go to waste. He wanted to retire one day. He wanted to leave some money for his kids when he died. He had to cut his best employees' hours. He had to lay some off. They trusted him, and he let them down. He felt the weight of the families who depended on him. He developed ulcers that burst in his belly. He had to compete with the dollar menu and the five-dollar footlong.

He couldn't sleep, so he started making lists. How much bacon did he need? How much cheddar? What could he afford? Who did he owe money to? He'd call and ask for more time. His is not the only business suffering. After 82 years in Gainesville, Louis' Lunch will close later this month. The owner has blamed the recession and nearby road construction.

Similar construction on 43rd Street has damaged Cakmis' already fragile business, he said. Cakmis believes that people in Gainesville should spend their money here, in town. He's not a corporation. He needs help. Today, he's thankful for what he has: his wife, kids and grandkids. He's even optimistic.

He believes it's going to get better, but in the meantime, he's going to deal with it the only way he knows how.

"I'm gonna wake up every day and come to work and bust my can."

That's how his dad did it, and that's how he's going to do it. There's no time to feel sorry for himself. He has restaurants to run.

# Students discuss culture at 'Politics of Silence' event

■ **THEY WATCHED VIDEOS ON RECENT GAY SUICIDES.**

By **SAMANTHA LIEBHABER**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

About 50 students gathered in Orange and Brew on Tuesday night for guided discussions on culture in politics, in an open forum titled "Politics of Silence."

Student Government sponsored the forum, which cost about \$200 to host.

Participants were shown videos related to the recent suicides of homosexual students who were struggling with discrimination. They also discussed race relations in politics and the planned constructions of an Islamic center near Ground Zero in New York City.

Students were then asked to discuss their feelings about the issues and how they thought the issues relate to UF.

Nirav N. Patel, a philosophy and geography junior, stood up

and elaborated on the need for UF cultural organizations to interact more.

"I feel like we're still segregated here," he said. "It sucks being in an old southern school."

According to Romilda Justilien, director of multicultural affairs for SG, the purpose of the event was to advance social justice and raise awareness of other cultures.

The aim is to make just one person more socially conscious so that he or she can promote it to friends and family, she said.

"I think that we got some really great ideas that we want to implement," Justilien said.

Ching-Ya Ni, a Chinese and political science junior, said she came to the event to hear the political opinions of students outside of class.

She said the event provided a good outlet for addressing multiculturalism, but that it could have had more diversity.

"I just wish there were more people so it could have been a better discussion," she said.



Dana Burke / Alligator

Junior Nirav N. Patel speaks about segregation in Greek affairs and cultural organizations on campus at "The Politics of Silence" talk hosted by Student Government at Orange and Brew Tuesday night.

## LOCAL

# Catalan singer plays 'politically rebellious' music for 75

By **CRISTINA RABAZA**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

Catalan singer-songwriter Pau Alabajos performed for more than 75 people at the Thomas Center Tuesday night in celebration of Catalan culture and its constrained music scene.

The department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies brought Alabajos and actress Susanna Sebastiá to Gainesville, as they are on their American tour.

Accompanied by Sebastiá, Alabajos shared music from the "Nova Cançó," a politically rebellious genre of music which arose during the 1960s and 1970s in Catalonia, a terri-

tory belonging to Spain that struggles with its independent identity and its desire to be its own country.



Alabajos

"You couldn't give an explicit message about what you thought politically in those times," Alabajos said, "so people did it through music."

Although censorship reached its heights during Spain's Franco era, Alabajos said playing music on the streets of Valencia will still land you a \$500 fine and the confiscation of your instrument today.

Alabajos said the city now bans the music as a misguided means of protecting its reputation, but he

still plays to "catch the feeling" of the oppression the "Nova Cançó" musicians felt during Franco's reign.

"The image the government is trying to maintain is this very modern, conservative kind of image," he said. "It doesn't really work, though."

Alabajos said the artistic expression of Catalan culture is more celebrated beyond its borders than within. Even UF's Catalan program, with only 12 students enrolled in classes this fall, is a refreshing dose of enthusiasm about his and Sebastiá's little-discussed culture.

"There's really no space for musical expression in our country," he said. "There's this general censorship for those against the government. It's a form of discrimination."



AP Photo

Florida Democratic Senate candidate Rep. Kendrick Meek, left, hugs former President Bill Clinton.

# Clinton campaign for Meek in Fla.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. PETERSBURG — Democratic Rep. Kendrick Meek brought former President Bill Clinton to town Tuesday to try to whip up some homestretch enthusiasm for his struggling U.S. Senate campaign.

The former president, still hugely popular among party members, told a crowd of more than 1,000 on the campus of the University of South Florida on St. Petersburg that Meek and other Democrats in Congress should be given more of a chance to clean up the mess made by the last Republican administration.

Republican leadership left the country's economy in a hole, Clinton said, and they are now quick to criticize President Barack Obama and Democrats for not being able to climb out of it yet.

"You're right, we didn't get out of this hole," Clinton said. "It was a very deep hole. But at least we stopped digging."

He urged the college students in the crowd at the campus activities center to get out the vote for Meek. He warned that if Republicans regain control of Congress, they will take steps to make it more difficult to get and repay student loans.

"Don't you listen to this tea party talk about how (Republicans) are on your side," said Clinton, who campaigned last week at another Southern college, the University of Mississippi.

Clinton said he felt so strongly about helping Meek prevail that he flew across the country after Monday campaign stops out West, arriving in Florida at 4 a.m.

**"I will continue to work, I'll continue to fight for you, and I'll continue to give you a voice in the process."**

**Kendrick Meek**  
Democratic Representative

Meek is in need of the help. Two weeks before the election, polls show the four-term South Florida congressman well behind Republican Marco Rubio and Gov. Charlie Crist, who is running as an independent.

Some Democrats have suggested Meek drop out of the race to give Crist a chance to beat the more conservative Rubio, but Meek has refused. He noted that he withstood a barrage of attack ads and

rallied to beat self-financed billionaire Jeff Greene in the Democratic primary.

"I will continue to work, I'll continue to fight for you, and I'll continue to give you a voice in the process," Meek told the crowd hours before he was scheduled to participate in another debate with Rubio and Crist on statewide TV Tuesday night.

Clinton said Meek should be elected to help keep Obama's health care reform law intact and keep Congress from privatizing Medicare. And Meek, he said, is the only one of the three candidates who has already worked in Congress to keep the country secure.

Clinton said his administration proved that Democratic principles are more effective.

"We've tested these ideas, theirs and ours, and ours worked better," he said.

Before Clinton spoke, U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson told the crowd he needed Meek in Washington to help him keep gas and oil drilling rigs far away from Florida beaches.

Clinton is scheduled to appear with Meek at a rally Wednesday at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

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## Editorial

# Justice for some Administration not exempt from obeying law

We're proud of our justice system in this country. We don't imprison Nobel Peace Prize winners like China does, unless you count that whole Martin Luther King Jr. situation when we threw the book at him for being black.

And we spit on the ground near any country that doesn't follow our coveted "innocent until proven guilty" judicial mantra.

Except if you're Muslim, brown-skinned or remotely look like you might be from any of those -stan countries. No, then you're a terrorist, and we need to shackle you up.

The American Civil Liberties Union will certainly be delighted as the Supreme Court agreed Monday to intervene in a case dealing with the issue of falsely labeling someone who looks Middle Eastern as a terrorist as the civil rights organization keeps trying to sue members of the Bush Administration for abusing the law.

Saying former Attorney General John Ashcroft used a "gross abuse" of his authority as the nation's top attorney by arresting and shackling Muslim-looking assumed terrorists in airports and around town, particularly Lavoni Kidd in 2005, the ACLU wants Ashcroft to be held accountable for his woefully incompetent misuse of the law to arrest Americans without any probable cause.

But apparently to some people, having brown skin is enough probable cause.

The fact of the matter is the Bush Administration, particularly Ashcroft, abused the laws intended to protect our citizens.

It's time to face the fire. The people in charge of falsely labeling Middle Easterners as terrorists need to be held accountable for using race as probable cause.

## Mad as a Hatter

If the Tea Party gets any more laughs, or gets any crazier, we're going to have to start wondering if it's Kool-Aid in their cups rather than chai.

In a double dose of fun-for-everyone laughter, two prominent Tea Party candidates made social blunders that make us wonder how anyone could want these lovely ladies to run our country.

Challenging current Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, U.S. Senate candidate Sharron Angle said to a group of Hispanic students they looked "a little more Asian."

While we've never had the unfortunate circumstance of mistaking an Asian student for Hispanic, we're even more astounded Angle thought this would be an appropriate thing to say to a group of Hispanic voters

in the state she's hoping to capture.

And across the country in Delaware, our darling Tea Partier Christine O'Donnell asked a group of law students where in the Constitution is any mention of that whole church-and-state-separation thing.

More confused than Angle when she walks into Panda Express, O'Donnell had no choice but to smile in fear behind her water glass as the crowd of law students erupted in laughter.

As they should have. It's ridiculous to suggest a major candidate, who is also seeking to claim the seat our current vice president once held, can serve effectively without having a most-basic knowledge of our governing document.

What you learned at Hogwarts won't save you here, Christine.

the independent florida  
**alligator**

Emily Fuggetta  
EDITOR  
Paul Runnestrand  
Stefania Ferro  
MANAGING EDITORS

Jared Misner  
OPINIONS EDITOR

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

# Opinions

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Cynthia Despres  
15 October 2010

## Column

## The day the (Rock 104) music died

Feb. 3, 1959. July 12, 1979. And now, Oct. 15, 2010. What do all three of these dates have in common? They're all considered days when the music died.

Feb. 3 will be forever immortalized in Don McLean's "American Pie," memorializing the plane crash that killed Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper. July 12 was Disco Demolition Night — a promotion at a Chicago White Sox game gone wrong that resulted in a near riot against disco. Oct. 15? Rock 104 signs off for the last time, and 103.7 The Gator signs on air with country music for Gainesville.

I'm not a person who considers himself a music snob or a rock exclusivist; I legitimately listen to everything. Yes, that includes country.

But it's a matter of checks and balances, and the death of Rock 104 significantly upsets the balance of the Gainesville music scene.

There are now at least six country music radio stations that can be received in Gainesville, four being larger stations.

When it comes to the modern rock that Rock 104 broadcasted? Just one. There are more stations in the Gainesville/Ocala metropolitan market that broadcast Christian contemporary music than modern alternative rock 'n' roll. That's just not right.

But wait a second, according to the powers that be, Rock 104 isn't dead! It's just available online now. It's time to send a message to companies that continue to move stations online and pretend they still exist. Granted, something's better than nothing.

But until I can receive Internet radio or HD radio easily and affordably in my car, where radio still reigns supreme, although CD players and iPod docks are creep-



Sean Quinn  
letters@alligator.org

ing up to kill it completely, Rock 104 is dead to me.

Furthermore, the actual signing off of Rock 104 isn't the worst part. The format change leads to less diversity in the Gainesville radio spectrum, making the metropolitan area less attractive to students who aren't from the North Florida

area, and aren't getting to listen to Jimmy Eat World, Papa Roach or The Black Keys they're used to listening to back home.

Of course there's no way to cater to every student's interest. It's safe to say we won't see a dedicated world music station any time soon.

However, 103.7 FM is registered to UF, and it should be in the best interest of the university to represent its student body as best possible.

Rock 104 was an enterprise that catered to, and was often run by, students. In contrast, 103.7 The Gator seems to be catering toward the local community.

The ideal scenario for a university-operated radio station should be to provide quality content for its students, faculty and staff while also providing a public service to the local community.

By becoming the eighth country music station in the area, reducing the diversity in the Gainesville/Ocala radio market and by eliminating one of the two modern alternative rock stations, UF is doing just the opposite of that.

Don McLean would agree.

Sean Quinn is a first-year political science student. His column appears every Wednesday.

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

## Reader response

Today's question: Are you going to the Florida-Georgia game?

Tuesday's question: Do you plan to cast your vote early for this election?

54% YES  
46% NO  
65 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at [www.alligator.org](http://www.alligator.org)

## Letter to the Editor

### A serious need for America

It's been a long and crazy road to these midterm elections with lots of rhetoric and lots of ridiculous commercials. However, now it's time to have a moment of seriousness before we go to the polls in less than two weeks.

Speaking of seriousness, this is the one quality the Tea Party and the GOP notably lacks at the moment. For many reasons, we in this country have gotten ourselves into some serious problems, including dependence on foreign oil, dangerous trade imbalances and an inability to meet our financial obligations such as social security and Medicare.

Despite what you hear on TV, these problems did not become problems in January 2009. We have been moving in this direction for a few decades.

The Tea Party and many GOP candidates seem to think "I don't like taxes" and "I don't like bailouts" are real campaign platforms — they're not, by the way. Do some research and see if you can find a single, reputable economist who thinks the bailout was unnecessary. Do some research and find out taxes have decreased for 95 percent of Americans since Obama took office. A recent New York Times poll showed 90 percent of Americans have no

idea their taxes were cut.

We need people in government who are going to make tough situations in the face of very tough circumstances. Listening to Republican commercials, you would think the only issue this country is facing is big government.

This is the same government Obama inherited from Bush. It has an executive, legislative and judicial branch. It is responsible for many tasks and those tasks are funded by taxes. The only thing that has changed is GOP strategists have figured out talking about "small government" gets certain voters as excited as a 13-year-old girl at a Justin Bieber concert.

So when you go to the polls, and you're all angry about health care, bailouts and taxes, remember all responsible economists agreed health care needed swift and aggressive reform to avoid a financially unsustainable situation. Remember the bailouts, while painful, were not only the brainchild of Bush, but were extraordinarily necessary. Remember your taxes and taxes for small businesses have decreased. Make an informed choice. Don't get excited about hollow and absurd campaign slogans. Vote for serious people.

Dave Gallo  
4CLAS

## Guest column

# Public education mars America's desire for greatness

If you've done as much study of the Founding Fathers as I have, one fact starts to stick out time and again: none was the product of public education. That's right, the greatest men of American history were all schooled either in the rooms of a private institution or by the best teacher in the world: real life.

Had they known in a couple centuries the hopes for representative government rested on the votes of brainwashed drones, educated by the state on the high value of Rooseveltism, laziness and sexual deviancy, would they have proceeded how they did?

In the always witty words of Thomas Jefferson, "Not on the life of a poorer cooper's wife."

Don't believe me? Just take a look at the curricula forced upon schools by the Florida Department of Education. Civics classes don't require a single mention of Ronald Reagan, Herbert Hoover or John Tyler, rated by scholars as the three best presidents in history. Inconveniently for the state, they just happen to be the president who pushed to dismantle the Department of Education, the president who was solving the Great Depression the market-based way only to have FDR plunge us back into record unemployment and the president who accepted Texas into the union. I wonder why the Department of Education passes them over:

### Brian Amos Speaking Out

Instead, requirements include entries like "Socialism — discuss benefits and shortcomings." Shortcomings? I'm not sure the people of Soviet Russia would have used that weak of a word, although they would probably admit that they were "coming up short" on essentials like food and televisions.

It's not just the explicit curriculum; it's also what they're implicitly teaching us. It's clear, to intelligent people at least, having free education breeds dependence on the government. Every time a cut in Bright Futures is discussed, students whine in a collective fear of less beer money and (gasp!) a summer job. Contrast that with Constitution signer Nicholas Gilman, who, from age seven, worked on his father's farm eight months a year and had to work in the school's kitchen to pay for his four months of tuition the rest of the year. And although his IQ tested at 165 as an adult, this was only average for the raised-on-work Founding Fathers.

It's no wonder George W. Bush preferred hiring from schools like Patrick Henry College for his administration. Not only are the students learning in a government-free, Christian environment, as the Founding Fathers did, but 85 percent of the student body was homeschooled for K-12. They are hard working, moral, honest and won't be able to tell you one good

thing about socialism. It is from schools like these we will see another George Washington — not the government-doled Harvard or Yale.

The good news is the 2010 elections are shaping up to put Republicans back in charge of the Senate and the House.

We've fallen into dead last in education as a recent study showed the majority of eighth graders in this country couldn't find the United States on a map.

In even better news, future-Speaker Boehner has hinted at plans to overhaul the school system in innovative ways. No more federal scholarships. No more biased accreditation system. Strings attached to federal block grants will require cuts to local school funding. While Obama is sure to veto it (so much for change), when 2012 rolls around with Republican President Haley Barbour, we'll be on the start of a path to fix education.

And it couldn't come soon enough. We're so dishonoring the Founding Fathers, I suggest a radical move: exhume all the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, attach magnets to their incorrupted bodies, wrap their coffins in wire and re-enter them. The power generated by the spinning in their graves over education will be enough for the country to become energy independent. But that's another column.

Brian Amos political science Ph.D student



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# Senators oppose block tuition

■ THE RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

By **MEREDITH RUTLAND**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

The Student Senate approved a resolution in opposition of block tuition at a meeting Tuesday night.

Block tuition would change UF tuition from a per-credit-hour fee system to a flat-fee tuition, based off of the cost of 15 credit hours.

According to the resolution, the Senate opposes block tuition because there are students who take fewer than 15 credit hours because they have other obligations, such as work, extracurricular activities or family obligations.

The resolution stated that these activities are essential to prepare students for life after college, and block tuition could mean students would have less time for these activities.

The resolution passed unanimously, without debate.

Senators also debated amendments to the 800 codes of the Student Constitution, which outline the rules for allocating Student Government finances.



Dana Burke / Alligator

Sen. Andrew Hart stands with fellow senators in opposition of new appointments of committee seats.

## Student Government

# Va. man to admit to helping Somali terrorist group

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—A northern Virginia man who warned the creators of the animated TV show “South Park” that they risked death for mocking the prophet Muhammad is scheduled to plead guilty to supporting an al-Qaida linked terrorist group, according to court records.

Zachary Chesser of Bristow, Va., a 20-year-old dropout from George Mason University, is scheduled for a plea hearing Wednesday in federal court in Alexandria, Va., court records show. He is charged with providing material support to a terrorist group, communicating threats and soliciting crimes of violence.

According to a court affidavit, Chesser tried to join the al-Shabab terror group in Somalia earlier this year and posted online propaganda for them. Chesser also alleg-

edly took his infant son with him to the airport to make his travel appear more innocuous.

Both the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Alexandria and Chesser’s attorney, federal public defender Michael Nachmanoff, declined comment Tuesday.

Before Chesser’s arrest in July on the terror charges, he was best known for posting a harshly worded attack on the creators of the “South Park” cartoon for their perceived mockery of the prophet Muhammad.

Prosecutors say that Chesser tried twice in the last year to travel to Somalia and join al-Shabab as a foreign fighter. The most recent attempt came July 10.



Chesser

## INTERNATIONAL

# Islamic militants raid Chechen parliament, 6 people dead

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GROZNY, Russia — Islamic insurgents attacked Chechnya’s parliament Tuesday in a brazen suicide raid that left six people dead and 17 wounded, defying Kremlin claims of stability in the volatile southern region.

In a clear challenge to Moscow, the raid occurred just as Russia’s interior minister was visiting the provincial capital of Grozny.

The three attackers drove to the tightly guarded parliament complex and got inside. One militant blew himself up at the doors and another two ran into the building shouting “Allahu akbar!” — “God is great!” in Arabic — as they opened fire on the people inside, said Chechen police spokesman Ramzan Bekkoyev.

The regional chief prosecutor’s office said the remaining two attackers also blew themselves up after exchanging fire with police, while other officials said they were killed in a gunbattle. Two police officers and a civilian government employee were killed in the raid and 17 others were wounded, prosecutors said.

Bloodstains, body parts and a decapitated corpse were still scattered outside the building hours after the attack as police and special forces backed by armored vehicles patrolled the area.

An Associated Press reporter at the parliament saw ambulances

take away two bodies, along with the severed head of a militant.

Chechnya’s Moscow-backed regional president, Ramzan Kadyrov, sought to play down the attack, saying the assailants were killed quickly.

His office said Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and Pres-

ident Dmitry Medvedev called him to offer assistance. Medvedev, on a visit to France, was briefed about the attack by Russian security officials.

In Washington, the U.S. offered condolences to the families of the dead and wounded.

“We also express our solidarity

with Russia in the struggle against terrorism. We’re concerned about continued violence in Russia’s North Caucasus, which contributes to instability and personal insecurity in the region,” said State Department spokesman Mark Toner. “Several independent non-governmental reports confirm that

the level of violence has increased in 2010 in several North Caucasus regions, and we’ve been following these events closely.”

Kadyrov and Russia’s Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev attended a parliament session shortly after the raid. Nurgaliyev said the insurgents had tried to get into the main parliamentary chamber.

“As always, they failed. Unfortunately, we were not able to avoid loss of life,” Nurgaliyev said. “The situation we saw today is extremely rare. Here, there is stability and security.”

Kadyrov, a former rebel, has recruited many ex-militants into his feared security forces. The bullnecked 34-year-old former militia chief also sought to blunt the rebels’ appeal with a massive construction boom in Chechnya and a campaign to impose strict Islamic values.

The ITAR-Tass news agency cited Chechnya’s Interior Ministry branch as saying that the attack had been planned by warlord Khusein Gakayev who had broken loose from the main rebel commander, Doku Umarov. It said Gakayev launched the attack to try to raise his profile.

Human rights activists have accused security forces and paramilitary units under Kadyrov’s command of extra-judicial killings, kidnappings and torture of rebel suspects and their relatives.



AP Photo

Special Force (OMON) officers are seen at the scene after a bomb blast, with human body parts in front of Chechen parliament complex in Grozny, Chechnya, southern Russia on Tuesday.

# Pro-life group protests silently on Plaza of the Americas

By **MEG WAGNER**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

Students have made their voices heard by staying silent.

About 25 members of UF's Pro-Life Alliance, their mouths covered with red duct tape with the word "life" written in black, took a daylong vow of silence Tuesday to remember the lives lost through abortion.

"We give up our voices for the day to symbolize the 4,000 babies that will be aborted today, who never even got a chance to be heard," said Brienne Umhoefer, vice president of the UF Pro-Life Alliance.

The protest is part of the seventh annual Day of Silent Solidarity, a national event organized by Stand True Ministries in Ohio that asks pro-life supporters to take a vow of silence for the day.

The members who chose to remain silent did so for the entire day, sporting the red duct tape to class. They allowed themselves to speak only when "vital necessary," Umhoefer said.

"It's kind of ironic when you really think about it," said Mary Catherine Damon, UF Pro-Life Alliance secretary. "We're completely silent, but we get more attention doing this than we would if we were yelling and screaming."

Pro-Life Alliance President Sharon Parker said the event draws mixed reactions. She said last year some students joined in even though they were not affiliated with the group. But the group also gets negative reactions.

"Each year we get a few really aggressive people that just want to argue," she said. "They just get really angry."

Parker said most people who disagree with the group are pretty respectful, though.

Senior linguistics major Cary Marcous said she's been offended by other pro-life protests, but she finds the Day of Silent Solidarity a nice alternative to more abrasive demonstrations.

"If they can get their point across in a way that is this peaceful, then more power to them," she said.



Britt Perkins / Alligator

Haley Sasser, left, and Rob Waldbillig, both 19-year-old sophomores, pass out pro-life information Tuesday on the Plaza of the Americas. Their mouths were sealed with red tape to represent the voices they believe are silenced by abortion.

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## Gators ready to face Vols after short turnaround



Steven H. Keys / Alligator Staff

Libero Erin Fleming and Florida will take on Tennessee just three days after beating Georgia on Sunday. The Gators beat the Vols in their first meeting on Sept. 19.

By **MATT RUBIN**  
Alligator Writer

Many things have changed since Mary Wise became Florida's coach in 1991.

While the basic objectives of volleyball have remained the same, how the team trains for a season has become vastly different.

"When we first got here we were doing a watered-down version of what football was doing, and it wasn't sport specific," Wise said. "Players would come in, do it and get out. Now it's devised for each individual athlete by position."

The strength and conditioning program will come into play tonight as the No. 1 Gators (16-1, 9-0 Southeastern Conference) take on the No. 21 Volunteers (15-4, 7-3 SEC) in the O'Connell Center at 8 — just three days after defeating Georgia on Sunday. The match will be nationally televised on ESPN.

It's not the ideal length of time the team would like to prepare for its second meeting with Tennessee (UF won 3-1 (28-26, 25-23, 19-25, 25-17) on Sept. 19). But, physically,

the Gators are ready.

"Strength training is a part of athletics — for injury prevention, for bettering performance," Wise said. "We've been very fortunate in terms of our health and it's all related to the job [Matt DeLancey] does."

DeLancey, who is in his seventh season as the strength and conditioning coordinator for the Gators, designs a specific conditioning program for each player. Each of the players do single-leg jumps ACL prevention, arm strength and rotator cuff prevention to help prevent injury and strengthen those areas.

"Matt DeLancey is the most high energy person I've ever met in my life," libero Erin Fleming said. "He's really enthusiastic about the program; he's tough and never gives us a break."

"We had a game Friday and Sunday and now a quick turnaround Wednesday against a really good Tennessee team. During the summer, he prepared us for this kind of quick turnaround so

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 15

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

## UF optimistic about PG depth

By **GREG LUCA**  
Alligator Writer  
gluca@alligator.org

After entering last season with serious questions about the point guard position, coach Billy Donovan believes he has four viable answers to start the new year.

With Erving Walker returning for his junior year, Chandler Parsons and Kenny Boynton developing their point guard skills and Scottie Wilbekin making the jump from high school, the Gators have plenty of options at the one spot.

"We feel like, outside of Erving, we have some other options we can use if Erving is maybe getting taken out of the game, or we need to try to free him up to shoot the ball a little bit more," Donovan said.

Last season Walker started 33 of the team's 34 games, averaging a team-high 4.9 assists per game and establishing a 2-1 assist-to-turnover ratio.

But, as the season wore on, teams started to put more pressure on Walker in the backcourt. This forced him to pass over defend-

ers, which proved to be a difficult task for the Southeastern Conference's shortest player (5-foot-8).

In response, the Gators would usually call on 6-foot-10 forward Chandler Parsons to run the point.

Parsons proved to be an effective option, averaging 2.6 assists per game and posting a 1.3-1 assist to turnover ratio for the season.

Throughout the off-season Parsons has worked on making those areas of his game even stronger in an attempt to become a more complete player.

"I want to be able to do everything," Parsons said. "I want to be able to pass, shoot, score inside, score outside, defend, play the four if I have to, play the point if I have to. So this summer and last year I just tried to become the most versatile player I could."

Parsons has displayed this versatility in



Parsons

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 15

## Big plays bigger than red zone

Look at Florida's "Keys to Success" chart, and you will only see one assignment for the offense: succeed in the red zone.

Of course, the chart as a whole is an oversimplified way to explain wins and losses. It only consists of four keys.

But since Urban Meyer brought his super spread option to Gainesville in 2005, the amount of points Florida's offense posted has directly correlated with the group's red-zone success. In the Age of Urban, the offense's peak seasons were 2007 and 2008, when the Gators averaged 43.1 points per game and scored on 89 percent of red-zone possessions.

But in Meyer's other four seasons, Florida has scored on just 75 percent of trips inside the opponents' 20-yard line, making this year's red-zone efficiency rate (73 percent) troubling



**Tyler Jett**  
The Jett Stream  
tjett@alligator.org  
Twitter: @iam\_tyler

not because of how low it is but because of how little it tells fans about the offense.

Why are the Gators managing only 27.6 points per game, the low-

est since 2002?

Yes, Florida's red-zone offense has been bad. But, by comparison, the team's offense outside the opponent's 20-yard line has been much worse.

This season's offense is scoring about the same amount of points (18 per game) inside the red zone as Tim Tebow and Friends did last year. But the 2009 unit averaged 36 total

SEE TYLER, PAGE 15

### TEERING OFF WITH KYLE MAISTRI

■ Kentucky do-everything baller Randall Cobb got "level 9" angry and ripped into fans after the victory against South Carolina this weekend. He was one first-quarter boo and two empty seats away from going Super Saiyan. ... Where has Junior Seau been lately? Did that guy fall off a cliff or something ... ? Too soon, huh?

### alligatorSports.org

■ Check out our new recruiting blog: Orange and Blue Chips. On there alligatorSports writer Tom Green will keep you up to date on UF recruiting. Look for the blog on the website.

### POLL RESULTS

**Previous question:** Does Urban Meyer deserve more blame for UF's three-game losing streak?

Response	Yes	No	Percent (Votes)
Yes	81%		(126)
No		19%	(30)

156 TOTAL VOTES

# Cobb apologizes for criticizing fans via Twitter

■ HE MADE THE COMMENTS AFTER KENTUCKY'S WIN AGAINST SOUTH CAROLINA ON SATURDAY.

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Kentucky wide receiver Randall Cobb apologized Tuesday for using Twitter to lash out at fans following an upset of South Carolina last weekend.

Cobb sent out a series of tweets following the game in which he chastised fans for coming late, leaving early and being more concerned about the school's basketball team.

He said it took him "two or three minutes" after sending the tweets to realize he had spoken irresponsibly. He almost immediately removed the messages.

Cobb, who scored the game-winning touchdown with just over a minute to go, says "99.9 percent" of the fans are great and that he made a mistake.

"I just took a small chunk and made it something big," Cobb said. "I can't do that. I made a mistake. I'm a man, I admit my mistake, and I want to come out and let everybody know that I'm sorry. I hope (the fans) can forgive me."

The junior wide receiver has earned a reputation as one of college football's most versatile players. Through seven games this season, he has five receiving touchdowns, three rushing touchdowns, three as a passer and one punt return touchdown. His 24-yard touchdown catch with just over a minute left against South Carolina gave Kentucky its lead.



Cobb

His tweets after the game said: "To all the fans: loved seein Yall come late, love hearin Yall tell us we suck during the game, love that we have to play against our own fans too! Love that we can't pack the house when we play the 10 team in the nation. It means that much more to me. I love my team! Brother-

hood they got my back n I got they back. The rest of Yall can get ready for bball season! Don't say u support n do all those things! Yeah I'm level 9 (upset)... so deal w it! Not blaming all but Yall know who I'm talking abt- Yall know I love bbn but something needed to be said."

Head coach Joker Phillips defended Cobb, saying that a college junior doesn't always know how to take criticism in stride.

"Me, I'm 47 and I'm just now figuring out to tune out all the negative things that come at me," Phillips said.

Wide receiver La'Rod King, who scored two touchdowns Saturday, sent a tweet on Monday night which said: "Welp looks like no more twitter for us." He said Tuesday that was his decision and that the situation had been blown out of proportion.

"All that stuff is, that's our personal life, but people have their opinion and it got out," King said. "As an athlete, we got to realize we're held to a higher standard."



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

UF guard Erving Walker played a team-high 32.9 minutes per game last season. The Gators want to lighten Walker's workload this year.

## Gators hope Wilbekin can contribute right away

**HOOPS**, from page 14

the early stages of practice, spending time at point guard in addition to his normal duties as a forward.

Even if Donovan opts to use Parsons only in the frontcourt, the senior expects to show his full range of abilities.

"In our offense if I get the rebound I'm gonna go with it, I'm gonna push the ball," Parsons said. "If I end up having the ball up there during our half-court set, I can run it comfortably."

Another player trying his hand in the point guard role is sophomore Kenny Boynton, who led the Gators in scoring while starting in 33 games last season primarily as a shooting guard.

Boynton has spent a large portion of the first few practices playing point guard across from Walker in Florida's intrasquad scrimmages, and has found the adjustment to be simpler than he anticipated.

"So far it's been a lot easier than

I thought, I feel very comfortable," Boynton said. "I think I've been making good decisions at the point guard position."

A fourth option the Gators have is freshman Scottie Wilbekin, whose toughness and stamina have impressed Donovan so far.

"I think I've been making good decisions at the point guard position."

**Kenny Boynton**  
UF sophomore

Donovan believes Wilbekin will be able to produce off the bench in his rookie season despite joining the Gators after only three years of high school at Gainesville The Rock.

"I really believe right now, after two practices, just physically and conditioning-wise that he is going to be able to contribute to our team," Donovan said. "How many minutes and how much I'm not sure, but I do think that he's going to be a positive piece for our team going forward."

## TYLER, from page 14

points.

Big plays have made the biggest difference between the two groups. Florida averaged almost 18 points outside the red zone last year while this season's group is scoring less than 10 per game, the worst rate since Meyer became coach.

Translation: the Gators aren't explosive.

Jeff Demps' leg injury and Chris Rainey's suspension have hampered the running game. Through seven games last season, the duo had each busted a pair of long touchdown runs. This season, Demps has scored on two big runs while Rainey has been sidelined for buckwild texting.

But the difference in long runs negligible. And, with scores coming from three interception returns and one kickoff return, Florida's defense and special teams are pitching in more than they did last year.

This really leaves only one scapegoat: the dump-n-run passing game. John Brantley has only thrown one touchdown from beyond the 20 — in the season opener on a fourth-quarter Hail Mary to Rainey in double coverage.

The play was so Les-Miles lucky that Meyer looked on with disgust as his team celebrated the score. But at least they could celebrate then.

Through seven games last season, Tebow awkwardly windmilled the ball for seven touchdowns longer than 20 yards.

But if Brantley is the culprit, he isn't performing the unintentional heist solo. Sure, Florida's passing offense is the SEC's fifth worst (or eighth best, depending on your outlook). But of Tebow's seven long-ball, big-nuts touchdowns, only two were directed at receivers on this year's team.

Both of those went to Deonte Thompson. And would you blame Brantley if he forgot to look in Thompson's direction for the rest of the season?

You can't defend Florida's red-zone problems. But that's not the only area of concern. The Gators have struggled inside the 20 before and still scored in bunches.

The key for the Gators is to start finding the end zone from far away, particularly with the ball coming off Brantley's right arm, because Florida has not outscored opponents enough this season.

And that's the greatest "Key to Success."

## UF leads conference in blocks

**VOLLEYBALL**, from page 14

we're not physically tired."

Fleming will be busy against the Volunteers, which lead the SEC in hitting percentage.

The Gators will once again count on middle blockers Lauren Bledsoe and Cassandra Anderson to combat those two areas of the game.

In Knoxville, Tenn., Bledsoe recorded eight blocks as Anderson pitched in with five and a .556 hitting percentage.

Both anchor a Florida team that leads the conference in blocks.

"Tennessee always plays its best volleyball in the second half of the SEC season and they have two of the premier offensive players in the league," Wise said. "They've always played us well in the O'Connell Center."

In the first meeting with Tennessee, the Gators held Nikki Fowler — third in the SEC in kills — to just eight kills on .097 hitting.

Setter Kelly Murphy will also play a large role in tonight's match. Murphy, who was named the SEC Offensive



**Volleyball**

Player of the Week for her performances last weekend, notched a triple-double with 19 kills, 25 assists, 14 digs and four blocks against Tennessee in

September.

That performance earned her player of the week honors.

"We have a great opportunity for our program and the sport of women's volleyball to play on a national stage with ESPNU," Wise said. "It's not something you can say no to."

# Four-star tight end Leonard recommit to Gators

## He plans to enroll early at Florida in January

By **TOM GREEN**  
Alligator Writer  
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Five days after decommitting from Florida, A.C. Leonard made his college decision late Monday.

And for the third time in less than a year, the four-star Jacksonville University Christian School tight end is a Gator.

But this time the nation's fourth-rated tight end, according to Rivals.com, said he's sticking with his choice.

"Lately people have been coming into my life for the wrong reasons," Leonard told Scout.com. "They have been giving me bad advice, but now I have had time to sit down and think things through. I am a Gator and I am shutting the whole process down."

 **Recruiting**

Leonard decommitted from Florida last week in the wake of UF's loss to LSU on Oct. 9 — the team's second in a row.

The tight end attended the game and reportedly left The Swamp disappointed with the Gators' offense, saying the 33-29 loss was difficult to watch.

It wasn't the first time Leonard backed off his oral commitment to the Gators, though.

After initially deciding on UF last November, Leonard decommitted following Urban Meyer's decision to step down

as head coach, only to recommit shortly thereafter.

When Leonard reopened the recruiting process last week, he was also considering offers from Nebraska, Alabama and Miami. The tight end already took official visits to Nebraska on Sept. 24 and to Ala-

bama on Oct. 1, and University Christian School coach Heath Nivens said last week that Leonard planned to take his remaining three official visits, including one to Miami.

But with the four-star prospect closing the recruiting process and planning to en-

roll at UF in January, it is doubtful Leonard will take the remaining visits.

While Leonard will probably be donning a Florida jersey when spring practice begins, it is uncertain if he will suit up again this season for University Christian School.

Reports surfaced Tuesday afternoon that Leonard had been ruled ineligible for the remainder of his senior season by the FHSAA due to an on-field incident that took place when University Christian played Jacksonville Episcopal High on Friday.

However, calls to Nivens and the FHSAA seeking confirmation were not returned Tuesday.

**Players unhappy?:** According to a report on the website MrSEC.com, Ellenwood (Ga.) Cedar Grove High athlete Vincent Dallas, who took his official visit to Florida for the LSU game, asked current players on the UF roster if they were happy with their decisions to become Gators.

Dallas, who committed to Tennessee on Friday, reportedly said some of the players weren't happy and didn't "think Florida is the right place for them." The three-star athlete refuted the report on his Facebook page and said he wouldn't be giving any interviews until January.

"To the Florida people that was not a true statement about Florida," Dallas posted on his Facebook. "I really really didn't like how the reporter did me today."

*Oral commitments are non-binding until a national letter of intent is signed on or after National Signing Day on Feb. 2.*



Harrison Diamond / Alligator Staff

Tight end A.C. Leonard (left) said he is ending the recruiting process after recommitting to Florida on Monday.

## REASON NO. 7 TO USE THE UF STUDENT HEALTH CARE CENTER:

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