



Max Reed / Alligator Staff

Equal Standing

Gainesville City Commission candidates, from left to right, Thomas Hawkins, Lauren Poe and Susan Bottcher, listen to Mallory Wells, the Equality Florida public policy director, as she speaks about a proactive campaign for the LGBT community Tuesday night at Lux, a downtown bar.

Faculty member in Egypt as riots erupt

■ SHE IS A DIRECTOR IN THE UF INTERNATIONAL CENTER.

By CJ PRUNER
 Alligator Staff Writer

When Sandra Russo left her hotel in Egypt in the early hours of Jan. 26 for her flight, she couldn't help but hear the sounds of laughter and upbeat music coming across the way. They were the sounds of an Egyptian engagement party, the kind that start a little before midnight and keep rolling all through the night. Typical Egypt, she thought.

Unbeknownst to those dancing and to the American, Egypt was erupting.

Having visited the country a handful of times, Russo, the director of program development and federal relations for the UF International Center, knew that Egypt didn't specialize in standard of living. With poverty rampant, unemployment soaring among youth and a government seemingly deaf to cries of reform, it was only a matter of time, she thought,

before it all came tumbling down. "It was like a big tea kettle," said Russo. "It just blew."

But what happened on Jan. 25 took her completely by surprise.

"I guess I just wasn't that savvy," she said.

Russo did have suspicions that not all was well. The atmosphere in Middle Eastern countries had grown more edgy following the events in Tunisia. In the days leading up to the protests, Egyptian newspapers and televisions

International News

told of citizens walking up to large public places with a can of gasoline ready to turn their bodies into politically driven human barbecues.

The Egyptians she knew were not the ones that she was seeing on the televisions at the Amsterdam airport. The Egyptians she knew were kind, polite and always willing to help an American. The only time she said she was ever afraid for her safety was crossing the

SEE EGYPT, PAGE 8

ALACHUA COUNTY COMMISSION
County ready for appeal

By MEREDITH RUTLAND
 Alligator Writer

The Alachua County Commission decided Tuesday to hire consultants to defend it when the Alachua County Sheriff Office's roughly \$500,000 budget cut appeal goes to Tallahassee.

The commission isn't sure when the appeal will go to court, but County Attorney Dave Wagner cautioned that it could be soon and without much warning.

County Manager Randall Reid said it would be a good idea for a few commissioners to go to Tallahassee, even if it's just for show.

Commissioner Mike Byerly said he didn't understand why commissioners would need to go to Tallahassee when their staff are handling the case.

Wagner said that while county staff could handle the lawsuit, it helps to have

figureheads in a highly political setting. "I don't expect it to be rational, to be honest with you," Wagner replied. "We're hesitant to go up there without one of you present to at least give the impression that elected officials care about this issue."

The commission also decided to meet with a prison company, Corrections Corporation of America, to hear as many options as possible before the commission decides how to run the jail for the next decade.

Most of the Commission thought the sheriff should stay in charge of the jail but that the commission would take control as a second choice.

A last resort would be handing over the jail to a private company, an option none of the commissioners liked.



Reid

No suspect in killing

By ALEXANDER KLAUSNER
 Alligator Staff Writer

The investigation of the death of a UF student remains open and ongoing, according to the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

Firefighters found the body of Saleha Huuda, 21, Dec. 30 after extinguishing a small brushfire off County Road 225, a half-mile north of Gainesville Raceway.

Though no report has come back from the medical examiner, the death is expected to be ruled a homicide.

Investigators finished examining Huuda's car, which was found about 15 miles away from where she was found.

However, no suspects have been

named in the case, and the cause of death is still undetermined.

"A lot of times, toxicology takes up to six months," sheriff's office spokesman Art Forgey said. "So, I wouldn't say this is anything unusual at all."

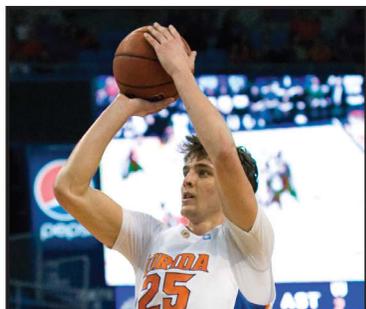
"A lot of times, toxicology takes up to six months."

Art Forgey
 sheriff's office spokesman

Huuda was a member of the UF Competitive Cheerleading squad, along with other campus dance groups.

Forgey said investigators are working to establish a timeline and suspects in the case.

■ Florida senior forward Chandler Parsons (right) iced the Gators' win against Vanderbilt on Tuesday night in the O'Connell Center with two late free throws in overtime. See Story, Page 13.



'Biggest Loser' competitor, Olympic gold medalist sells 1.5 lb. burger

AFTON, Wyo. — A former Olympic wrestler is serving a 1.5-pound hamburger at his Wyoming restaurant while competing on TV to be "The Biggest Loser."

The mighty Rulon Burger at Rulon Gardner's Burger Barn restaurant in Afton is so big, it's molded in a pizza tin. It comes on a bun with all the toppings.

Gardner won gold at the 2000 Olympics by beating a Russian who hadn't lost in 13 years.

Gardner's challenge to all comers now: Finish the burger plus a basket of fries and a 44-ounce drink in 20 minutes.

The Casper Star-Tribune reports Gardner's best is 8 minutes, 23 seconds.

Gardner is competing to lose weight on the NBC show, "The Biggest Loser."

He weighed in at 474 pounds, more than 200 pounds heavier than when he won gold.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Rain
 73/49

visit www.alligator.org

News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Islam Awareness Fair

Today, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Reitz Union Colonnade
Calligraphy, famous Muslims posters, hopscotch in Arabic and jump rope with a Muslim are some activities planned. Come experience the various Muslim cultures around the world. The Islam fair will also feature cultural organizations from the UF campus. Please visit islamoncampus.com for more information. The event is free.

Dynamo General Body Meeting

Today, 6 p.m.
Anderson Room 34
The theme this week will be democratic transition in Arab countries. The group will be discussing the revolution in Tunisia, the protests in Yemen and the protests taking place in Egypt. New members are encouraged to attend and participate.

Guest Speaker: Transplant Director

Today, 7:15 p.m.
Matherly Room 16
Dr. Edward D. Staples is an associate professor of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery at the UF College of Medicine and the heart and lung trans-

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
RAIN 73/49	RAIN 59/49	RAIN 71/56	RAIN 65/38	PARTLY CLOUDY 65/42

plant surgical director at Shands. He recently performed Shands' 500th lung transplant. Everyone is invited to this week's Get Carded meeting to hear him speak about his experiences.

Golden Key meeting

Today, 6:45 p.m.
Turlington Room L005
There will be a guest speaker from the Civic Media Center. After the meeting at 8 p.m., there is a fundraising social at TCBY on 34th Street.

Dance Marathon Registration

Through Thursday
Help make miracles happen by registering to dance for Dance Marathon 2011. Dancers do not need to be registered through or be part of an organization to participate in this event. Visit the Dance Marathon website at floridadm.org to register for the event or make a donation.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an e-mail with "What's Happening" in the subject line to ebehrman@alligator.org. Please model your submissions after above events. Improperly formatted "What's Happening" submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

CORRECTION

In Tuesday's Alligator, an article incorrectly identified Gainesville City Commissioner Lauren Poe as holding the at-large seat. Commissioner Thomas Hawkins holds the at-large seat.

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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NEWSROOM

352-376-4458 (Voice), 352-376-4467 (Fax)
Editor Paul Runnestrand, prunnestrand@alligator.org
Elizabeth Behrman, ebehrman@alligator.org
Managing Editor / Print Joshua Saval, jsaval@alligator.org
C.J. Pruner, cpruner@alligator.org
University Editor Elizabeth Behrman, ebehrman@alligator.org
Adam Berry, aberry@alligator.org
Assistant Sports Editor Greg Luca, gluca@alligator.org
alligatorSports.org Editor Jesse Simonton, jsimonton@alligator.org
Opinions Editor Cynthia Despres, cdespres@alligator.org
Editorial Board Paul Runnestrand, Elizabeth Behrman, Joshua Saval, Cynthia Despres
Photo Editor Matt Tripp, mtripp@alligator.org
Freelance Editor Amanda Milligan, amilligan@alligator.org
the Avenue Editor Melinda Carstensen, mcarstensen@alligator.org
Copy Desk Chiefs Anthony Chiang, Tyler Jett, Corey McCall, Emily Morrow, Colin Simmons
Copy Editors Rebecca Astorga, John Boothe, Safid Deen, Olivia Feldman, Greg Fink, Josh Isom, Caitlin O'Conner, Lily Parkinson, Rachel Rowan, Briana Seymour, Cayla Stanley, Matthew Watts

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

352-376-4482, 800-257-4341, 352-376-4556 (Fax)
Advertising Director Shaun O'Connor, soconnor@alligator.org
Retail Advertising Manager Gary Miller, gmiller@alligator.org
Advertising Office Manager Victoria Livingston, vlivingston@alligator.org
Advertising Assistant Melissa Bell
Intern Coordinator Sara Ingebretsen, Jesse Morgan
Display Advertising Clerks Carly Blattner, Jesse Morgan, Stephanie Parker
Sales Representatives Giselle Boothby, Serina Braddock, Brandon Davis, Courtney McCalden, Julian Pothemont, Ally Russo, Emilee Smith

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

352-373-FIND (Voice), 352-376-3015 (Fax)
Classified Advertising Manager Ellen Light, elight@alligator.org
Classified Clerks Ashley Flattery, Wildivina Rosario

CIRCULATION

Operations Assistant James Austin

BUSINESS

352-376-4446 (Voice), 352-376-4556 (Fax)
Comptroller Delia Kradolfer
Senior Bookkeeper Melissa Bell, mbell@alligator.org
Accounting Clerks William Adams, Alyssa Hemani, Stephen Roskowski

ADMINISTRATION

352-376-4446 (Voice), 352-376-4556 (Fax)
General Manager Patricia Carey, tcarey@alligator.org
Administrative Manager Judy Moore
Administrative Assistant Lenora McGowan, lmcgowan@alligator.org
President Emeritus C.E. Barber, cebarber@alligator.org

SYSTEMS

Desktop Support Manager Kevin Hart

PRODUCTION

Production Manager Stephanie Gocklin, sgocklin@alligator.org
Assistant Production Manager Erica Bales, ebales@alligator.org
Advertising Production Staff Shannon Close, James Noltan, Vinnie Pierino, Jackie Tseng
Editorial Production Staff Jocelyne Sanchez, Alexander Silva, Rosa Taveras

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Gay rights organization opens Gainesville chapter

The group fundraised for Mayor Lowe's election campaign

By **CJ PRUNER**
Alligator Staff Writer

After a long Tuesday filled with meetings, handshakes and city statutes, Craig Lowe decided to stop off for a drink after work.

But for the mayor, his off-the-clock cocktail was more than an occasion to unfasten his tie and rub elbows with colleagues and friends in a subdued environment not confined to the formal customs of City Hall. It was an opportunity to relish in one of the causes that, he believes, is integral to whether his administration is viewed as successful: equality for all citizens.

Equality Florida, an organization devoted to promoting rights for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders, celebrated opening a

Gainesville office at Lux bar on Tuesday.

Mallory Wells, the public policy director for Equality Florida, said the opening of an office in Gainesville was years in the making. The group had previously led efforts to defeat Gainesville Charter Amendment 1, a local ordinance presented in 2009 that would have lifted local anti-discrimination policies toward the LGBTQ community. Equality Florida also campaigned and raised funds for Lowe during his run for mayor last year.

"I want Gainesville to go to Tallahassee and tell legislators that their town is an inclusive community," Wells said.

Among those in attendance were city commissioners Lauren Poe and Thomas Hawkins along with city commission candidate Susan Bottcher, who all received endorsements in

their respective commission races.

Bottcher said such an organization is necessary to resist what she described as a conservative and Tea Party-led effort to "turn the clock back."

"I want Gainesville to go to Tallahassee and tell legislators that their town is an inclusive community."

Mallory Wells
Policy director for Equality Florida

"I think that's the antithesis of what we want to do in this city in this country in the 21st century," she said. "All I know is that as long as there are citizens trying to restrict

rights for others, I will be fighting for the rights of all citizens."

Although he acknowledged that issues of equality may not be the key issue on the minds of most Gainesville voters, Poe stressed the importance of keeping such issues in focus.

"If you're not grounded in equal rights for all citizens, you're failing to serve your entire community," he said.

Lowe said the fact that Equality Florida chose to open an office in Gainesville comes as no surprise. He said that while he is pleased with the strides the city has made with shoring up rights for all citizens, there is still much work to be done.

The key, Lowe said, would be in translating the city's legislative efforts to promote equality into opportunities for residents on a day-to-day basis.

"I think we've gone pretty far," Lowe said, "but I think we need to work harder."



Erica Anderson / Alligator

Juggling Break

UF students spend their lunch hour juggling Tuesday on the Plaza of the Americas. UF has an official juggling club, Objects in Motion, which is going to the Groundhog Juggling Festival in Atlanta this weekend.

County releases yearly financial report online

■ **ALACHUA COUNTY'S TOTAL REVENUE WAS \$327 MILLION.**

By **MORGAN WATKINS**
Alligator Writer

Alachua County residents can find out how the county spent their tax dollars last year as the 2010 fiscal year annual report has been released by county manager Randall Reid and the Alachua County Communications Office.

The county will print a couple thousand copies of the report for those who can't access it online, Communications Coordinator Mark Sexton said. The digital report also includes 30-minute video interviews with county department heads.

Total revenues for the 2010 fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, topped \$326.83 million, with most of the year's income streaming in through property taxes.

Those taxes provided 35 percent of total revenues and 75 percent of the revenue for the general fund, which the county commission controls and

which is included in the total revenue tally, Sexton said.

For every dollar of property taxes spent by an Alachua County property owner, 40 cents went to the Alachua County School Board and 37 cents went to the County General Fund.

Of that 37 cents, only 15.54 cents were used to fund countywide projects supported by the commission.

The Board of County Commissioners was the top spender for total expenses, accounting for 39 percent of the county's total costs.

Twenty-five percent of the county's costs went to the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, constitutional officers and judicial officers.

The Alachua County Public Works Department spent the most of any county department with 31 percent of the departments' total expense, while the public safety department came in second with 20 percent.

To see the full report, visit <http://www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/Communications/Documents/AnnualReports/Annual-Report-2010.pdf>.

Local News

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Senators call for clean campaigning

By **CAROLYN TILLO**
Alligator Staff Writer

Although Tuesday's Student Senate meeting lasted less than an hour, members of the Unite Party and the Progress Party have hours of work ahead of them as elections loom.

SG general elections will be held on Feb. 22 and 23, and parties were required to submit their list of candidates by Tuesday night.

Student Alliance party leader Kevin Kleponis announced he will be stepping down from his role due to the party's merge with Progress Party for the elections.

The newly merged party will maintain the Progress Party name.

Kleponis expressed his support for Dave Schneider, Progress Party candidate for Student Body president.

"He is an activist on campus, and he's going to be an activist Student Body president," Kleponis said.

Both Kleponis and Senate President Ben Meyers, the Unite Party candidate for Student Body President, urged senators to avoid unfair or corrupt campaign tactics.

"What happened last spring has done nothing but discourage voter turnout."

Ben Meyers
Senate President

During last February's election season, fliers critical of both the Student Alliance party and the Unite Party were distributed on campus.

"What happened last spring has done nothing but discourage voter turnout [and] increase apathy," Meyers said.

The discussion danced from party politics to salsa when senators unanimously approved a bill allocating \$1,820 to the Gator Salsa Club for a spring formal featuring dance instruction.



Dana Burke / Alligator Staff

Sen. Andrew Hart was announced as the new Student Alliance and Progress party leader by Sen. Kevin Kleponis at the Student Senate meeting Tuesday night.

SG political parties announce executive candidates

■ ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD FEB. 22 AND 23.

By **ELIZABETH BEHRMAN**
Alligator Staff Writer

As the qualifying interviews for Student Government elections wound down Tuesday, the executive race picked up.

The SG political parties announced their candidates for Student Body vice president and treasurer this week.

Cassia Laham, a Progress Party senator, will run for vice president as Dave Schneider's running mate. Amy Chaildin will be running as the Progress Party's candidate for treasurer.

Anthony Reynolds will be the Unite Party's vice presidential candidate, and T.J. Villamil will be running for treasurer.

Ben Meyers, the Unite Party candidate for Student Body president, said he is honored to be campaigning with Reynolds and Villamil. Reynolds has served as the Unite Party president and as SG Cabinet chairman, overseeing all the Cabinet directors. Villamil is the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, which is in charge of the \$14 million SG budget.

"I feel like our ticket is three times stronger now that they're on," said Meyers, who is the current Senate president.

Reynolds said he knows Meyers and Villamil well and has

worked with them in the the past.

"We have a really good dynamic, the three of us," he said. Schneider, the Progress Party candidate for president, said his running mates want to get more students involved in SG.

"They want to take SG outside of the third floor of the Reitz Union and into Turlington Plaza," he said.

Laham has been a member of Students for a Democratic Society, a student activist group, for three years, and is a former president of Students for Justice in Palestine.

Chaildin is a graduate student pursuing her master's degree in Health Administration and has a bachelor's degree in business administration. She worked for four years as a student financial assistant in the SG Finance Office.

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Group wants Reitz remodel

By **JOLISA CANTY**
Alligator Contributing Writer

The Reitz Union Board of Managers is seeking student signatures to petition the Make It Reitz project, a renovation and expansion of the Reitz Union.

The Make It Reitz campaign is similar to the Renew Your Reitz campaign from spring 2010, but the Renew Your Reitz aimed at funding this new project.

"We are focused on educating students, finding out their needs and gaining support so that we can give them the services and resources," said Melanie Varney, chairwoman of the Board of Managers.

Make It Reitz was formed in the fall of 2010 by Varney after she joined Renew Your Reitz.

The union's programming committee is currently putting together a document that contains all of the needs that students said they want. The ultimate objective is to be able to hand the document over to the architects and build a student union that meets the growing needs of students.

The board of managers committee plans to give Eddie Daniels, executive director of the Reitz Union, the document, letters of support from the student organizations and student-signed petitions by the end of February or early March.

The campaign fliers list the problems the supporters feel need fixing, from the outdated design and floor plan to the limited number of available parking spots.

Varney said the campaign has about 1,200 signatures of support and about 20 letters of support from presidents of various student organizations.

On Campus

NATIONAL

Ga. woman, 114, is world's oldest

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONROE, Ga. — At 114 years old and counting, Besse Cooper says it's "rather great" to be the oldest person in the world.

She makes her 75-year-old son proud.

"We were delighted when she got to 100. We thought that was a great achievement," said Sid Cooper. "We never imagined she'd live to be the oldest person in the world."

Cooper, who is 114 years and 5 months old, assumed the mantle of the oldest living person after the death Monday of Eunice G. Sanborn

of Jacksonville, Texas, according to the Los Angeles-based Gerontology Research Group. The group certifies supercentenarians — people who are 110 or older.

Cooper wears a string of pearls double-looped around her neck and spends her days sitting and sleeping. She now lives in a nursing home in Monroe, Ga., about 45 miles east of Atlanta.

Her wheelchair has bright pink armrests embroidered with "Ms. Besse, 2010 114."

She was born in Sullivan County, Tenn., on Aug. 26, 1896, during the second term of President Grover

Cleveland.

One of eight children, she was a tomboy and loved tagging along with her two older brothers, climbing trees and splashing in rivers.

She carried that active lifestyle and love of outdoors into adulthood. That, plus good genes, is probably the secret to her longevity, her son said.

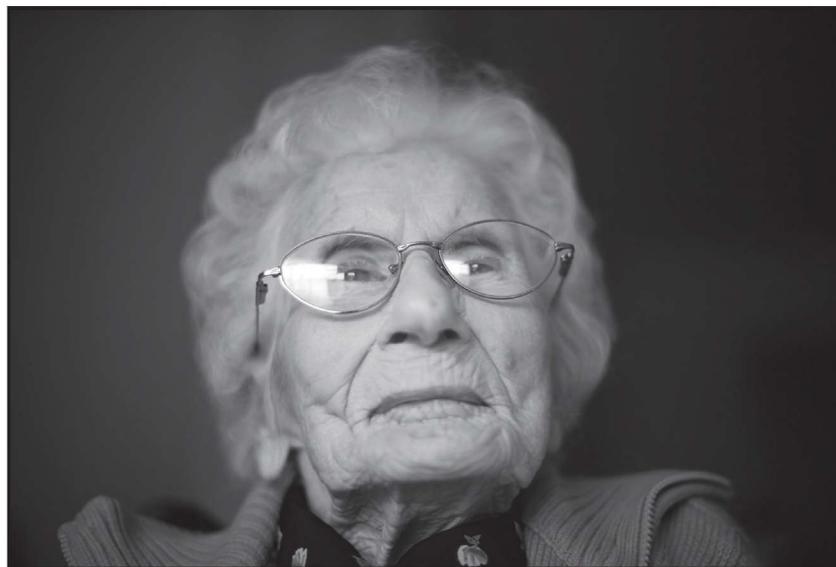
But Cooper has her own idea: "I mind my own business and I don't eat junk food," she said at her 113th birthday celebration, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

Cooper lived on her own until she was 105 and stubbornly resisted leaving her house, Sid Cooper said. Her health has declined steeply in the last year or so, and she can't hear or see well, he said. Speaking seems to require effort.

She moved to Georgia to be a school teacher during World War I, her son said.

She married in the early 1920s and taught fourth through seventh grades in a two-room schoolhouse until her first child was born. Although she stopped teaching then, she was an avid reader until her eyes got too bad last year. She always insisted that her children get an education.

Married for about 40 years, Cooper has outlived her husband by nearly half a century. They had four children, about a dozen grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild, Sid Cooper said.



AP Photo

Besse Cooper, 114 years and 5 months old, sits in her room at a nursing home Tuesday in Monroe, Ga. Cooper is now the world's oldest person.

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Editorial

Two to Tango

Both sides of abortion debate face trouble

As if either side needed to garner any more controversy, Planned Parenthood is getting ready for battle with the anti-abortion group Live Action over sting operations in several clinics across the country.

The anti-abortion group recorded a conversation among a Planned Parenthood worker, an actor playing a pimp and another playing a prostitute. In the recording, the clinic worker prepares to secure an abortion for the woman, even if the worker has to lie to make the procedure cheaper for the prostitute.

Live Action points to its clandestinely shot footage as evidence the pro-abortion organization breaks the law to secure abortions and other services — even for sex traffickers dealing with minors. Planned Parenthood, however, says the worker who agreed to lie for the group went against organization policies.

In this case, we're giving Planned Parenthood the benefit of the doubt because the practice of judging entire groups on one less-than-competent person could be used to call any group of people into question.

We're bothered that people on both sides of the abortion debate are willing to connive for their causes. Does the end justify the means of multiple legal transgressions?

If both sides stuck to bringing a rational argument to the table, rather than relying on deception to expose the deceptive, maybe we'd be able to stomach the debate more easily.

Anachronisms 101

An Abraham Lincoln researcher attempted to literally rewrite history when he changed a date on a presidential pardon from April 14, 1864, to April 14, 1865.

For those of you who didn't do too well in U.S. History, the one-digit change upgrades the document's importance from typical pardon to one of the final papers Lincoln signed on the day of his death. The temptation was too much for a novice historian.

Although we frown upon tampering with historical documents and pieces of art, we can see the allure of becoming part of the narrative people spend their lives retelling.

Finding a forgotten piece to a puzzle makes an exciting topic for daydream, especially when it concerns one of

our most conflicted, beloved and researched presidents.

Nerdy musings are one thing, but reality is another.

The ramifications of making a change to a primary source of history can never be known, but the conflict between the joy of finding something first and revealing it accurately to others makes us wonder how many times changes have been made in order to stroke an ego or feel the rush of discovery.

The problem boils down to our human nature.

When people tell us not to touch something, we're tempted to do just that the moment the words leave their lips.

We'd love to see our names passed down for generations, but for now, we are better off scribbling in the margins of a history textbook.

Opinions

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Column

Cats more appropriate pets while in college

Are you a cat or dog person? This question somehow gives people piercing insight into who we are as individuals based solely on our preference of feline or canine company. I like to think that like nearly everything in life, this choice is not absolute. Both animals have their strengths and annoyances. I feel it is necessary, however, to formally submit my endorsement of cats as the overall preferred company of the modern college student.

To put it bluntly, cats are making a comeback: The Internet calls them "LOLCats" for a reason. They're hilarious and awesome.

We tend to treat both cats and dogs as equivalent human companions. We call them our friends, members of our family and even our children (yikes!). We recognize their emotional states, and we revel in their ability to emulate human behavior. We also recognize that a cat or dog looks miserable while we trot them around a party saying, "Look at this hat on Cookie-Butt! Doesn't it look so funny?" Yet people still have no problem exploiting their pets for our collective amusement. This spectacle has worked in cats' favor, as the Internet testifies.

Cats are very much your friends, but their affection varies depending on their personalities. Some behave more like roommates who swing by sometimes to see what you're up to. Others behave more affectionately and greet you as soon as you get home in a way that seems like they want to know about your day. Either way, most cats tend to be passive and standoffish, and some are only interested in you until you feed them. Then you can kindly stop touching them before they start clawing and gnashing at you like furry, 7-pound demons.

Cats are self-entertained. College life, as you are aware, can get crazy busy. Among class, studying, extracurricular

Wesley Campbell
letters@alligator.org

activities, a job and social events, it's a wonder you have time to sleep, let alone hang out with an animal. As long as you meet

the necessities of food, water and shelter and remember to curate their box of sand sculptures, cats will get along just fine.

Owning a cat is like having a friend that hangs out. Owning a dog is like having a toddler for 10 to 20 years.

Dogs beg. They are needy, playful, interactive, highly emotional and sometimes quite destructive. They need constant attention. In the late college stage, many couples use dog ownership as a surrogate dry run for having a child because dogs are a big responsibility. They treat dogs like babies, which I get. Really. They give a lot of love but also need a lot of it too. But they're not kids, and in our ever-busy lives, people seem to take a passive awareness of this and put these super-dependent animals in situations that make dogs miserable. We're never around. It's no one's fault in particular. Dogs and humans have a symbiotic relationship that goes back to prehistory, and we're predisposed to want them and love being around them. But the fact is that the college lifestyle we lead doesn't leave the amount of room that such a loving creature needs to feel nurtured and balanced and behave like the kind of dogs we see on TV. The concept of a dog is nice, but the reality is it's a big decision to own one.

Dog owners: I'm glad you own them. They're fun to pet. I don't have the time or budget to afford one myself.

Cat owners: Brush off the cat haters. While you're at it, brush off all that hair on your jacket because some people are allergic to awesome.

Wesley Campbell is a fifth-year English major. His column appears on Wednesdays.

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

Reader response

Today's question: Do you prefer cats over dogs?

Tuesday's question: Do you support US District Judge Vinson's health care decision?

60% YES
40% NO
84 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

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

Letters to the Editor

Students aren't obligated to take fliers

I'd like to address the UF Student Body in response to Laura Ellermeyer's column on fliers yesterday. If you don't want a flier, don't take one. Period. As someone who's passed out fliers before, I can tell you that I will not be offended by a "No, thank you" if you don't want my flier. In fact, if you're just going to throw it away, please don't take one. We don't want paper wasted any more than you do because it's costing us money, and we might not have enough for the people who are actually interested.

Victoria Shelley
UF student

■ ■ ■

Second Amendment needs another look

Contrasting the recent Alligator poll, which found that 69 percent of respondents were against state permission for guns on campus, there have been few letters attempting to discredit the gun control position while ridiculing the holders of that opinion.

August Lee, whose letter was published Jan. 26, exemplifies those who are blind to reality. Take his casual dismissal of the Tucson shooter and Virginia Tech shooting as a misuse of weaponry. Actually, those guns were used to accomplish exactly what they were manufactured for — to kill. The gun lobby apparently wants to ensure more of the same, including the mother in Tampa last week who used a recently purchased pistol to shoot and kill her two teenage children.

As for Lee's trotting out the usual National Rifle Association-fed emphasis on the second half of the one-sentence Second Amendment, people shouldn't be buffaloes into accepting its supposed sanctity without first reading the opening phrase, a conditional clause, and then checking with a high school English teacher to determine what the implications are for the rest of the sentence.

David Grundy
Gainesville resident

■ ■ ■

Unite makes wise vice president choice

Today, our campus exposes itself to a world of potential firsts, most visibly for the Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) community. But this "first" also extends to all Gators and all of Florida — to you and me. Anthony Reynolds has announced his candidacy for Student Body vice president, and I would like to explain why this is monumental and why I personally support him.

Anthony is undoubtedly qualified for vice presidency, proven through his extensive involvement in Student Government as a former Students Taking Action Against Racism director and a current Cabinet chairman. But more compelling is his true commitment to students, as witnessed in his deep connection with the APIA community through his leadership in the Filipino Student Association, Building Dreams Foundation, Asian Kaleidoscope Month and Asian American Student Union.

Already, Anthony is breaking barriers as the first Filipino-American to run for this position in Florida. As an accomplished Asian-American student leader, Anthony can provide strong direction to fulfill our university's mission of diversity. As a friend and colleague, I know Anthony will speak for those not spoken for. For the APIA community, Anthony will work alongside students to challenge the historic lack of equal resources at UF for Asian-Americans.

While I personally believe in Anthony and what he can do for our campus community, I invite you to join AASU at our SG Executive Candidate Debate at 6 p.m. on Feb. 14 in CSE A101. Like the Alligator motto says, you decide.

Megan Vu
Asian American Student Union President

■ ■ ■

Players don't deserve special treatment

Janoris Jenkins has again been arrested. On this occasion, he is charged with possession of marijuana. During 2009, he was arrested and charged with affray and resisting arrest without violence. Affray, in case you are wondering, translates to fighting and is a charge used by law enforcement officials reserved for UF football players and other celebrities that they don't want to charge with assault or battery.

Jenkins is set to appear in court on Feb. 17. This sentencing should prove interesting. Were the perpetrator anyone other than a potential All-American on the UF football

team, he or she would be facing jail time. The previous offense would be resurrected, and the perpetrator would be sentenced for that crime and the possession charge. Bear in mind, this is not Jenkins' first offense.

The Gators' new coach said, "There's a certain thing that I'm going to call 'the Florida Way,' and that's the way we need to act, and that's the way [the team members] need to represent our university."

We are witnessing yet another sad indicator of Urban Meyer's pathetic legacy that includes the arrest of 27 team members during his tenure.

Good luck, Coach Muschamp: You will need it. Your predecessor had enough players arrested to form a team — one complete with an offense, defense, punter and kicker. I think you will find your team infested with hoodlums. You have not seen the last arrest of a UF football player: Acorns do not fall far from the tree.

You should kick Jenkins off the team, take his scholarship from him and sue him for repayment of all scholarship benefits already provided.

The Gator Nation will soon see what Coach Muschamp's view of "the Florida way" really is. Will he send a clear message to his team? Not likely.

What we will probably see is business as usual. Jenkins will get a perfunctory slap on the wrist, then move on to his millions in the NFL, leaving behind only a bad memory and a foul taste in our mouths.

Daniel E. Colley
Gainesville resident

UWire

Colleges should re-examine the quality of higher education

A recent study of survey responses, transcript information and data from the Collegiate Learning Assessment concluded that 45 percent of students tested after their second year in college showed no improvement in their development of "higher-order cognitive skills."

This finding is the basis of the soon-to-be-released book, *Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses*. The book is a compilation of the findings of researchers who followed 2,300 undergraduates through four years of college at 24 unidentified higher education institutions to measure the progress of the undergraduates' critical thinking and analytic reasoning skills.

Dr. Richard Arum, a professor of sociology and education at New York University and director of the Education Research Program of the Social Science Research Council, and Dr. Josipa Roksa, an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Virginia, are both authors of the book set to be published by the University of Chicago Press this month.

A portion of the experts' book was published on the Chronicle of Higher Education website, in which the two discuss the book, the data and why college students aren't improving.

The debate on the costs of higher education and how the system can be improved has been a heated topic for years. From students too focused on their social lives to professors focused on individual research, the authors have found that the very people within the higher education system aren't focused on a remedy to the problems. Even worse, Arum and Roksa say that some may not even notice the problems, writing that college students "define and understand their college experiences as being focused more on social than on academic development."

But a developed social aptitude certainly has its perks and should not be considered the sole reason students are not learning. Students leave college with strong friendships and lasting memories. They have learned to depend on others, to value friendship and to live independently.

However, when they leave college they don't entertain the thought that their cognitive skills may have never developed.

It is far easier for self-reflective people to view their so-

The Lariat
Editorial Board
UWire

cial progress. A person's intellectual progress, however, is a much more difficult aspect to examine.

It is ridiculous to say that all students only come to college for the social growth. Perhaps students believe they have intellectually grown from college when in fact, because of the ease of college courses, they have not.

The workload of college courses has a dramatic effect on the amount a student improves. The study proves that students whose classes reflect high expectations (more than 40 pages of reading a week and more than 20 pages of writing a semester) developed their cognitive skills more than other students. Therefore, those teachers who underestimate the work ethic of the current student population may be helping the final grades of their course, but they are in no way improving the overall education of students.

It is clear that several factors are contributing to the stunted academic growth in higher education. However, it all boils down to the truth that there aren't enough people who care to work toward a solution.

"Students in general seek to enjoy the benefits of a full collegiate experience that is focused as much on social life as on academic pursuits, while earning high marks in their courses with relatively little investment of effort. Professors are eager to find time to concentrate on their scholarship and professional interests. Administrators have been asked to focus largely on external institutional rankings and the financial bottom line. Government funding agencies are primarily interested in the development of new scientific knowledge. In short, the system works. No actors in the system are primarily interested in undergraduates' academic growth, although many are interested in student retention and persistence."

The problem lies here: No one is focusing directly on the quality of our education — not students, professors, administrators or faculty. How can we, as a nation that once stood as the archetype of higher education success, continue to allow money and politics to steal from future generations' well being? This research has pinpointed the glaring flaws of higher education and is sure to spark much discussion and hopefully change. However, many aspects of the current academic realm go untouched in this study,

such as the major role digital technology has played on our generation's development. Despite our simultaneous growth with the digital world, numerous professors refuse to incorporate any form of technology into their courses. It is absurd to think that teaching styles should never change. In fact, the easiest way to attempt to remedy this problem of "no-growth learning" is to ask those who have committed their lives to educating collegiate scholars to tap into their classes and discover what is and is not working. It seems as if some professors expect all students to conform to their generation's methods rather than discerning the appropriate way to teach for the new generations.

As we become more dependent on technology, courses should not continue to refuse the integration of technology. However, simply accommodating for technology will not solve our problems either. If digital textbooks are supposed to offset the cost of high education, then will an increased reading load truly benefit? Therefore, colleges should focus on the ability to fully teach a course rather than the ability to offer the course at a lower cost.

Until the realm of higher education has decided to embrace technology, this balancing of pros and cons will drone on.

The collegiate balance is severely off-kilter. There are so many problems to fix and several theoretical remedies. What's missing is action. What was once a highly efficient system that churned out bright young minds and innovative ideas is now nearing mass chaos. However, as Arum and Roksa say in their book, we can't classify this problem as a "crisis" because no one seems to be treating it as such. That is, many people are sitting idle. Administrators are still bringing in money, students are enjoying their college years and professors are still focusing on personal research. Until the higher education constituency bans together and resolves to fix our broken system, we may be headed downhill to a fate that is, at best, mediocre and, at worst, a failure. It shouldn't take failure to get us motivated.

It should take the fact that some students are leaving institutions that proclaim a mission of education without showing any improvement.

That is failure. And it should be unacceptable. We need passion. We need drive. We need a new mindset.

The Lariat, Baylor U. via UWIRE



Daniela Guzman / Alligator

Hands of Art

Islam on Campus presented the Islam Awareness Fair on Monday at the Reitz Union Colonnade, which included several cultural activities like henna painting. The fair continues today from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Reitz Union Colonnade.

Jobs harder to get for law school grads

■ 15,000 JOBS AT LARGE FIRMS HAVE DISAPPEARED SINCE 2008.

By DANIELLE ALVAREZ
Alligator Contributing Writer

The dream of becoming a lawyer with a high salary might be slowly fading away.

A recent New York Times article discussed the realities of law school debt and stated that according to a Northwestern Law study, about 15,000 attorney and legal-staff jobs at large firms have disappeared since 2008.

"Make sure you want to be a lawyer, not just a sports agent, not just a media law mogul but a lawyer," said Bob O'Linn, a first-year law student at UF.

O'Linn said he isn't discouraged and has been offered a paid internship in Jacksonville.

"The key is personal contact and meeting with people in the market you want to practice," O'Linn said.

The UF Levin College of Law has its own Center for Career Development, which provides law students and alumni with a range of career sources including workshops and individual career counseling, according to its website.

Robert Rush, a UF law school alumnus, graduated from the law school back in 1985. Rush is now part-owner of a law office located in downtown Gainesville.

He said he has received 20 resumes in the past year but doesn't need to hire any new. However, he does offer summer clerkships for current law students.

Rush said students should look for jobs and not worry about the pay until they gain some experience because they are competing with lawyers who do have experience.

"It's a myth that you're going to become a multi-millionaire," said Rush. "If you take care of the client and the case, you don't have to worry about the money ever again."

LOCAL SCHOOLS

UF students plan to give makeover to low-income school

By KRISTIN LOPOPOLO
Alligator Contributing Writer

Duval Elementary School is in danger of closing if its students do not improve their FCAT scores.

To help raise the spirit and the school's D rating from the department of education, UF students are giving this elementary school a facelift Feb. 25 through 27.

This year's Project Makeover team, a UF student-run service organization dedicated to improving local low-income schools, will renovate the entire school by painting large murals on the walls and adding different landscapes to the play areas.

The goal is to raise \$5,000, and they've already raised \$4,000, said Sara Stout, the project's executive director.

To reach the goal, there will be a Project Makeover kickball tournament Feb. 12, and the organization will be accepting open donations until the actual dates of the project, Stout said.

"When we beautify the students' school, it is much easier for them to be motivated and excited about learning."

Sara Stout
executive director of Project Makeover

The team plans to paint large science murals on the blank walls of the school to help prepare students for the science section of the FCAT.

One of the biggest renovations will be to the outdoor area of the school, Stout said.

Currently, the school's outdoor areas are plain and have little landscaping.

"Our goal is to create an outdoor area for students to have class in the shade," she said.

The Project Makeover team will install three heavy-duty picnic tables in the yard of the school, along with trees for shade.

Stout said the project helps show elementary students that the university and the community support them and want them to succeed.

"When we beautify the students' school, it is much easier for them to be motivated and excited about learning," Stout said.

A UF student studying in Egypt has been evacuated

EGYPT, from page 1

Cairo streets, where cars whipped through intersections without regard for anything resembling a traffic regulation.

But now Egypt has been thrust into the international spotlight as citizens flock to the streets demanding a change in government. Study abroad programs to Egypt have been put on indefinite hiatus.

One UF student who had been studying at the American University in Cairo has been evacuated from the country and was in Istanbul as of press time.

For Russo, what is unfolding before the world is not the result of fervent religious sentiment coming into fruition.

In a country where bribes get things done and university professors, according to Russo, make \$250 a month, economics come

into play.

"A person's daily wages hinge on getting a piece of bread — that pivot is so fragile," Russo said. "How do you bribe your way through the day when you don't have anything to bribe with?"

"How do you bribe your way through the day when you don't have anything to bribe with?"

Sandra Russo
director of program development and federal relations for the UF International Center

Still, Russo remains confident that despite the uncertainty, Egypt has the capabilities to emerge as a stronger country thanks to a deep influx of educated youth.

For now, however, no music plays.



AP Photo

A demonstrator reacts in Tahrir — or Liberation — Square in Cairo, Egypt, on Tuesday. More than a quarter-million people filled the city's main square.

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All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis. • All employment opportunities advertised herein are subject to the laws which prohibit discrimination in employment (barring legal exceptions) because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, familial status, age, or any other covered status. • This newspaper assumes no responsibility for injury or loss arising from contacts made through the type of advertising that is known as "personal" or "connections" whether or not they actually appear under those classifications. We suggest that any reader who responds to that type of advertising use caution and investigate the sincerity of the advertiser before giving out personal information. • Although this newspaper uses great care in accepting or rejecting advertising according to its suitability, we cannot verify that all advertising claims or offers are completely valid in every case and, therefore, cannot assume any responsibility for any injury or loss arising from offers and acceptance of offers of goods and/or services through any advertising contained herein.

2 For Rent unfurnished

FOX HOLLOW

Gated Entry
MOVE-IN SPECIAL
1BR STARTING AT \$499.
7301 W Univ Ave
Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 10-3
352-332-3199
www.foxhollowgainesville.com
Text: foxhollow@65374
4-20-10-70-2

WALK TO UF! 1BR \$425

Gore Rabell Real Estate 378-1387
www.Gore-Rabell.com 4-20-10-70-2

Move In Today/January/Fall!

- 1/1 from \$625 * 1/1 LOFT from \$625
- 2/2 from \$669 * 3/2 from \$779
- Pools * Cardio * Tanning
- Washer/Dryers * HUGE Floor Plans!
- 377-7401 * Pets Loved!

4-20-10-70-2

BRIDGELIGHT

1 BR Loft Style
starting at \$495 mo.
M-F 10-2 Sat. by appt.
3006 SW 23rd St. 377-5221
www.bridgelightapts.com
Text: bridgelight@65374
4-20-10-70-2



Washer/Dryer in Every Apartment
1/1's from \$719 2/2's from \$839
3/3's from \$954

Includes Internet

352-335-7656 www.thepolosuf.com
4-20-10-70-2

3/2 House Available Immediately
Near Law School, Shopping, Restaurants
Free UF Parking!
352.371.7777 4-20-10-70-2

SUN BAY and Sun Key

2.1 bedroom Apartment
>From \$550/mo; 1 mo free for UF students on yr lease
Walk to Campus
352-376.6720 or 352-376-7041
www.sunisland.info
4-20-10-70-2

2/2 & 3/3 Roommate Matching
Walk In Closets
Private Bathrooms
Cable w/HBO & Showtime
Full size W/D
Pet friendly
352-374-3866 4-20-10-70-2

SUN HARBOR TOWNHOMES

1.1 Townhomes
>From \$525 mo; 1 mo free with yr lease.
Walk to Campus
352-376-6720 or 352-376-7041
www.sunisland.info
4-20-10-70-2

SUN BAY and Sun Key

1.1 bedroom Apartment
(Not just a room!) 1 mo free for UF students
>From \$475 mo; Walk to Campus
No other offers apply
352-376-6720 or 352-376-7041
www.sunisland.info
4-20-10-70-2

PET'S PARADISE

\$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR, privacy fenced. SW. 352-331-2099 2-2-10-30-2

2 For Rent unfurnished



CALL TODAY!
Homes/Condos/Apartments
Close to UF on bus route!
www.edbaurmanagement.com
352-375-7104
4-20-10-70-2

\$500-\$600 clean, spacious PRIVATE, apt. for calm, stable, mature person in quiet area, greenspace/trees; pvt patio, near UF & dntn, bus. 1825-1826 NW 10th st. 352-376-0080, 352-284-3873; postj@bellsouth.net 4-20-10-70-2

2 Months Free!

Sundowne Villas
Studio *\$430 and 1/1 *\$457
Located behind Butler Plaza
Pet friendly No weight limits!
Ph. 377-2596 www.gremco.com
4-20-10-70-2

2 MONTHS FREE!

Pine Rush Villas
NO PET/ALARM FEES
Pet Friendly No Wgt Limits
1/1 *\$447
2/1 *\$548
Near UF and Oaks Mall
Ph. 375-1519 www.gremco.com
4-20-10-70-2

2 Months Free

Sunrise Villas
One Bedroom Villa *\$428
Near UF and Shand's
Pet Friendly No Weight Limits
Ph. 372-4835 www.gremco.com
4-20-10-70-2

First Month Free

Campus Walk Apartments
All Inclusive Individual Leases
4 Bedroom Townhomes and flats
Located on UF campus
\$350 per bedroom All Inclusive
Semester Leases available!
(352) 376-0828
(Rental office at Homestead Apts.)
www.gremco.com
4-20-10-70-2

The Cottages on Market Street

2BR/1BA apt \$500 mo; No Dep, No Fee's
UF or SF Full-Time Students
Bike to Campus, Walk to Starbucks
Tommy 352-339-1965
4-20-10-70-2



- NW 1 br, new carpet/paint, close to banks/shopping, minutes from downtown & UF, some utilities included, \$450/mo
- NW 2br 2ba flat, large mst br, w/d, enclosed screened patio, 1 mo free w/yr lease, \$700/mo
- SW 2br, 1.5ba townhouse near shopping, community pool, \$600/mo, 1 mo free w/yr lease
- Mill Pond- Lovely 2br, 2ba flat with Florida rm, courtyard, garage, community pool and tennis courts. \$1000
- Downtown 2 BR at the Lofts at W. University. This modern designed unit includes cable, internet, washer/dryer, and 2 onsite parking spaces. Minutes from UF and Shands, \$1050/mo
- Mallorca Square, Large 2br, 2.5 ba townhouse convenient to Oaks Mall and UF/hospitals, many extras, \$895/mo
- Treehouse Village- 2/2 New Carpet, D/W, W/D incl., on covered bus line close to downtown, UF/Shands. \$595
- BIG 3/3 in SW, Ceramic/Carpet, D/W, W/D includes clubhouse, pool, comp lab, volleyball, tennis, basketball, MUST SEE \$900

★Edbaurmanagement.com 352-375-7104★
4-20-10-70-2

Greenwich Green
2/2 for \$799
Patio and Storage Closet
Call 352-372-8100
4-20-10-70-1

2 For Rent unfurnished

Spacious 1, 2, & 3br starting at \$495. Many floor plans, some with enclosed patios or balconies. Italian tile, bedrooms carpeted. DW, W/D hook-ups, verticals, CH/AC. Near bus route, some walk to UF. Call 352-332-7700 2-24-11-35-2

SECTION 8 HOUSING ACCEPTED
Newly remodeled 2 & 3 BDs
Quiet neighborhood. Lots of upgrades.
Free 32" HD Plasma TV for new Sec 8 lease.
Must see! Call 332-7700 2-24-11-35-2

★ **CAMPUS EDGE CONDO** ★
2/2 Walk to UF, Shands, VA & Pharm School.
Tile floor, W/D in unit. Avail fall. Reasonable rates. 239-250-6149 2-28-11-36-2



----- Near UF -----
gainesvillestudentrentals.com

- 5/3 house 630 nw 36 street \$1800
- 4/3 house 3514 nw 7 place \$1500
- 3/2 house 1534 nw 54 drive \$1300
- 4/2 house 929 nw 22 street \$1500
- 4/2 house 610 nw 34 terrace \$1400
- 2/1 apt 2nd floor 204 nw 18 st \$1200
- 2/1 apt 1st floor 204 nw 18 st \$1100
- 2/2 apt 2515 sw 35 place \$1200

2-4-11-10-2

The Retreat at Madison Pointe
2/2s with vaulted ceilings \$999
3/3 Townhomes w/Private Baths \$1089
Garage included, Gated Community.
2701 NW 23rd Blvd 352-372-0400
www.madisonpointe.org 4-20-66-2

WALK TO UF Available Feb.
1BR/1BA \$550
1 year lease, SD, NS, NP
Call/Text 352-870-7256
gvl132601@gmail.com 2-28-11-33-2

Available Aug 1st. 4BR/2BA very nice house.
Quiet area between UF and Santa Fe. Game room, W/D provided. Fenced backyard, pets ok. 1330 NW 39th St. \$1200/mo. Call 352-339-2342 gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com 2-8-11-19-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1st. 4BR/3BA beautiful 4-year-old house, washer/dryer provided. Open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, large rooms. 2108 NW 8th Ct. \$1575/mo 339-2342 gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com 2-8-11-14-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1st. 4BR/2BA modern house, large lot, nice trees. W/D provided, fireplace, fenced yard, 1-car garage, back deck 2606 NW 34th St. \$1400/mo. 352-339-2342 gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com 2-8-11-14-2

TOWNHOUSE - 2BR/1.5BA, W/D hook-up, pvt backyard, new carpet, tiles, just painted.
Extra clean. \$625/mo + sec. 2627 SW 38th Place. Available now. 941-204-1304 or 352-215-3160 2-17-11-20-2

**** **HOUSE 4BR/2BA** ****
Avail 8/1. Remodeled, W/D, bike to UF. NO Pets. Drive by 3532 NW 7th Ave, pick up flyer. \$1200/mo. 373-1558 or 246-8645 2-18-11-20-2

GREAT VALUE - WOODLAND TERRACE
Off SW 34th St b/t Archer & Williston Rd.
Water, sewer, garbage provided.
Updated units, private courtyards, RTS stop
1BR \$410, 2 BR \$500. 352-335-0420 2-28-11-25-2

SERENOLA PINES
Off SW 34th St b/t Archer & Williston Rd.
Updated units, private courtyards, full W/D avail. 1BR \$450, 2BR \$550 352-335-0420 2-28-11-25-2

WALK TO UF & MIDTOWN
3 & 4BR HOUSES from \$1375/mo. Free off-street parking, all appliances incl W/D, DW. Rent directly from owner. Special terms avail. dalyproperties.com or 359-3341 4-1-11-42-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

Beautiful, 1bd, 1ba, loft.
5 min. on freeway from SFC.
Renovated with tile & carpet. pool, clubhouse, exercise room, quiet location.
\$450mo \$450sec \$45appl fee. 472-6491
2-4-11-6-2

Walk to UF-2/2.5 bath townhouse avail now or fall. Also houses near UF available for Fall. www.forrentgainesville.com or call Todd at 352-514-4915 3-17-11-30-2

1BR/1BA NW. \$475/mo.
Available now. Pets ok.
Call 352-359-1644 or 352-332-8481 2-28-11-20-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1st. 4BR/2BA, large living room & bedrooms, washer/dryer provided. 15 min bike to campus, privacy fenced backyard. Pet ok. 2100 NW 8th Ct. \$1400/mo. 339-2342 gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com 2-8-11-4-2

AVAILABLE AUG 1st. 5BR/2BA BIG, big yard for dogs, bonfires, etc. W/D provided. Fireplace in living room & game room w/ bar area. 1803 SW 43rd Ave. \$1650/mo. 352-339-2342 gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com 2-8-11-4-2

Immaculate small efficiency Quiet.Wash/dry on premises.Wat/Sew incl NS No pets.1/2m South of UF/Shands.2 bus routes.\$399/m.352-262-2871. Owner agent. 2-21-11-14-2

4 Roommates

Roommate Matching HERE
Oxford Manor 377-2777
The Landings 336-3838
The Laurels 335-4455
Greenwich Green 372-8100
Hidden Lake 374-3866
4-20-70-4

Now you can easily submit your classified ad for print and/or web editions right thru our website!

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

4 Roommates

Call now. Share 4BR/4BA 1st floor, furnished condo at Countryside. 1 mi to UF. Incl utils, W/D, internet, cable TV, great parking & pool. 2 rooms avail immed. \$395/mo/rm 1-386-672-6969 or 1-386-295-7929 2-28-10-82-4

1st month free. Grad student looking for female roommate in fully furnished 4/4 condo at Countryside. \$425/month. Short term lease available. Cable/internet, utils, W/D, 2 bus routes. Contact Megan 727-542-8155. 2-4-11-21-4

Female looking for same to share a furnished 3BR/2BA condo. 10 mins by bus to UF campus. \$400/mo including utils. Great Location! Call 850-974-0686 2-4-11-20-4

Roommate wanted. \$425/mo 4/2 2 blocks form campus. 814-440-3325 or jfidorra@hotmail.com 3-2-11-30-4

Gated 4BR/4BA Countryside condo, pool-side, own BD & BA, W/D, cable, hi-speed internet, early stop on UF bus rte. Utils included. \$350/mo. No deposit required. 863-634-1893. Available immediately. 2-14-10-4

Roommate wanted to share nice furnished home in NW neighborhood 2 mi from UF. 4 BR 2BA w/ W/D, all wood floors & large fenced backyard. \$450 inclds util, cable, HS internet. No pets, N/S. 352-284-0771. 2-7-11-5-4

2 male roommates needed. 2BRs avail in 3BR/2BA house. Close to UF campus, on bus route, large fenced-in backyard. Cent H/AC, pets welcome. \$400/mo + elec. Call 561-706-5378 2-8-11-5-4

5 Real Estate

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

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A ₁	U ₁	T ₁	T ₁	L ₁	N ₁	R ₁																																																			

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FOUR RACK TOTAL
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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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02-02

5 Real Estate

NEW CONDOS-WALK TO UF
For Info on ALL Condo for Sale, Visit www.UFCONDOS.COM or Matt Price, University Realty, 352-281-3551 4-20-70-5

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2Bed/3 Full Baths + Office. Granite Counters, 2 Direct Bus Stops to UF. Matt Price, University Realty, 352-281-3551 4-20-70-5

WALK TO UF & DOWNTOWN!
THE PALMS - New Ultra-Luxury Condos. Granite, Huge Closets, Pool, Call Eric Leightman, University Realty 352-219-2879 4-20-70-5

6 Furnishings

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 4-20-10-70-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-20-10-70-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400
Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 4-20-10-70-6

6 Furnishings

BED - KING - \$200 PILLOWTOP
mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Call 352-372-8588. Can deliver. 4-20-70-6

BEDROOM SET. 7pc Cherry, Queen/ king bed, dresser w/mirror, 2 nightstands, chests avail.
Dovetail const. New, in boxes. Can deliver. Retail \$4500, must sell, sacrifice \$850 (352) 372-7490 4-20-70-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather.
Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 4-20-70-6

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

DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box.
Never used. 352-377-9846 4-20-70-6

****BEDS - ALL BRAND NEW****
****Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200****
Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 4-20-70-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set.
Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 4-20-70-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 4-20-10-70-6

7 Computers

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COMPUTER & LAPTOP REPAIRS
Network specialists
We buy computers and laptops Working and Non-working
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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

10 For Sale

●●●PARKING●●●
Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF. Reserve now! Reasonable rates. 352-538-2181. Can leave mssg. 4-20-10-70-2

UF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS
are underway...
bikes, computers, printers, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: surplus.ufl.edu 392-0370 4-20-10-70-10

GOATS FOR SALE

Charlie - 352-278-1925 4-20-70-10

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

★★★WWW.RPMMOTORCYCLES.COM★★★
FULLSERVICE MOTORCYCLE -SCOOTER REPAIR. 12TH YEAR IN GVILLE. OEM & AFTERMARKET PARTS. BEST TIRE PRICES IN TOWN. 352-377-6974 4-20-70-11

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Great Scooters, Service & Prices!
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12 Autos

●FAST CASH FOR ALMOST ANY CARS ●
●Running or not!●
●NEED HONDA, TOYOTA, PICKUPS
●Over 17 yr svc to UF students
●Call Don @ 215-7987 4-20-70-12

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Clean BMW, Volvo, Mercedes
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12 Autos

★★HEADLINERS SAGGING?★★
POWER WINDOWS DON'T WORK?
On site avail. Steve's Headliners 352-226-1973
Google: Steve's Headliners, Gainesville 4-20-70-12

I BUY CARS & TRUCKS
Call Anytime 352-339-5158
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60 day payoff
On cash vehicles
Pay off time negotiable
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SUN CITY AUTO SALES
All vehicles \$0 down!
No credit check
Cash vehicles \$1000 and up!
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92 Eagle Talon \$1699
89 Ford Bronco II \$1499
97 Pontiac Transport \$1499
96 Chevy Blazer \$1999
352-338-1999 4-20-70-12

98 Cadillac Deville \$1999
95 Ford Explorer \$1999
98 Ford Expolorer \$1999
97 Lincoln Town car \$1999
352-338-1999 4-20-70-12

98 Landrover Discovery \$4999
01 Chevy Silverado \$4999
99 Ford F150 \$5999
98 Dodge Durango \$6999
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Certified vehicles
No credit check
Move vehicles \$500 & up!
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00 Chevy 3500 \$5900
02 Chevy Camero \$6999
03 Ford Taurus \$6999
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05 Saturn Ion \$7999
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

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5 One way to cope
10 Key of Brahms's Symphony No. 3
14 Midwest native
15 Speeder's downfall
16 Attorney general under Clinton
17 Long story
18 African title of respect
19 Earth, in Essen
20 OPIE
23 China's Sun ___-sen
24 Gallery administrator's deg.
25 Cry of success
26 "Wait, there's more ..."
29 Ring 5-Downs
32 Last: Abbr.
34 OBIE
40 ___B: dental brand
41 Trail
42 In charge of
43 OKIE
48 Just fine, at NASA
49 Hors d'oeuvre spread
50 Fairbanks-to-Anchorage dir.
51 To the rear
54 Afternoon break
56 Sportscaster Cross
58 ODIE
65 Leaf-to-branch angle
66 Threshing instrument
67 Sculptor's material
68 Anatomical blood carrier
69 Specialty
70 Queen's home
71 Blue-pencil
72 Shore eagles
73 River to the North Sea

DOWN

1 Northwestern pear
2 Where Pioneer Day is celebrated
3 Teammate of Mickey and Whitey
4 Simmons alternative
5 Settler?
6 Early light
7 "Bonanza" brother
8 Flier until '91
9 Waiter's burden
10 Thrown in
11 Like Hood's men
12 Tennis great Agassi
13 Down under kids
21 Thrown missile
22 ___ Cynwyd, Philadelphia suburb
26 Tiny particle
27 Dragster's org.
28 Campus VIP
30 Kodak product
31 Rascal
33 "___ Clock Jump": Harry James recording
35 A, in communications
36 Cancún quencher
37 Miles per gal., etc.
38 Roger of "Cheers"
39 Made faces, perhaps
44 Roast, in Rouen
45 Painter of Southwestern scenes
46 Puts down
47 "The King and I" actress, 1956
51 Desert growth
52 Sent, in a way
53 Pop singer Lopez
55 "It's ___ nothing!"
57 French hot springs town
59 In need of tuning
60 Do some mending
61 Location
62 "The Whiffenpoof Song" collegians
63 Church section
64 Certain colorist

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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xwordeditor@aol.com 02/02/11

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By Bernice Gordon (c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 02/02/11

Parsons' free throws seal overtime win vs. Vandy

■ THE SENIOR HAD 18 POINTS AND 11 BOARDS.

By GREG LUCA
Alligator Staff Writer
gluca@alligator.org

In the closing moments of Tuesday's game, the Gators were likely feeling a sense of déjà vu.

Just four days earlier, UF gave away its contest against Mississippi State due to poor free-throw shooting down the stretch.

Against Vanderbilt, UF's free-throw struggles nearly cost the Gators the game in regulation, but senior forward Chandler Parsons remained calm.

With 15 seconds left in overtime and the Gators up by two, Parsons stepped to the line and coolly knocked down both of his free throws, securing a 65-61 Florida (17-5, 6-2 Southeastern Conference) win over Vanderbilt (15-6, 3-4 Southeastern Conference) on Tuesday night in the O'Connell Center.

"I just needed to be a man, go up there and put the ball in the hole," Parsons said. "It's all mental. I just stepped up there and knocked it down, and I was fortunate to do that for my team in a clutch situation."

Parsons' free-throws were the icing on an 18-point, 11-rebound double-double.

The senior forward also chipped

in two assists and three steals en route to one of his most complete games of the season.

"He rebounded the ball, he was aggressive and he was physical," UF coach Billy Donovan said. "He did a lot of really good things for us all the way around."

The Gators had an eight-point lead with 4:51 to play but scored just one point the rest of regulation, going 1 for 4 at the line and 0 for 6 from the field.

Meanwhile, Vanderbilt connected on its final six free throws, evoking memories of previous late losses.

"It would've been awful," Parsons said of the prospect of losing another game because of free throws. "There's no way around it: Losing is terrible. I'm just glad we made some big plays tonight to get the W."

Rebounding was a huge factor in the game, particularly in the final moments, as Parsons earned his spot at the line when he rebounded his own miss with UF leading by two.

Overall, UF was dominant on the glass, establishing a 47-34 advantage, with 15 of its rebounds coming on the offensive end.

Five players had at least five boards, as seemingly everyone got involved in the physicality of the contest.

"That was by far the most physical game we played all year long,"

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 16



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

Florida forward Chandler Parsons shoots during the Gators' 65-61 overtime victory against Vanderbilt in the O'Connell Center on Tuesday night. Parsons finished with 18 points and 11 rebounds.

Muschamp faces first NSD at UF

Transition class hard to judge

By TOM GREEN
Alligator Writer
tgreen@alligator.org

Two months into his new job, Gators coach Will Muschamp has his first real test.

With 17 recruits orally committed to UF, and seven already enrolled in classes, Muschamp and his staff are looking for a strong finish today, when athletes can first sign national letters of intent.

But that could prove difficult with his inaugural class.

Since taking over for Urban Meyer, Muschamp has gained commitments from three recruits: Miami Monsignor Pace High safety Jabari Gorman, Middletown (Conn.) Xavier High linebacker

Graham Stewart and Coconut Creek North Broward Prep defensive end Tevin Westbrook.

Over the first two months, though, Muschamp also lost commitments from Groveland South Lake High cornerback Nick Waisome, Plantation High linebacker Ryan Shazier and Kirtland (Ohio) Lake Catholic High offensive lineman Chase Hounshell.

"That's what happens in a transition year," ESPN recruiting analyst Jamie Newberg said. "It's awfully tough to do with a short recruiting window."

Even though building relation-

ships with recruits in two months is a lot to ask of coaches, Muschamp and his staff have been hard at work trying to assemble the Gators' 2011 recruiting class, which is currently ranked 17th by Rivals.com.

Although fans may be disappointed with UF's class, it shouldn't come as a surprise.

"It's kind of what we expected," Newberg said. "Remember back to Urban Meyer's first class? It was pretty much the same type of thing. This is par for the course when there's a coaching change."

In Meyer's first year recruiting for Florida, his class ranked 15th and only had 18 signees.

Muschamp has already accomplished his goal of getting early enrollees. That includes four-star

SEE RECRUIT, PAGE 16

Walker becomes Gators' go-to guy late in games

Chandler Parsons may have come up bigger than anyone against the Commodores, but Erving Walker proved Tuesday this is his team.

Sure, Parsons walked out the hero. He led the team in scoring and rebounds. He showed why he's the best prospect.

And yeah, he knocked down two huge free throws with 15 seconds left. But make no mistake: In crunch time, the Gators



Tyler Jett
The Jett Stream
tjett@alligator.org
Twitter: @iam_tyler

look to Walker, who finished tied for second on the team with 15 points.

Last week against Georgia, Walker stepped up at the end of the first overtime, hitting a 30-foot-

SEE TYLER, PAGE 16

TEERING OFF WITH ANTHONY CHIANG

■ UF president Bernie Machen ripped the act of grayshirting in a letter sent to SI.com. But the Gators tried to grayshirt two recruits last season and at least one this year. Maybe Machen could utilize the Internet to research certain things before appearing uninformed about his own program. What's he going to do next? Speak out on college football felons being let off the hook without punishment?

MEN'S TRACK BACK TO NO. 1

■ After two automatic-qualifying marks at the Texas A&M Challenge, UF's men's track and field team sits atop the USTFCCA Division I Men's Indoor National Team Rankings.

ONLINE

■ Keep an eye on alligatorSports.org, our recruiting blog and on Twitter at @alligatorSports as we update live from two state high schools and post Florida coaches' reactions to the events of National Signing Day.

FULLY COMMITTED

FB commit Joyer remains loyal to family, UF

By **TOM GREEN**
Alligator Writer
tgreen@alligator.org

Hunter Joyer's decision to commit to Florida last June was an easy one.

Location played a pivotal role for the nation's top-rated fullback, who lives in Wesley Chapel, about 25 miles northeast of Tampa.

His mother, Kristen, had an aneurysm last February, and distance was part of the reason Joyer recently transferred from Tampa Catholic High to Wesley Chapel High, where he spent his first two years of high school.

"It was scary, not knowing if I was going to lose her or not," Joyer said. "It's something I worried about a lot."

Joyer was making a 45-minute trip to and from school each day. With his mom's health condition, Joyer and his family could no longer commit the time and money it took for him to remain at Tampa Catholic.

"I wanted to be close to her," Joyer said. "She's getting back to normal. I guess she won't be back to being 100 percent, but she's doing pretty good."

The opportunity to be a mere two hours away from home to play college football appealed to the former Tampa Catholic standout.

That was enough to make Joyer, Rivals.com's No. 1 fullback, commit to Florida, a school that was always at the top of his list

because of the academics and prestige of the football program.

"He's such a grounded young man," Crusaders coach Bob Henriquez said. "He's fairly quiet, but on the field, he's fiery. ... Sometimes you don't know whether something's eating at him or bothering him, but it couldn't be easy what he's gone through."

At Florida, Joyer would be able to easily travel home and check on his mom if anything were to happen.

Although fullbacks have been irrelevant at UF, Joyer thought he would see the field if he proved his worth to the coaches, so he stayed strong in his commitment.

And now, Joyer could find himself becoming a bigger player in the Gators' offense than he ever imagined.

Joyer had his heart set on Florida ever since he was young. He would often visit the school and check out the stadium with his family.

When former Florida coach Urban Meyer told Joyer his potential role in the Gators' offense, the decision became even clearer.

Henriquez, who coached Joyer as a junior and senior, said Meyer and his staff didn't plan on recruiting a fullback with this year's class — until they saw Joyer.

"They were so impressed with Hunter that they made the decision to offer him because they

didn't think there would be a fullback with his skill set next year," Henriquez said.

Nevermind that Meyer's spread-option offense rarely used a fullback, or that not once during Meyer's tenure at Florida did he land a true fullback in one of his recruiting classes.

It didn't matter to Joyer that none of the fullbacks on the Gators' roster under Meyer had recorded more than one career carry.

But when coaches offered Joyer a scholarship on June 16, he didn't hesitate to accept, and he gave his oral commitment to UF the following day.

Joyer and Henriquez said Meyer told them he was trying to transition the offense into a more traditional one that included two-back sets because defenses were starting to catch up to the spread.

"[The coaches] wanted to use a fullback more than they actually were," Joyer said. "They didn't really know if any of the fullbacks they had could really run the ball. The offense was ready to have a fullback, and they wanted to change it around with [John] Brantley at quarterback."

The two-time national title-winning coach sold Joyer on playing for Florida despite the lack of a role for the position in Meyer's offense and the fact that many considered him an afterthought in the Gators' recruiting class.

"I don't have to be in the spotlight or be the main guy on the

team," Joyer said. "It doesn't bother me at all."

★ ★ ★

As a fullback, Joyer is used to being overlooked.

The top high school prospects at each position are normally four- and five-star recruits. But the nation's No. 1 fullback this year is a three-star recruit for the first time since at least 2001, according to Rivals.com.

"Growing up, I wasn't always the most athletic one on the field, so I had to get it done other ways," Joyer said.

Joyer found fullback to be a natural fit, especially since his father, Jack, also played it. Joyer was always 30 to 40 pounds bigger than most kids his age, but not much taller, and couldn't play many other positions. Offensive line wasn't an option to him — he wanted the chance to touch the ball.

As a senior at Tampa Catholic, the 6-foot, 245-pound Joyer began the season as the Crusaders' featured back because of the team's youth at running back. He was a year removed from being the lead blocker for a 1,700-yard rusher, and his offense struggled early on when his role changed.

"He was willing to play more fullback to help the team, so he went back to that traditional role," Henriquez said.

When Florida coach Will Muschamp took over for Meyer and said he would implement a pro-style offense, Joyer knew he would be one of the players to reap the benefits.

"I was really excited about that," Joyer said. "I knew the offense would fit my style a lot better than it did before, so I thought it was even a better decision after they hired [Muschamp]."

When Muschamp later named former Notre Dame head coach and Kansas City Chiefs offensive coordinator Charlie Weis as the Gators' offensive coordinator, Joyer knew he would have an opportunity to make an impact at Florida, even as a freshman.

On his official visit to UF in January, and during an in-school visit, Joyer sat down with Weis and discussed the role he will play in Florida's offense when he signs his national letter of intent today, officially becoming a Gator.

"My future seems pretty strong," Joyer said. "I won't have to worry about not being used and not being on the field."

★ ★ ★

Even after Meyer resigned in December, Joyer didn't waver in his commitment to the school.

As long as Florida didn't hire

a coach who planned on running a five-wide-receiver offense, Joyer intended to keep his word. The chance to contribute was still there for Joyer when Muschamp and Weis were hired.

"He'll be able to get on the field," ESPN recruiting analyst Corey Long said. "The opportunity will definitely be there."

During his only season with the Chiefs, Weis' offense led the NFL in rushing yards (2,627) and was tied for fourth in yards per carry (4.7). Part of the credit for that goes to the fullbacks, who, despite not putting up many stats, were primarily used as lead blockers.

When Joyer met with Weis, the coach told Joyer he intends to use the fullback like he has in the past: as a lead blocker, goal-line back and receiver in the flats and out of play action.

Long thinks Joyer will be able to fill that role for Florida.

"He'll grow into a nice prospect," Long said. "He's a good blocker and has some good receiving skills. He's a decent runner and a tough kid. ... He'll be a good blocking back."

With a spot in the offense already mapped out, Weis told Joyer the chance to play early was there for him but to not feel pressured by it.

"I know I have a lot of work to get done," Joyer said. "I need to work hard and impress the coaches and show them that I have what it takes to start. There's always a possibility I can start, but I won't guarantee anything."

The Gators have two fullbacks on their roster with game experience: rising senior Steven Wilks and rising junior T.J. Pridemore, both of whom were converted from defense to fullback before coming to Florida.

Together, the two have played in 35 games and totaled zero career carries, contributing mostly on special teams.

Joyer, who bench presses at least 485 pounds, feels his body is mature enough to contribute right away in college. Henriquez described Joyer as a student of the game and thinks his skill set will transition well to the next level.

"He's going to be an intricate part," Long said. "He'll be one of those blocking fullbacks that you definitely notice if he's not in the game because the production of the offense goes down."

After originally being an afterthought in the Gators' 2011 recruiting class, Joyer's decision to remain close to home and commit to Florida, despite the coaching change, helped put him in an unfamiliar spot for UF fullbacks: relevant.

"It seems like the situation played itself out for the better," Joyer said.



Alligator File Photo

Florida fullback commit Hunter Joyer, left, will sign his national letter of intent to play for the Gators today. The former Tampa Catholic standout is the top-rated prospect in the country at his position.

Gators dominate at JU Invitational for early season win

■ FLORIDA BEAT SECOND-PLACE NORTH FLORIDA BY 25 SHOTS.

By **ALEX PECKHAM**
Alligator Writer

Florida men's golf coach Buddy Alexander expressed a simple sentiment after the Gators completed their domination at the JU Invitational on Tuesday.

"You couldn't ask for anything more," he said.

The Gators managed to win the event by a remarkable 25-shots over second-place North Florida.

The team's 6-under-par final score was due in large part to senior Bank Vongvanij, who shot 1-over-par on Tuesday but turned in a 5-under-par score of 211 for the event.

Vongvanij's showing was enough to earn him the individual crown, as he bested Liberty's Robert Karlsson by two strokes.

Vongvanij was not alone in his efforts, though, as four other Gators golfers earned top-20 finishes.

Phillip Choi shot an even-par round to finish in fifth, Andres Echavarria turned in a 1-over-par round to come in seventh and Tyler McCumber finished eighth.

Tommy Mou bounced back from an

8-over-par showing on Monday with an even-par round on Tuesday, earning a 19th-place finish.

"We came here hoping to play solid golf and win the tournament, and we managed to do both of those things."

Buddy Alexander
Florida men's golf coach

Alexander was satisfied by his team's performance over the two-day event.

"We came here hoping to play solid golf

and win the tournament, and we managed to do both of those things," he said.

Alexander came away impressed by the performance of Vongvanij and his individual win. He was also proud of the resilience shown by Mou to shoot an even-par round after struggling Monday.

Florida now has the chance to fine-tune before looking to defend its home turf at the Gator Invitational, which is played on the Mark Bostick Golf Course on Feb. 12-13.

"We try to improve every day," Alexander said. "Golf is an individual sport, and everybody has things that they would like to improve."

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Florida still in contention for several top prospects

RECRUIT, from page 13

quarterback Jeff Driskel, four-star running back Mike Blakely and four-star tight end A.C. Leonard.

Florida wide receiver commit Ja'Juan Story, who has wavered since Meyer resigned, will make his decision between UF and Ohio State at 9 a.m. at Brooksville Nature Coast Technical High.

The Gators remain in contention for several of the nation's top uncommitted recruits, many of whom will make decisions today.

Marcus Roberson, the nation's No. 2 cornerback, will announce at Ft. Lauderdale St. Thomas Aquinas today.

Five-star linebacker Curtis Grant will sign his letter of intent in a 1:30 p.m. ceremony at Richmond (Va.) Hermitage High.

Moreno Valley Rancho Verde High wide receiver Junior Pomee, whose finalists are UF and USC, will announce at 7:30 tonight.

Four-star defensive tackle Timmy Jernigan will announce at 11 a.m. at Lake City Columbia High.

"They'll get a few kids, not necessarily from their top list," ESPN recruiting analyst Corey Long said. "But [Muschamp] might get a shocker or two."



Alligator File Photo

Safety De'Ante Saunders, a Florida commit who enrolled early, is one of 17 recruits orally committed to new coach Will Muschamp and the Gators entering National Signing Day today.

TYLER, from page 13

er as time expired to keep UF alive. While he won't show up on any highlight reels for his effort Tuesday, Walker was just as big.

With less than a second left in the first half and Florida trailing 24-22, coach Billy Donovan drew a play for Walker. It's moments like those when a team reveals who it will lean on with the game on the line.

Walker fielded the inbounds pass just beyond the arc and knocked down a trey between a pair of Commodores, giving the Gators the lead and momentum headed to the locker room.

People won't remember that shot years from now, but in an overtime game, that was as big as any.

When a pair of free throws by John Jenkins tied the game with 23 seconds left in regulation, Florida again turned to Walker.

Holding the ball for the last shot, Walker drove right, pulled up and missed a potential game-winner off the back rim.

If he makes that shot, Walker receives the same attention Parsons did a year ago when his buzzer-beating three-pointers against N.C. State and South Carolina earned him a recurring role on SportsCenter.

But Walker didn't make it, and he isn't a candidate for Dickie V's all-onions team. Yet.

The fact that the team looked to him in that moment, however, is huge.

"He's the point guard, so we expect everything to run through him," sophomore guard Kenny Boynton said. "He isn't afraid to hit big shots. He's shown he can, and we have confidence in him."

And in overtime, Walker stepped up again, hitting one of two free throws, scoring on a coast-to-coast layup and setting up Boynton for his wide-open three-pointer

that gave the Gators a 63-61 lead.

Knowing the Gators, they will find themselves in a few more tight games between now and the NCAA Tournament. And if you happen to watch some of those nail-biters, keep an eye on No. 11.

Also, look at the rest of the team. If they act anything like they did in the closing seconds of regulation Tuesday, you will see a lot of players setting picks and standing out of the way.

For whatever reason, some would brand Walker a ball hog. But he's not. Every team needs one player willing to step up at the end of games.

That is as much a part of a team's identity as anything. And while the Gators still have plenty to figure out (Should they use that small lineup more? Will Vernon Macklin ever get off the bench in tight games?), they at least have the most important element in place.

Vanderbilt foul trouble aids Gators HOOPS, from page 13

Donovan said.

Florida's advantage inside was aided by Vanderbilt's foul trouble, as frontcourt stalwarts Festus Ezeli, Jeffery Taylor and Steve Tchiengang all fouled out late in the contest.

"That was real important," Parsons said. "When it gets to overtime it's hard not to pick up that fifth foul. We were fortunate those guys ... got in foul trouble early so we could get them out of the game."

The second half was a streaky affair filled with runs for both sides.

UF seemed poised to take control of the game when it went on a

7-0 run to take an eight-point lead, but Vanderbilt quickly responded with an 8-1 stretch of its own to close

the gap.

UF followed with a 9-2 spurt, giving the Gators an eight-point lead that evaporated as Vanderbilt closed out the final 4:51 with a 9-1 run.

Both teams got off to hot starts before cooling off from the field. Florida and Vanderbilt combined for 18 points in the first four minutes but scored just 31 the rest of the half.

Vanderbilt was set to take a lead into halftime, until Parsons inbounded the ball to Walker with just one second remaining and the junior hit a 30-foot buzzer beater to give UF a one-point halftime lead.



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