



Penn and Teller reveal secrets of magic

They also discussed their careers

By **ALEX ORLANDO**
Alligator Writer

It started with an episode of "Howdy Doody."

Raymond Joseph Teller was watching the show on his brand-new TV when Clar-

abell the Clown, Howdy's mute partner, advertised a Howdy Doody magic set.

He sent away 15 cents and two Mars bar wrappers for the promise of real magic.

A few weeks later it arrived in a flat envelope. Inside was a piece of perforated cardboard for him to punch out the pieces

"I swore that I hated magic and I hated scientists more than anything."

Penn Jillette
Magician

and build the set himself.

That was when he stopped believing.

Penn Jillette was 12 years old when he

saw an advertisement for an ESP set. He ordered it and got back a box with a pendulum and a few other odds and ends that he used for tricks on his buddies. They all thought it was real. Even him.

Later that week in the school library, Penn was glancing through a book about magic when he saw his trick dissected and

SEE MAGIC, PAGE 4

LOCAL

New jail windows could cut suicides

By **MEREDITH RUTLAND**
Alligator Writer

In January 2008, an 18-year-old inmate hanged himself from a jail window. He couldn't know the trouble it would cause the Alachua County Commission and the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Sadie Darnell has been pushing to get about 300 new, suicide-proof windows ever since that incident.

"We've had more start dates and delays than we have toes and fingers in this room," she said at Tuesday's County Commission meeting.

Commissioners said they're working to get new windows, but the project has become larger and pricier than they expected.

"We all want the jail fixed," said County Manager Randall Reid at the meeting.

Initially, the plan was to replace the windows in the jail's common area, said Charlie Jackson, county facilities manager.

Now the plan is to replace almost every window in the jail, said Eugene Morris, spokesman for the jail.

Reid estimates new windows would cost more than \$600,000. Jackson said the cost is about \$250,000 over budget.

"We all want the jail fixed."

Randall Reid
County Manager

Darnell said she won't allow another suicide. Since 2008, 16 inmates tried to hang themselves from jail windows.

"That's just not going to happen on my watch," Darnell said in an interview.

The mother of the man who committed suicide filed a lawsuit against the jail. Darnell said if the jail doesn't fix the windows and another suicide happens, the jail could face more lawsuits.

Jackson said the project should start within two months.



Jesse Lash / Alligator

Credit SCORE!

Students race to pop 720 purple balloons on Wednesday afternoon. SCORE!, a financial coaching campaign sponsored by the UF Bateman Team, challenged participants to try and pop all 720 balloons, which represented a credit score of 720, in seven minutes and 20 seconds.

Charles to visit Russia on Spring Break diplomacy trip

■ SHE LEAVES MARCH 6.

By **HANNAH WINSTON**
Alligator Writer

While many students spend Spring Break in warm, tropical places, Ashton Charles will be spending

hers talking about diplomacy in the cold climate of Russia.

On March 6, Charles will set off to Russia with 14 other student body presidents as part of a program to extend diplomacy through young leaders across the U.S.

"Words cannot express how excited I am," she said.

The trip is financed by the Russian government, and the Open World Leadership Center of Congress connects the young leaders with Russia.

UF Projects

Chang Suh, senior adviser to the Open World Leadership Center of Congress, said the purpose

of the agency is to support citizen diplomacy, especially with young people.

Charles said she was very thankful for the nomination and plans to learn as much as possible before the trip.

Charles and Student Body President Gallop Franklin from Florida

A&M University are the only two representatives from Florida.

Charles said she hopes to represent the U.S. and UF as best as possible by talking about ideas to move toward goals for future generations.

"The best diplomacy you can have is to interact with others," she said.

■ Florida guard Erving Walker (right) led the Gators with 25 points as UF led wire-to-wire and built on its strong week with a dominant 79-60 win at South Carolina on Wednesday. See Story, Page 17.



Police say drunken driving suspect in Ohio pulled herself over

SANDUSKY, Ohio — Police in Ohio can't take too much credit for stopping a woman they say was drinking and driving — they say she pulled herself over.

Officers in the Lake Erie town of Sandusky say the woman stopped because she thought she saw police lights, but it turns out the flashing lights were from a skating rink sign.

The Sandusky Register reports that the woman's car got stuck in a snowbank near

the sign when she stopped early Monday and another motorist called police.

Officers say they took 27-year-old Nicole Scott to jail on charges of operating a vehicle under the influence.

Police say Scott denied she had been driving.

There is no telephone listing for Scott and it isn't clear whether she has an attorney.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Museum Nights: Under African Skies

Today, 6 p.m.
Harn Museum
The Harn Museum will celebrate African art and culture. Visitors will engage with art from the Harn's African collection, including the latest Harn-organized exhibition, "Africa Interweave: Textile Diasporas." Activities will include Adinkra stamping and mask making, storytelling by Baba Ona, a drum performance by Agbedidi Pazen Sauti, an Africa choir performance, a fashion display by the African Student Union and food. Admission is free.

Harness Your Passion

Today, 6:30 p.m.
Harn Museum
Participants will have the opportunity to view student art as well as the new African textile exhibit. In addition, other activities related to the 2010 Common Reading Program selection will take place, and light refreshments will be served. For more information, please call New Student and Family Programs at 352-392-1261, or email newstudentinfo@dso.ufl.edu.

SG Absentee Ballots

By Friday
Absentee ballots for the SG election can be requested at sg.ufl.edu/elections. Look under "For the Voter." The election will be held Feb. 22 and 23.

Women's Leadership Conference "Blueprint for Success" Registration

By Friday
The conference on Feb. 27 offers participants the opportunity to improve their leadership skills. With workshops and a graduate

FORECAST

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  RAIN 57/45 |  CLOUDY 61/37 |  SUNNY 61/34 |  SUNNY 64/39 |  SUNNY 68/45 |

school panel, participants will discover the building blocks they need to become successful leaders in society. UF alumna Diana Diaz, co-anchor for Miami News Channel 7, will be the keynote speaker.

14th Annual Medical College Forum

Saturday
Reitz Union
Students can learn about the medical school admission process and meet admissions deans and directors from every school in the state and across the country. Register online at ufpremed.org/mcf or at the event.

University Gospel Choir Benefit Concert

Sunday, 6 p.m.
Upper Room Ministries,
3575 NE 15th St.
This concert helps the University Gospel Choir alleviate some costs for its annual spring break tour. For more information, contact the University Gospel Choir at universitygospelchoir.com or e-mail universitygospelchoir@gmail.com.

Indonesia Scholarship Information Session

Monday, 4:30 p.m.
Hub, Room 170
The Freeman Foundation is offering a fully funded, nine-week summer internship study abroad opportunity in Indonesia. Internship fields

include economic development, public health, art, education and environmental protection. Interested American and Indonesian sophomores and juniors are encouraged to apply.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an e-mail with "What's Happening" in the subject line to ebhrman@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.

CLARIFICATION:

In an article Wednesday about the Student Senate vote on allowing guns to be carried on campus, it was written that Sen. Carly Wilson represents the Unite Party and is in favor of passing the open-carry legislation. The Alligator would like to clarify that while Wilson is a representative of the Unite Party, her views are not the official views of the party.

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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352-376-4458 (Voice), 352-376-4467 (Fax)
Editor Paul Runnestrand, prunnestrand@alligator.org
Managing Editor / Print Elizabeth Behrman, ebhrman@alligator.org
Managing Editor / Online Joshua Saval, jsaval@alligator.org
Metro Editor C.J. Pruner, cpruner@alligator.org
University Editor Elizabeth Behrman, ebhrman@alligator.org
Sports Editor 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 Editors Matt Tripp, mtripp@alligator.org
Max Reed, mreed@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, livingston@alligator.org
Advertising Assistant Melissa Bell
Intern Coordinator Sara Ingebretsen, Jesse Morgan
Display Advertising Clerks 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 Nolton, Vinnie Pierino, Jackie Tseng
Editorial Production Staff Jocelyne Sanchez, Alexander Silva, Rosa Taveras

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ROMANCE

Gainesville full of love

By **MORGAN WATKINS**
Alligator Writer

Feel the love, Gators.

Gainesville placed ninth on Amazon.com's 2011 list of the top 20 most romantic U.S. cities.

The city bested 10th-place Tallahassee but came in behind the other Florida cities on the list: third-place Orlando and fourth-place Miami.

This isn't the first time Gainesville has placed in the top 20; it earned sixth place on the list in 2010.

Amazon.com determined the top cities based on online sales of relationship and romance books, sexual wellness products, romantic comedies and Barry White albums.

The company based its sales data on items bought since Jan. 1 on a per capita basis. Only cities with more than 100,000 residents were considered.

Romance is the second most popular genre of fiction at the Alachua County Library District, just behind mystery novels.

Gail Moss, librarian supervisor and

fiction selector for the district, said this popularity might be due to the various subgenres for romance novels. Urban fantasy and paranormal romances are among the most popular choices.

"When I worked at the circulation desk years ago, we'd have women come in and return literally bags full of mass-market romances and check out the same number," Moss said. "A lot of people are longtime lovers of romance reading."

"A lot of people are longtime lovers of romance reading."

Gail Moss

librarian supervisor for Alachua County Library District

While mysteries dominate the print arena, romances take the top spot for downloadable e-books and audiobooks.

Since the beginning of the fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2010, people have downloaded 10,000 romance e-books and audio books but only 3,200 mysteries, she said.

Flavet bandshell safety changes almost done

By **SAMANTHA DEAN**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Safety requirements that have been mandated upon Student Government Productions for Flavet Field are currently underway.

The mandate, issued by the Vice President of Student Affairs, states that concerts cannot be held on Flavet until all necessary safety measures are in place.

Lt. Bill Gainey of the UPD Special Services Division said the Slightly Stoopid concert last March was the catalyst for these new regulations.

The new safety measures include building a fenced-off corridor that will separate the field into two halves and provide an access aisle for police officers.

According to Kyle Calhoun, chairman of SGP, Flavet construction should be completed by mid-February.

A hydraulic lift with a spotlight has been requested for nighttime concerts and low-level lighting will be installed throughout the field. The field will be completely fenced in so UPD can better control the area.

UPD suggests all bands who encourage moshing, crowd surfing or drug use not be invited to perform at UF.

The cost for these new regulations will be paid for by SGP. Calhoun said security costs

for an event at Flavet were previously about \$2,000. After the recent changes, security costs are about \$4,500. These regulations probably won't be enforced a year or two down the road, he said, so the higher costs are for the immediate future only.

According to Calhoun, university officials said they would prefer slowly easing into large events on the field.

Until then, the Bandshell remains unused.

On Campus

University of Florida Performing Arts

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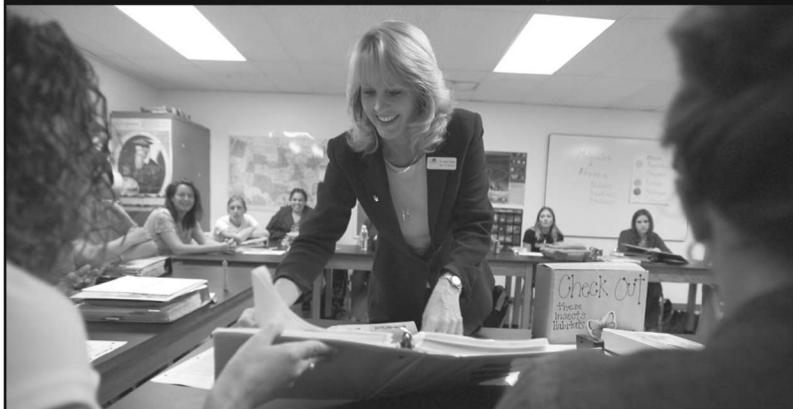


University of Florida Performing Arts is sponsored in part by University of Florida Student Government.

Tickets are available at the Phillips Center Box Office in person, or by calling (352) 392-2787. Tickets also available at all Ticketmaster outlets, or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

www.performingarts.ufl.edu

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Santa Fe's student government fights for bus rights

■ THEY WANT A FEE, SIMILAR TO UF, THAT WOULD ALLOW STUDENTS TO RIDE THE BUS FOR FREE.

By **RACHEL STEPHENS**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Almost an hour passed after his classes ended Friday afternoon, and Ken Haberland, a first-year student at Santa Fe College, sat at the bus stop waiting to go home. When he boarded the bus, he had a 45-minute ride ahead of him.

SFC's student government is still working to make riding the bus less of a hassle. Tuesday will kick off this semester's collection of signatures for the Start the Bus! initiative, said

Guadalupe Lawrence, the spokeswoman for for initiative.

Start the Bus! is led by the Santa Fe Student Government and would make it possible to include a bus fee in tuition to provide unlimited, more reliable bus service for SFC students. The fee would be capped at \$3.50 per credit hour and would allow students to ride buses for free.

A push is being made once again to gather support for the newly modified initiative before it will be brought to Tallahassee sometime in the next few months.

The student government will gather signatures at the Sweets for our Sweets event Tuesday as members pass out doughnuts and Valentine's Day candies, Lawrence said.

Lawrence said they got more than 2,000 signatures last fall. The initiative presented last year would have affected all ju-

nior colleges in Florida. It was vetoed because the inclusion of a bus fee in tuition wouldn't necessarily benefit all of Florida's junior colleges, Lawrence said.

This year, the initiative is designed to be optional, allowing schools to choose whether they want to include a bus fee with tuition.

If the initiative is passed, a Transportation Fee Committee would need to be formed to organize routes and schedules in coordination with where SFC students live.

But not all students are sure they would want this initiative to pass. Haberland said he would likely not support the initiative because he would have to pay more money if it passed. However, he also said that he would like to have better bus service.

ON CAMPUS

Group holds balloon race

By **SARA KANER**
Alligator Contributing Writer

About 50 students were up against the clock as they attempted to pop 720 balloons during an event dedicated to promoting financial literacy Wednesday.

The group gathered on the Plaza of the Americas to pop the purple balloons the UF Bateman Team put out to promote the launching of its SCORE! Campaign.

The team challenged students to pop the balloons in seven minutes and 20 seconds, but the crowd made it in just one minute and 57 seconds.

The 720 Balloon Pop Challenge aimed to spark interest and prove to people that financial literacy can be fun, said Bateman Team member Seeta Rebbapragada.

"The event went fantastic and we hope it will drive people to our website and our sessions," she said.

The UF Bateman Team is composed of five fourth-year public relations majors who are given a client and must create a public relations campaign to be en-

tered in the PRSSA Bateman Case Study Competition.

The team's client this year is Ally Financial Inc. Its campaign aims to promote and educate and Gainesville community about financial literacy and safe money management habits, Rebbapragada said.

The team spent last semester re-

"It's been 10 years since the UF team has won."

Maura Reese
Team Member

searching for the campaign, conducting surveys to find out about people's financial literacy and discovering ways they could teach people about money management.

The team's next step is to implement its campaign, which includes holding financial literacy sessions on campus, in local high schools and within the Gainesville community.

"It's been 10 years since the UF team has won," said team member Maura Reese. "It's a good time to break the streak."

Beetle could save pastures

By **LAUREN ETLINGER**
Alligator Contributing Writer

A beetle native to South America has become a friend to cattle ranchers in Florida and other southeastern states. This beetle eats an invasive and noxious weed that destroys pastures.

Julio Medal, a UF entomology researcher, has been working with his team since 1994 to find a bug that could get rid of the weed. Chemical herbicides and mowing were used with limited success to control tropical soda apple for the last decade. However, these expensive methods only worked temporarily.

In Florida, TSA has infested about 150,000 acres of pastureland.

Medal said it was difficult to find a bug that would not feed on anything except TSA. TSA is related to plants like eggplant, tomatoes, pepper and potatoes, and bugs that feed on one of those plants usually feed on them all.

However, the Gratiana boliviana, a Brazilian leaf beetle, proved to be the bug for the

job.

"Bugs work slower than pesticides," Medal said. "Sometimes it can take up to two years for the bugs to get rid of the weeds, but in the long run they work better and are cheaper than pesticides."

The beetle has not been able to survive colder climates in northern Florida and southern Alabama, said Medal.

He is now working to gain approval from the USDA to release two more insects to control TSA.

UF Research The beetles have decreased the population density of TSA by about 90

percent in central Florida in about two years, according to William Overholt, a researcher on the project.

Cattle ranchers in Okeechobee County saw results after only two months.

"A woman called me in October, two months after we had released the beetles, and said, 'You have to come see this. I can't believe it,'" Medal said. "She was so happy with the results she told me she wanted to build a monument for me."

Penn and Teller performed several magic tricks for the audience

PENN, from page 1

explained right there on the page. That did it for him.

"I swore that I hated magic and I hated scientists more than anything," he said.

These were two of the slough of reasons the magician duo gave Wednesday night at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts as to why they don't believe in magic, holistic medicine or God.

The magicians greeted the crowd wearing orange and blue Gator baseball caps as they walked on stage.

As they sat down for the moderated Q-and-A session, they were asked their first question, offered by a student before the show: "Will Teller speak tonight?"

Teller, known for seldom or never speaking on their show, "Penn & Teller: Bullshit!," nodded his head, then opened his mouth.

"I just like the idea of lying without talking," he said.

For their first act, Teller's hands flew through the move-

ments of a ball-and-cup trick using red Solo cups and aluminum foil balls while Penn dissected and explained the whole thing.

To prove the point, they did the trick again — with clear cups.

For another trick, Teller picked an audience member and handed the volunteer an apple stuck with 100 sewing needles.

The magician plucked them from the apple about 20 at a time and swallowed them.

Teller wound up about 6 feet of twine and gulped that down, too.

After a massaging his belly and flashing discomforted looks to the audience, he coughed, gagged and produced the string from his mouth with all the needles threaded on it.

Before the show, a line of about 1,800 people wrapped around the Phillips Center to see the show, hosted by Accent.

A packed house, said Corey Portnoy, Accent's chief of staff. Tickets were sold out 20 minutes after the box office opened.

Accent paid Penn and Teller \$57,000.



Alex Orlando / Alligator

Teller, right, performs a ball-and-cup magic trick, explained by Penn, left. The duo performed tricks and explained their magic to a crowd of 1,800 at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts on Wednesday.

Catering truck toes the line to sell food

■ THE TRUCK IS NOT ALLOWED TO PARK ON UF PROPERTY.

By **KATY DORAN**
Alligator Contributing Writer

An inch too close.
Now, too far.

On the driver's third attempt, the giant white truck turns carefully into Emerson Alumni Hall's rear entrance for the perfect parking job in order to avoid fines and charges from UF and the City of Gainesville.

The Chow Now Food Truck, owned and run by Jules Gollner and her company, The White Apron Catering, offers a menu with specials like Cuban roast sandwiches, meatball subs and crab cakes every Tuesday.

The truck serves up to 30 people every week outside Emerson, the closest legal spot to UF.

According to UF regulation documents, the truck cannot park and sell food on UF property.

Other regulations keep Gollner from bringing along the business's mascot.

Rusty, her 15-pound terrier-chihuahua mix, is not allowed in the truck, she said.

Dogs and parking issues aside,

she said the catering industry has, like other businesses, been affected by the economic downturn, resulting in a tight budget and a careful dispersal of the company's 18-cent business cards.

The truck could sell food at places like fraternity houses, but most organizations request a minimum of \$1,000 just for a parking spot, she said.

Without sufficient funds, such prices slim the list of potential clients and leave Gollner to slowly spreading the truck's reputation.

On Campus

"It's only hard because we're not known yet," she said.

Locals like Karen Smith, a program assistant in planned giving for the UF Foundation, are drawn by the idea of serving fresh food from a vehicle.

"I'd never grasped the concept of eating off a truck until about a month ago," she said. "It was only when I found out that it was through White Apron that I elected to try it."

And in case anyone tries to steal from the vehicle, Gollner has a defense mechanism.

"I have this sword," she said as she pulled out a plastic toy with a gray blade and gold-colored handle.

She said she hasn't used it yet.



AP Photo

Rubbish Riots
Police officers walk among fire from petrol bombs thrown by protesters during clashes between residents and riot police in Keratea, about 31 miles southeast of Athens, late Tuesday. Residents of Keratea have clashed repeatedly over the past two months with police guarding the site of the planned rubbish dump.

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SCANLIFE

Editorial

On the Table

Budget tests Scott's bargaining skills

Looks like it's time for our favorite dead-eyed, Voldemort-impersonating governor to backtrack. Gov. Rick Scott proposed his budget Monday, and he changed his tune by Wednesday. Politicians from both sides of the aisle were left scratching their heads about the governor's radical changes, no doubt worrying about the deep cuts he had planned.

On one hand, he may be an idiot who didn't understand the state's situation thoroughly enough to compose a reasonable plan. On the other hand, however, we can see a spark of genius. Evil genius.

Scott may be following a Machiavellian mode of bargaining, not unlike an old woman negotiating the price of a yard sale trinket. By offering a ridiculous budget that looks unfeasible to nearly everyone, he puts the ball in the legislators' court as they carefully dissect his suggestions. They may take the bait and meet him halfway on his proposals, and Scott is probably looking for the resulting concessions, not the approval of his whole budget.

Was the governor just too idealistic and hazy on the details? Is he making a smart business move by saying, "You never get the deal you want"?

Or maybe someone explained to him how arrogant "Just pass it" sounds to lawmakers.

We just hope the budget made Scott realize Florida doesn't work like a company.

State of Depression

Quantifying misery sounds unscientific at best, but we were still interested to see Forbes rank the 20 most miserable cities in America.

A few cities were obviously going to make an appearance — we're looking at you, Detroit — but the number of Florida communities on the list surprised us. Sure, our state isn't the greatest, but when Miami, West Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale and Jacksonville all showed up on the list, we immediately looked into the method the magazine used.

Forbes took into account the usual reasons for urban despair such as unemployment and crime rates.

They also factored in taxes, weather, commute times and the records of local sports teams.

Most of these factors are

understandable, but we question the sports decision.

People didn't stop partying during the football team's "interesting" season last semester. We may have frowned at the games' outcomes, but we moved on within the span of a few hours.

Other factors seem to have more of an effect on the local mood.

Perhaps an active club scene should be considered. What about the number of cultural activities available to residents? Does the number of parks and other green spaces in a metropolitan area affect people's moods?

What bums us out varies from person to person, so these questions make quantifying misery look as silly as using formulas to find the source of happiness.

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EDITOR
Elizabeth Behrman
Joshua Saval
MANAGING EDITORS

Cynthia Despres
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

ALLIGATOR
www.alligator.org/opinion



Column

President walking Egyptian tightrope

What began in Tunisia as a modest protest against the lack of socioeconomic mobility has spread quickly throughout the entire Arab world, from Morocco in the West to Yemen in the East. However, the seeds of dissent flourished most in the 80 million-strong country of Egypt.

Honestly, when I first heard of the protesting in Egypt I was reserved; any shake up in the Middle East surely would be bad for us, especially in Egypt. The country is the largest and most influential in the Arab world and has been a fair ally for the past couple decades. Any change to the status quo would be less than ideal.

As time progressed, I realized the protests in Egypt are more than a good thing — they are a necessary thing. Fueled by grassroots activism, social media and a desire for change, the protests have been a game changer. Save for the hired thugs President Mubarak let loose onto the streets, the protests have remained peaceful and secular, with protesters echoing talking points that would make any American patriot proud. Men and women, Christians and Muslims, all marched in solidarity for democracy, hope and a better tomorrow. Among the signs demanding Mubarak to leave is another set of signs: signs calling for President Obama to expedite the removal of Mubarak and for the President to back the people, not the tyrant. Understandably, the president has quite a fine line to walk: encouraging progress and change without creating a power vacuum that would allow less-than-wholesome factions such as the Muslim Brotherhood from gaining power. Too little support for the Egyptian people and too much for Mubarak would lead to a public unforgiving of the United States for years to come.

The sentiment in the country is solely that of self-determination and democracy, and any influencing on

Chad Mohammed
letters@alligator.org

either side can prove dangerous. Ironically, it seems keeping with the current course of action and encouraging the

progress to free and fair elections is best for Egypt and the current geopolitical climate.

That said, critiques of the president are numerous but not in agreement. It appears the opposition and presidential hopefuls themselves have no true course of action. Former Arkansas governor and Fox News personality Mike Huckabee criticized Obama for not supporting Mubarak enough publicly. Yet he claims, "This would not have required us to approve everything he did or deny the rights of the people of Egypt to demand a change of government." Exactly how one supports a figure that is truly hated by his citizens and doesn't support his decisions and actions is beyond me.

On the other hand, former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty claimed Obama hasn't done enough to distance himself from Mubarak and lambasted the administration for early statements that were lukewarm to the Egyptian President. At least House Speaker Boehner and Senate Minority Leader McConnell both concede the President has been handling the situation "pretty well."

A presidential call for reform in Egypt but stopping short of asking for Mubarak's departure without the Egyptians having an overarching plan for transition would be detrimental to the world's political and economic well-being. I am confident if any of the current Republican 2012 contenders were commander in chief they would be shrewd to follow the same path lest we lose our most influential ally in the region.

Chad Mohammed is a second-year chemical engineering major. His column appears on Thursdays.

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

Reader response

Today's question: Do you think Gainesville is a romantic city?

Wednesday's question: Do you text and drive?

44% YES
56% NO
87 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Letters to the Editor

America faces an education crisis

During the 2010 winter break, I went home to my hometown, Johor Bahru, after four years. Johor Bahru is a major city in Malaysia, separated from Singapore by a thin strait. Singapore is also a rich, prosperous, technologically advanced and cosmopolitan first-world island country of no more than five million souls and less than 300 square miles of land. Comparatively, Malaysia, which is blessed with natural resources of tin, copper, rich soil and oil, languished in second place as a second-world country. Singapore also boasts one of the most highly educated populations, with a vibrant research and development sphere and highly regarded universities. My parents are such fervent believers in the power of education that all their children were educated there despite the costs and long transit time. Singapore students routinely take medals in Math and Science Olympiads and ace the British GCE systems. In contrast, Malaysia had been engaging in such a systematic educational regression that the University of Malaya, which once was regarded as the best college in Southeast Asia, is not even ranked in the top 100 today. The National University of Singapore, on the other hand, stands at 31, just four places behind UC Berkeley. My uncle told me that a Singaporean minister, while speaking at a top Malaysian high school, declared that any high-scoring students willing to study at a Singaporean university would be given green cards immediately, with all tuition, room and board paid for along with a monthly stipend. Needless to say, many stepped forward to take the offer.

Now your politicians are systematically dismantling your education system. It looks not unlike what the Malaysian government did three decades ago. They are destroying children's opportunities to be well-educated, to be competitive on the world stage and to earn a livelihood. I considered my own government's past actions that axed Malaysian education to be an act of treason. Your politicians are doing the same thing.

Education of the people and the retention of talents are the bedrock of any society. If the people of this country do not wake up to this impending educational crisis, this country will lose its hegemony forever.

Gelin Looi
7LS

Alligator unfairly favors Progress Party

As an outgoing College of Journalism and Communications student and Unite Party student senator, I am accustomed to the clash of campus politics and the biannual debate over its campus media portrayal. However, the Alligator's recent lack of journalistic integrity has morphed the publication's role as an information medium into that of a politically charged message. On Tuesday, students were disrespected with a news-less story depicting Progress Party presidential candidate Dave Schneider volunteering. Upstanding students volunteer their time daily and never receive media attention, much less on the front page, above the fold. The Alligator followed Wednesday with the most inaccurate account of a senate decision this campus has seen.

Hannah Winston's story portrayed a senate debate with a pro-gun campus Unite Party versus an anti-gun campus opposition led by Schneider. What the story failed to mention was that Unite Party senators, including presidential candidate Ben Meyers, authored the bill denouncing campus gun tolerance in the first place.

Due to the convenient misrepresentation of facts, students were once again victim to the Alligator's quest to please one audience with Progress Party political support. Looking to the upcoming weeks of election season, I urge the Alligator to remember the

foundations of ethical journalism. Your job is to portray reality, not shape it. I charge the Alligator not to fall victim to the target-audience-driven media phenomena seen nationally today. Instead, set the standard, report ethically and have faith in your audience to decide.

Aschelle Morgan
UF Student Senator

Carrying a firearm unnecessary at UF

Just one month before Mike Lewis and J.T. Helm decided to write their pro-gun pieces in Wednesday's Alligator, 21-year-old FSU student Ashley Cowie was shot fatally in the chest. The shooter had been drinking earlier in the day and was showing off his rifle. Is that the kind of responsible gun use Lewis and Helm want to bring to our campus?

Carrying a weapon is unnecessary. The UF campus is a generally safe place. UF ranks favorably in terms of safety when compared with our SEC neighbors. How many incidents of violent crime have occurred on campus that could have been prevented by the assailed possession of a gun? I can think only of one – the case of Kofi Adu-Brempong.

Adu-Brempong was shot brutally in the face by our own UPD. The officer who shot him had undergone years of training in responsible gun use. It seems the only people we should be protecting ourselves from are these responsible gun owners.

Mike Lewis may find it easy to joke around about "John-Woo-style shootouts" but these two examples strike very close to home and perhaps can persuade him to broach the issue with a little more humility next time. In light of the recent tragedy at FSU, Helm and Lewis should be embarrassed for inviting guns to UF. After they have been so irresponsible with their words, why should we trust them with guns?

Conor Munro
UF student

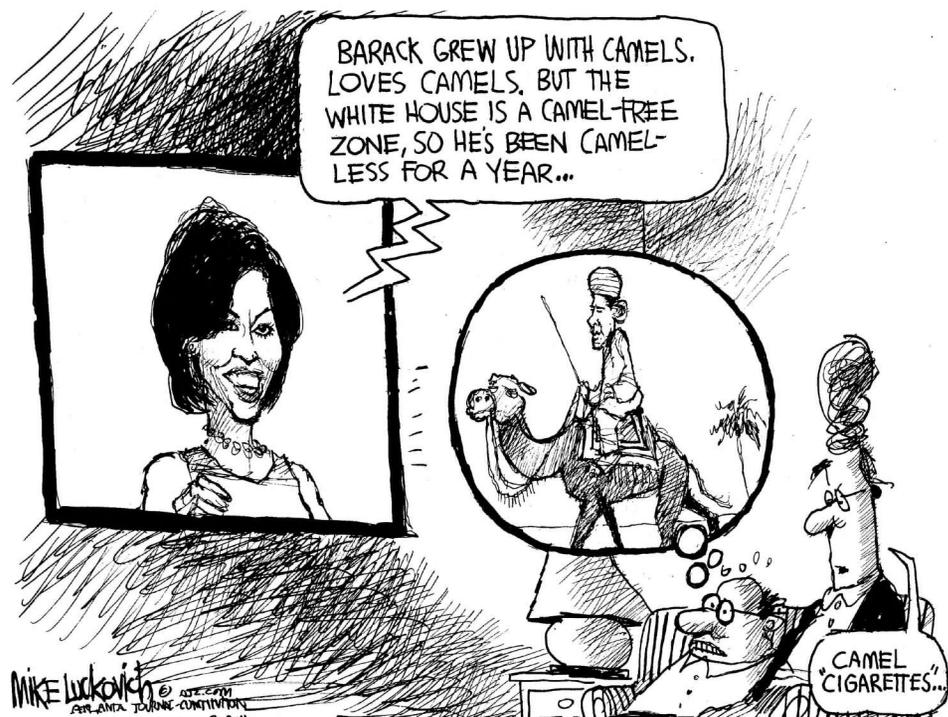
Open campus should allow gun carry

The right to carry arms generally should not be infringed, except in limited places deemed sensitive. Florida defines these "places of nuisance" as airport terminals, courthouses, prisons and some government buildings. These places inevitably are protected by metal detectors and security guards due to their sensitive nature. Under these circumstances, a common citizen could be expected to accept a temporary forfeit of his rights knowing that, in return, these sanctuaries provide reasonable measures against danger.

A college campus does not fit this model. There is nothing stopping anyone from carrying any type of gun right onto its grounds. In all practical respects, it is just like any other city block in the sense that it has no metal detectors or security checkpoints to protect its inhabitants. Because it cannot install these measures, citizens shouldn't be denied the right to protect themselves. Anyone who suggests guns are not conducive to an academic environment fails to show how the threat of a criminal gunman is conducive to a learning environment. They fail to explain why, on the many campuses that do allow carry, there have been zero incidences. Anyone who perpetuates a fearful vision of hordes of students visibly carrying guns on their hips is ignorant to the practical purposes of the open carry provision in Florida Senate bill 234.

They don't understand why anyone with any knowledge of firearms laughs at their Wild West fantasy scenarios.

Sawyer Zent
UF student



Speaking Out

Everyone faces AIDS risk

At least Brett Wagner didn't use the, "But I have lots of gay friends," excuse in his attack on the LGBT community in Monday's paper.

The FDA's policy of prohibiting men who have sex with men (MSMs), however they may identify, from donating blood was implemented in the early 1980s back when, yes, homophobia was rampant. But it also was the beginning of the HIV/AIDS crisis, when little to nothing was known about the disease or how it was transmitted, and when it was still referred to as GRID, or gay-related immune deficiency. Back then the policy was valid, as about 90 percent of HIV transmissions were from MSMs, but more than 25 years on the transmission rates have plummeted, and this policy is way past its expiration date. The UF LGBT Concerns Committee was absolutely correct in condemning the FDA's ban on MSMs donating blood, because it has now become a remnant of a more homophobic time. Brett, if you want to have a discussion on sexual orientation, that is a different matter, but homophobia-related arguments aside, understanding the disease and its transmission, as well as technology for detecting and treating HIV, has improved immensely. There are finger-prick tests for HIV, which take 20 minutes, that the blood bank could do easily while people wait in line and fill out their forms to donate blood. According to bloodbook.com, blood banks test every donation of blood for a variety of STDs, including HIV, no matter the sexual proclivities of the donor.

HIV is not a death sentence anymore; it is a manageable disease. New medicines and treatments are being developed as we speak, and people with HIV are living longer than ever.

In addition, perpetuating the stereotype of promiscuity among MSMs is insulting and clearly ignorant.

Andrew Briefman
Speaking Out

Promiscuity has nothing to do with your sexual

orientation, which anyone on a college campus should be able to determine. Risky behavior is not confined to one segment of the population, whether it is binge drinking, drug use or copious amounts of sex. Unprotected heterosexual sex is far more dangerous than protected homosexual sex, and that "specific type of sexual contact" should definitely be on the ban list.

While it is true MSMs have a high rate of infection for HIV, they are not the only ones – rates of infection for identified heterosexuals have been on the rise, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Actually, rates of infection for all races and sexualities are on the rise, and this is hopefully because more people are getting tested.

HIV/AIDS is not a gay disease; it is a sexually transmitted disease, and everyone is susceptible. If you have HIV, it is not because you are gay or someone you had sex with is gay. We are not in elementary school anymore; that is not the worst thing in the world. HIV can affect everyone who is sexually active, and you should always be safe while having sex.

It is your job to know your status, no matter who you have sex with or how often. Both the UF Student Health Care Center and the Alachua County Health Department offer free or inexpensive HIV testing. If anyone hasn't gotten tested recently, or ever, they should go as soon as possible. Prevention of HIV transmission, and the eventual repeal of the blood donation ban, is possible only through education. Always have safe sex, get tested regularly and, most importantly, remember that no one is immune, for any reason.

piano man



Britt Perkins / Alligator

Brad Heron, owner and house player at Rockeys Dueling Piano Bar, shares a toast with the crowd Friday night. Rockeys opened New Year's Eve and plays music by request only Thursday through Saturday.

UF grad's piano bar offers musical variety

Audience members play games, bid for songs

BY BRITT PERKINS
avenue writer

Take a step into Rockeys Dueling Piano Bar downtown and enter the world of Billy Joel. And T-Pain. And Garth Brooks.

Rockeys, 112 S. Main St., opened New Year's Eve but is already one of the few bars downtown that can pack in a crowd by 10 p.m. And, unlike other spots in town, variety is not lacking here.

Last Friday, as bartenders sang along while they mixed drinks, the crowd la, la, la'd along to "Crocodile Rock" and didn't miss a beat during the transition to "Low (Apple Bottom Jeans)."

At Rockeys, two pianos back-to-back and a drum kit fill the raised stage where crowd requests alone determine the set list Thursday through Saturday. Local live music reigns on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. On request days, if crowd members want to hear a song they've got to pay the asking price at the time. And if a crowd member doesn't like the song, he or she can pay more to put a stop to it.

That means a \$6 bid can get your request bumped to the front of the line, but an opposing \$7 wager can make sure the first chords of

"Party in the U.S.A." are also the last.

It's all about interaction at Rockeys. The players banter with one another and are not shy about talking directly to the crowd. And sometimes, they do more than just talk. While on stage, each player has a hand-held spotlight, ready to select volunteers for games and serenades. Recently, Rockeys hosted an impromptu "booty-shaking" contest with participants ages 21 to 61.

Brad Heron, owner and house piano player, said the "ageless" factor where everyone checks their egos at the door is one reason people can have a good time at Rockeys.

After graduating from UF in 2004, Heron toured the U.S. playing professionally, building his repertoire. But Heron, a self-proclaimed die-hard Gators fan, said each college town reminded him of his alma mater.

"I missed Gainesville," he said. "And I had such a good time here, and I was having such a good time in other college towns, I thought, 'Man, I'd really like to do Gainesville.'"

Heron partnered with Scott Schmailzl, owner of Blue Moon Dueling Piano Bar in West Des Moines, Iowa, and longtime friend from the piano circuit.

Tim Buie of Savannah, Ga., also joined Heron in Gainesville as a house player.

Although there are regular appearances, the lineup doesn't always stay the same.

Every week, a guest player from another town joins the regulars on stage with a different background and different skills, which helps keep things interesting and fresh, Heron said.

After going through "a million" names, Heron said they settled on the combination of the words "rock" and "keys" to brand the new piano bar downtown, but that's often how people still refer to it.

However, naming was not the biggest challenge people said they would face. The 21-plus, non-smoking requirements, on the other hand, were. But instead of being a problem, Heron said those two factors are what he gets complimented on most, besides the friendliness of the staff.

And as for Heron's favorite song to play?

"I probably wouldn't sit in a room by myself and say, 'Oh, I feel like playing some Lady Gaga right now.' But in front of a crowd of people that want to hear it, I mean, there's nothing more fun than Lady Gaga."

INSIDE:

PG 9: Check out the best of the best music in Gainesville in the first ever Alligrammy Awards.

PG 10: Hate Valentine's Day? Either sulk around or check out columnist Robert Imfeld's take on the sap fest.

PG 11: Can't neglect your videogame console for one day? Check out these games to butter up your valentine so you don't have to.

PG 12: If you don't think big crowds translate to intimacy, try some of these tips to create a steamy, scrumptious night in.

ONLINE:

See what's in store for UF's Theatre Strike Force.

Stumped on what to wear on your hot date? Fifth Avenue's got you covered. Visit: alligator.org/the_avenue

The **A** List

WATCH: *The Grammy Awards*

If you're sick of hearing about the best movies of the year, maybe it's time to check out the best music. For the 53rd annual show, Selena Gomez, Nicki Minaj and LL Cool J are among the many stars attending. And Katy Perry, Drake, Rihanna, Arcade Fire and Lady Gaga will all be performing. Don't miss it this Sunday at 8 p.m. on CBS.

SEE: *"Just Go With It"*

Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston come together in this rom-com to help Sandler's character win over his dream woman. Aniston's character and her kids are supposed to be the key ingredients to his success, but we all know Aniston always ends up with the cute guy in the end. Unless it's real life.

LISTEN: *"6 Foot 7 Foot" by Lil Wayne*

This song is perfect for cruising down University Avenue or sitting in bumper-to-bumper traffic on Archer Road. Don't let the monotonous beat fool you: Lil Wayne is back and better than ever.

READ: *"The Rules According to JWOWW"*

Wait, what? Did we read that correctly? Looks like this overly bronzed Jersey girl is moving from your TV to your bookshelf. Inside: "Shore-tested secrets on landing a mint guy, staying fresh to death and kicking the competition to the curb." Sounds like a literary masterpiece in the making.

— LAUREN GOLD

long distance ♥

Celebrating love – apart

BY EUGENIO TORRENS
avenue contributing writer

When Jesse Wright wakes up on Valentine's Day, he may notice a text or even a missed call.

For a stinging second, he might not want to check his phone. But, inevitably, he will look out of bed and pick it up.

It will probably be Amber Davis — his girlfriend of more than one month. Wright navigated the fall semester feeling out his relationship with Davis, testing their compatibility. They officially started dating on New Year's Day.

"It was kind of like a preseason to the season," he said.

This year, he will celebrate Hallmark's big day sans his better half. While he decides the best time to dial in a Valentine's Day greeting, she will be delivering roses for Habitat for Humanity around Tallahassee.

That's right. Wright is a Gator. Davis is a Seminole. And they're celebrating Valentine's Day — well, sort of.

While tons of couples will smooch amid chocolate hearts and rose petals, long-distance partners won't necessarily embrace the holiday as much.

"Last Valentine's Day, my date was Jose Cuervo," Davis said. This year, her date is 140-plus miles away.

That's a stone's throw away compared to the distance dividing Alex Guenov and his girlfriend of almost a year, Michaela Valenti.

The pair started dating about a year ago, met through mutual friends and kept a loose, fun relationship. Then Valenti graduated, and the duo had a decision to make:

split now or stick out the distance.

She went to Costa Rica for six weeks and would go to a hotel for free Internet access to Skype her boo.

"It ain't easy. That's for sure," Guenov said.

It took him two to three months to make the transition from a short- to long-distance relationship. "You definitely think about it every day. It kind of eats away at you, but usually when they call and stuff or you call them, it helps out."

Fast forward to the present, where Guenov's Valentine's Day plans vastly contrast with last year's, when he made shrimp Alfredo and a Bulgarian salad for his valentine, Valenti.

This year, Guenov will treat Feb. 14 like business as usual. Valenti will see "West Side Story" with her family.

Because they talk on the phone about an hour every day and one makes the drive to see the other once or every other week, distance really hasn't been a strain. On the contrary, it livens up the relationship.

"If we fight or anything like that, it's wasted time," Valenti said. "It's like, 'Yeah, I'm leaving tomorrow,' so we have to do all these things and have fun. We can't just sit around and be bums."

Both couples stress trust and communication.

"Understand there's a big chance it's not going to work," Davis said. "Make sure it's what you want to do and you trust the person enough — when you only see them two days out of every two weeks — if you're a jealous person, it's not going to work. Ever."

The Alligrammy Awards

By THOMAS NASSIFF
avenue contributing writer

Every year, national record executives and experts honor who they think are the best of the best in the music industry. Here, we've narrowed down Gainesville's best — musicians who for the past year have unknowingly competed for awards in categories similar to those in the Grammys. For the first time ever, the Avenue presents its top picks for locally formed acts. We introduce to you: the Alligrammys.

♦ Song of the Year

"Channel 10" / "Channel 11" - *Less Than Jake*

Less Than Jake's "TV/EP" is a collection of 16 covers of TV theme songs and commercial jingles. We had to pick both songs to amount to the length of one normal song. "Channel 10" is the theme song from "Spongebob Squarepants" and "Channel 11" is the theme from "That '70s Show." Believe us, Less Than Jake's ska-punk repertoire makes singing along to songs you've known for years even more fun.

♦ Album of the Year

"White Crosses," *Against Me!*

Gainesville's pride and joy continue to evolve from album to album, and the group's studio LP does not disappoint. Against Me!'s brand of folk-punk and rock 'n' roll — this time, with catchier hooks and friendlier instrumentation — has never been more accessible.

♦ Best New Artist

Greenland is Melting

The Gainesville natives in 2009 re-

leased "Our Hearts are Gold, Our Grass is Blue" and in 2010 gained local notoriety. The band's style of bluegrass is perfect for listening to at social events or while hanging out with friends. Keep an eye out for "Folk Songs From Florida," which the band will self-release in 2011.

♦ Best Vocal Performance

Tom Gabel - Against Me!

Gabel's performance on "White Crosses" is a memorable one, bringing Against Me!'s sounds to more headphones than ever.

♦ Best Band

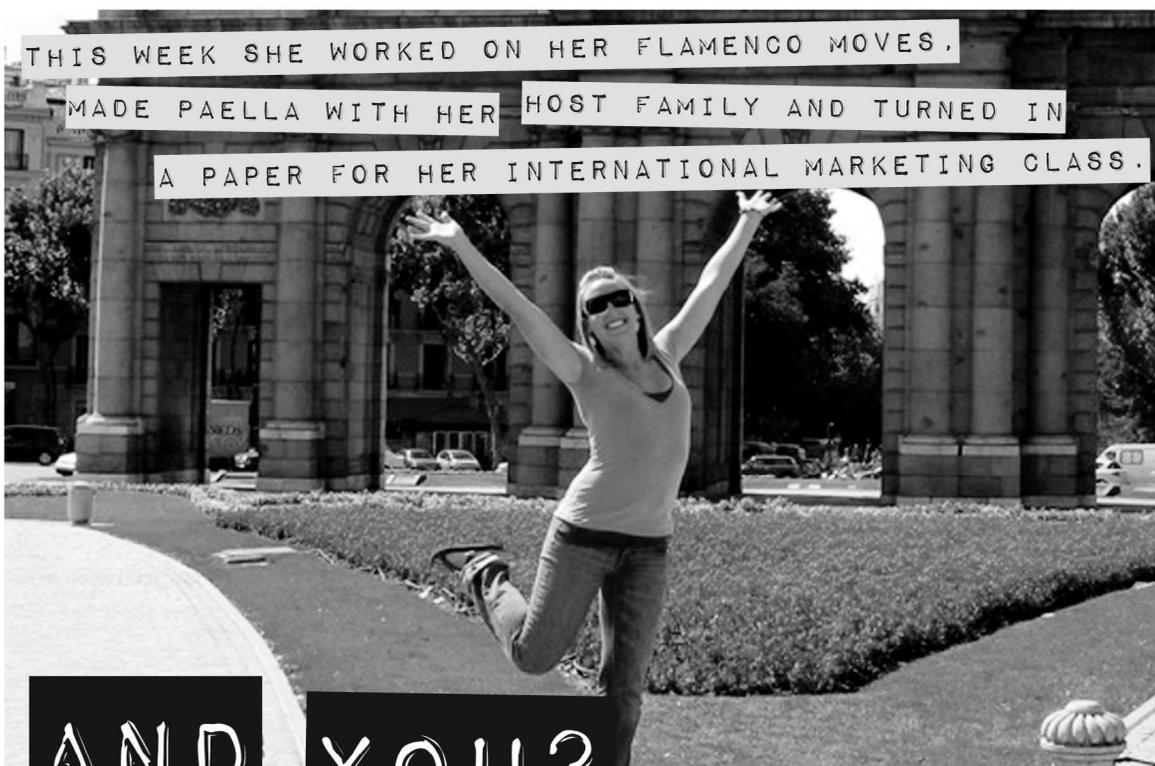
Less Than Jake

This band continues to put out witty, well-thought-out material. One of the grandfathers of ska-punk, Less Than Jake seems stronger than ever after more than a decade of playing together. This year, look out for re-releases of the group's two early albums, "Losing Streak" and "Hello Rockview."

♦ Best Record Label

No Idea Records

Although it was a close call between No Idea and Paper + Plastick Records, No Idea takes the prize because of its work on The Fest. Every year, the Gainesville-based label puts on the three-day punk festival, and in 2010 the event had its ninth anniversary. The Fest is every crusty punk's favorite weekend, and, as innocent student bystanders know, standing by and watching the mayhem unfold makes the experience all the better.



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Wishing a new saint would march in

When I bumbled my way into high school and realized I'd have to start working for Valentine's Day treats rather than receiving a bag of candy from classmates simply for existing, I got a little sad.

Sure, Valentine's Day is a wonderful holiday in celebration of love. It's arguable that it's an even better day for a girl to kick the shit out of her boyfriend if he messes it up. But what about those who have neither love nor domestic violence to give or receive? What about all the people whose only wish is not to be bombarded with red fliers and revolting Facebook status updates?

Similar to how Muslim Awareness Month coincides with Black History Month, I say the singles of the world rise up and stand proud on Feb. 14 to honor St. Raphael, the patron saint of travelers — or, in other words, single people.

St. Raphael's Day would work for several reasons.

First, think of the economic boost a new holiday would provide. Usually it's the chocolate, greeting card and flower industries that boom this time of year. However, supporters of St.



Robert Imfeld
Columnist

Raphael's Day would uniformly boost the alcohol, ice cream and Cheetos industries. Also, there's power in numbers, and thousands of singles parading through campus would demonstrate to couples the total lack of ill will and envy. It might even be a good idea for all singles to mark themselves with a jagged half-heart, letting the world know just how not miserable they are.

Last, it's possible that by celebrating singleness openly, two people might just fall in love. By cajoling "StarCraft" champions into the sunshine where they might meet, there's a chance a new legion of St. Valentine followers will blossom. I think St. Raphael's Day will be a success this year. So, single Gators, go buy your cheap Pinot and stock up on your frozen pizza — your yearly ritual of pretending not to care how sad you are finally has a name!

music 🎵

AMPED: left-fielder Kelsey Bruder

BY BENJAMIN EVANS
avenue writer

Kelsey Bruder is a UF softball player who's beefed up her personal music catalog since moving to Florida to attend UF.

"Coming from California, we like a lot of pop-punk and rap and R&B," said Bruder, who is originally from Corona. "Coming down south, a lot of my teammates have exposed me to a little bit of country music."

The team always has music playing when it's hitting, she said. Like a pro wrestler walking out to pulverize his or her opponent, UF softball players have individual "walk-out songs" they play when they're up to bat — a song that says something like this: "I can do this," or, "Prepare, my poor foe, for your fated clobbering"

This season, Bruder has chosen "Who's that Chick?" by David Guetta, featuring vocals from Rihanna as her walk-out song. Here are some other tunes the UF athlete uses to get amped:

"Bass Down Low" by Dev (feat. The Cata-

racs)

"It's got a good techno beat. Kind of makes me want to fist pump."

"Fall for Your Type" by Jamie Foxx (feat. Drake)

"I can listen to Drake all day. I love his voice, love his rhymes."

Avenue: Did you watch "Degrassi"?

KB: Yeah, isn't that weird. That's kind of weird [laughs].

"Wish You Were Here" by Pink Floyd

"Definitely different than everything else I have on the list, but I love the lyrics. 'Two lost souls swimming in a fishbowl.' Pretty cool."

"Take My Hand" by Shawn McDonald

KB: He's a Christian artist and I'm pretty sure it's a proven fact that if you listen to Christian music while you work out you're stronger and faster.

Avenue: Really?

KB: My proven fact [laughs].

"Moment 4 Life" by Nicki Minaj

"I'm for any strong females, and she's unique."

"The Boys of Fall" by Kenny Chesney

"It just makes me appreciate being a Gator and what I have, although I'm not a 'boy of fall.'"

"Vibin'" by Piccalo

"It makes me dance whether I'm on second base or in the dugout."

"You Hold Me Now" by Hillsong United

"It's another Christian song. The lyrics are really good. It makes me connect. Definitely makes me appreciative of what I have and how blessed I am."

"Chillin'" by Wale ft. Lady Gaga

"It's just got a good beat."

"Blow" by Ke\$ha

"I'm not too big on pure techno, but it has a cool techno back beat, and it just talks about dancing and doing your own thing and not worrying about what anybody thinks."



Photo illustration by Dana Burke and Cynthia Despres / Alligator Staff

UF softball player Kelsey Bruder hangs out indoors, glove and ball in hand, during a rainy day at practice.

Lens Flair



For the latest frills, flair and everything fashion, check out what our lens caught this week.

UF Junior Kevin Olivier mixes neutrals to create this European-inspired look. Also, see how this philosophy major proves guys can accessorize, as he's got a scarf, belt, backpack and sunglasses.



Dana Burke / Alligator Staff

UF English major Anthony Perrin wears dark jeans, a T-shirt and a leather jacket with bright red Vans. Although he's stylish, this junior said he can't take all the credit for the outfit. "My girlfriend dresses me," he said.



Dana Burke / Alligator Staff

UF English freshman Lindsey Jones uses color to make her outfit stand out. Her bright blue dress and purple cardigan are complemented nicely with tights and boots.



Dana Burke / Alligator Staff

UF zoology major Savannah Smith builds her outfit around one piece. "I decided I wanted to wear tights today and went from there," she said. Combined with a sweater dress, this freshman's look makes for a warm alternative in cool weather.



Dana Burke / Alligator Staff

Gamer Bait



Video games your girlfriend won't hate

Valentine's Day is upon us yet again. Whether you're single, in a relationship or just have a vendetta against Hallmark, it's inescapable. Candy hearts will rain from the skies, and the streets will run white with teddy-bear stuffing.

Other forms of mass hysteria occur only one day out of the year, so suck it up and deal with it. For those who actually enjoy Valentine's Day, or for gamers with significant others, I'd be remiss if I didn't write a column just for you.

Every game isn't a single-player campaign, and not all girls hate video games. Let's break some stereotypes and take a look at a few games to play while cuddling on the couch, if only to leave the single people alone.

"Kirby's Epic Yarn"

Console: Wii

The pink puffball who eats bad guys and swings a mean hammer is one of Nintendo's best creations, and his newest game, released in October, is cuteness incarnated. Transporting the character into a world made of yarn and buttons, Kirby fights thread-bad guys by using his mighty line of yarn, unraveling himself into different forms. Two-player co-op is a great way to get your girlfriend into this game, and there's an incredibly easy level that's beginner-friendly.

"Dance Central"

Console: Kinect for Xbox 360

Mark my words: If the Kinect takes off like the Wii did, this will be the new No. 1 party game. "Rock Band" developers have released a game that's fun to play only with other people. The dance moves are well-choreographed, and the Kinect senses motion to an annoyingly precise degree. But the game doesn't become truly great until the Kinect's camera comes into play. It's a sneaky little bitch that records the player while he or she is dancing — during the freestyle sections, playing them back for all to see. After a few days of your girlfriend making fun of your lame-ass attempt to booty shake, you'll be praying for a breakup.

"Call of Duty: Black Ops"

Console: All

Because the "Halo" franchise is officially finished, "Call of Duty" has become the great unifier of this console generation. No matter your preferred genre, it's hard to turn down an opportunity to score some headshots and to blow stuff up. I've known plenty of girls who love playing "Black Ops" on Xbox Live, and the best relationships are about sharing what you love. If you're a hardcore guy with a kill ratio better than some Navy SEALs or a girl who just enjoys venting, "Black Ops" could be a great way to spend Valentine's Day. Who needs a heart-shaped box when you can kill communists?

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For more information on the Guide to Dining Out, please contact Brandon Davis, Alligator Advertising, 376.4482

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Tips for a steamy night in

BY RICHARD O. STEHLI
avenue writer

Valentine's Day is here, so we'll all be heading to our favorite restaurants for fancy dinners under ambient lighting, right? Not this guy. I have a laundry list of reasons not to give in to the traditional (read: modern consumerist) way we do Valentine's Day dinner.

For starters, I don't feel very intimate when I'm surrounded by 50 other people trying to feel intimate. Further, dining out is expensive! I'm a college student, after all. Even worse, this year Valentine's Day falls on a Monday, which is Hipster Sunday, and everything with any local charm in Gainesville is closed.

Most importantly, my bedroom is miles from the nearest ritzy restaurant, and I like to keep my eye on the prize.

Plus, I won't deny it — I forgot to make reservations.

Am I worried? No. Why? Because whipping up a fabulous, easy and affordable Valentine's Day feast is as easy as Man's Food (FOS 2001).

There are a few basic things to remember about courting a woman (or man) through food, regardless of what you choose to make.

Looks matter

We eat with our eyes as much as our mouths. Probably more. As such, pick colorful ingredients. Purple cabbage, red tomatoes, orange peppers and colorful

salad greens are all great visual complements to anything you cook, even if you use them just as a garnish. Texture is important, too. Hulking slabs of meat are boring, so keep your dishes open-faced and let things stack up or stick out. Shapes like stars or spirals are a plus.

One word: plating

Think of plating like explosions and boobs in an action movie: No matter how bad the plot and acting are, gratuitous explosions (and breasts) will make everything more tolerable. The same holds true with food. Google search pictures of food similar to what you're cooking, and organize your plate accordingly.



Keep things hot

Another trick is to heat plates in the oven. For one, your food will stay toasty longer. More importantly, danger is the world's oldest aphrodisiac. Nothing turns on a woman like danger, and nothing screams danger quite like a 400-degree plate next to your hands.

Drink something sweet

A final trick is to drink your dessert. Fruit lovers, try Lindeman's Framboise Lambic, something akin to raspberry champagne. For the chocoholics out there, try a Godiva chocolate liqueur. Ask around at your favorite liquor store, and you'll be pleasantly surprised at how many ways you can imbibe your final course.

Healthy sweet stuff

By MAE BASIRATMAND
avenue writer

Valentine's Day is a celebration of love. And with that, for whatever reason, we're exposed to copious amounts of chocolate, tempting those of us on a health kick.

Between gift exchanges, parties or the spike of pink and red wrappers in the checkout line, it seems the creamy candy is everywhere.

For all the closet chocoholics, the sappy couple at the fondue fountain, the loners binging in front of the TV or anyone looking for an excuse to munch on the holiday classic, here are a few ways to eat the sweet stuff in keeping with your good health.

Chocolate is made from the cocoa plant, which has health benefits similar to those from some vegetables. Vegetables contain flavonoids, which act as antioxidants, and the flavonoids available in the cocoa plants help relax blood pressure and lower cholesterol.

But before reaching for a candy bar or a piece of cake, remember not all types are healthy. One trumps them all: dark chocolate. It contains more antioxidants than milk chocolate or white chocolate. And, best of all, it can lift your mood.

Dark chocolate contains the neurotransmitter serotonin, which acts as an anti-depressant and stimulates endorphins, which provide the feeling of pleasure. This is the reason you experience that feel-good sensation after consuming just a small dose of it. In addition, dark chocolate contains high levels of potassium and magnesium, and it provides vitamins such as B1, B2, D and E. These can help regulate blood pressure.

There is no established recommended serving size of chocolate, but just remember: Moderation is key. So, when walking down the pink aisles of the convenience store, making a smarter decision on chocolate could lead to a treat for not only your tummy but your body, too.

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 - 2/1 apt 1st floor 204 nw 18 st \$1100
 - 2/2 apt 2515 sw 35 place \$1200
- 2-18-11-20-2

The Retreat at **Madison Pointe**
 2/2 with Vaulted ceilings & W/D.
 No move in fees and \$500 off March!
 Garage included. Gated Community.
 2701 NW 23rd Blvd 352-372-0400
 MadisonPointe.org
 Text MADISON to 47464 for more info!!
 4-20-66-2

WALK TO UF Available Feb.
 1BR/1BA \$550
 1 year lease, SD, NS, NP
 Call/Text 352-870-7256
 gvll32601@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
 2-15-11-24-2

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
 2-15-11-19-2

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
 2-15-11-19-2

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

2 For Rent unfurnished

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

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 back-
 yard. Pet ok. 2100 NW 8th Ct. \$1400/mo.
 339-2342 gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com
 2-15-11-9-2

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
 2-15-11-9-2

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

Summer Place
 One Bedroom *\$439
 Pet friendly No weight limit
 Close to main postal facility & shopping.
 Ph. 376-0828 www.gremco.com
 4-20-11-49-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

Condominiums 2 & 4 Bedrooms now or
 summer and fall. Popular locations such as
 CountrySide, Southwest and Shands area.
 Call for details Bristol Park Realty 352 367
 2669 Bristolparkrealty.com 3-14-11-21-2

Duplex, Duckpond, CHA, carport, carpets,
 ceiling fans, quiet, trees, large yard, \$700mo,
 920 NE 6th Ave., 376 0080; 284 3873.
 postj@bellsouth.net 2-18-11-10-2

3/2 Available Fall!
 4 Blocks to UF
 48 Hour Special
 352-371-7777 3-4-11-20-2

\$360-rooms available in beautiful 4/4 condo
 in SW Gville. Incl. cable and internet. 5 mins
 from UF and Butler Plaza. Walk-in closets,
 W/D included, furnished common area.
 352.514.3398. 2-28-15-2

Quality Houses Available Aug 1st.
 Walk/Bike to campus 352-339-2342
 www.gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com
 2-15-11-4-2

Cozy, Private and Close to Campus!
 2-Bedroom Apartments available for rent im-
 mediately!!! Close to Butler Plaza, UF and
 bus routes.Short leases available.
 For more info, please call 786-512-0628
 2-15-5-2

The Price You Want, The Convenience You
 Need! \$650 - 2BR/2BA apartment walking
 distance of UF, shopping center and bus
 routes. Open Floor Plan - Small Pets allowed.
 Available for rent immediately 352.262.2828
 2-15-11-5-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

***NICE AND SPACIOUS APARTMENT
 TWO BLOCKS FROM BEATY TOWERS***
 920 SW Depot Ave apt. 15. Great location
 and great price. Pets allowed. Parking and
 laundry. campizano@yahoo.com 2-16-5-2

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

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 submit your classified ad
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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

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

SCRABBLE BRAND 

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| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> |
| E ₁ | O ₁ | O ₁ | T ₁ | M ₃ | R ₁ | P ₃ |
| <input type="text"/> |
| E ₁ | I ₁ | U ₁ | U ₁ | S ₁ | D ₂ | B ₃ |
| <input type="text"/> |
| A ₁ | E ₁ | O ₁ | N ₁ | M ₃ | H ₄ | B ₃ |
| <input type="text"/> |
| E ₁ | O ₁ | U ₁ | S ₁ | S ₁ | P ₃ | P ₃ |

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 215

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

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

For more information on books, clubs, tournaments and the school program go to
www.scrabble-assoc.com or call the National SCRABBLE® Association (631) 477-0033.

02-10

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™
 by David L. Hoyt 2-10-11

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | |
| | | | | | | 4 |
| 5 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | 6 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | 7 | | | | |

ACROSS

| CLUE | ANSWER |
|------------------|--------|
| 1. Medical _____ | LICIN |
| 5. Belief | TFIAH |
| 6. _____, Ohio | RAKNO |
| 7. Region | TSCERO |

DOWN

| CLUE | ANSWER |
|-----------------------|---------|
| 1. Black _____ | EFEFOC |
| 2. Copy | TIMIETA |
| 3. Receive by descent | HIRTINE |
| 4. More wicked | AMNERE |

BONUS **CLUE:** This was one of the highest grossing movies of 1997.

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

ANSWERS: 1A-Climic 5A-Fatih 6A-Akron 7A-Sector
 1D-Coffee 2D-Initiate 3D-Initiate 4D-Meaner B-Air Force One
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4 Roommates

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

1 or 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 2-15-11-10-4

Looking for roommate in a 3/3 apartment in Hidden Lake. Current roommates are easy to get along with. Pet-friendly. Easy bus routes to campus. Nice pool and gym with free tanning \$440/mo. Contact (352) 346-5459 2-18-8-4

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)

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

AFFORDABLE LUXURY NEW CONSTRUCTION NEAR UF, SHANDS, LAW SCHOOL
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

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

CASH PAID for Laptops
Parts & Repair Mac & PC laptops
Joel 336-0075 www.pcrecycle.biz
4-20-10-70-7

COMPUTER & LAPTOP REPAIRS
Network specialists
We buy computers and laptops
Working and Non-working
378-4009, 607 NW 13th Street
4-20-10-70-7

9 Bicycles

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

10 For Sale

●●●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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HUGE Selection. Scooter Sales & Service!
Great Scooters, Service & Prices!
118 NW 14th Ave, Ste D, 336-1271
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4-20-10-70-11

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Will service any make/model. Close to UF!
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4-20-10-70-11

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Rent for a day, week, month or semester.
Students can rent to own! 352-336-1271
www.gainesvillescooterrentals.com 4-20-10-70-11

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

CARS - CARS Buy●Sell●Trade
Clean BMW, Volvo, Mercedes
Toyota, Honda, Nissan cars
3432 N Main St. www.carrsmith.com
CARRSMITH AUTO SALES 373-1150
4-20-70-12

WE BUY JUNK CARS
Titles Only. Call KT 352-281-9980
4-20-70-12

★★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
2-28-10-98-12

12 Autos

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
60 day payoff
On cash vehicles
Pay off time negotiable
352-338-1999 4-20-70-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
All vehicles \$0 down!
No credit check
Cash vehicles \$1000 and up!
352-338-1999 4-20-70-12

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
352-338-1999 4-20-70-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES
Certified vehicles
No credit check
Move vehicles \$500 & up!
352-375-9090 4-20-70-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES
No credit check, buy here pay here
Cars, SUVs, Trucks & Vans
30 day warranty
352-375-9090 4-20-70-12

02 Dodge Neon \$4500
00 Chevy 3500 \$5900
02 Chevy Camero \$6999
03 Ford Taurus \$6999
352-375-9090 4-20-70-12

05 Saturn Ion \$7999
04 Toyota Corolla \$7999
04 Kia Sorento \$8999
03 Nissan Altima \$9999
352-375-9090 4-20-70-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
Bring W2 and drive home today!
Cars, Trucks, SUV's, & Vans
Over 150 vehicles in stock!
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SUNRISE AUTO SALES
Bring W2 and drive home today!
Cars, Trucks, SUV's, & Vans
30 Day Warranty
352-375-9090 4-20-67-12

13 Wanted

LOCAL ARTIST NEEDS:
★ Gold ★ Diamonds ★ Gems ★ Class Rings
★ ETC ★ Top Cash \$\$\$ or Trade ★
OZZIE'S FINE JEWELRY 352-318-4009.
4-20-70-13

UF GRAD PAYS MORE
for gold jewelry, scrap gold, Rolex, diamonds, guitars, etc. Top \$\$\$ Get my offer before you sell! Call Jim 376-8090 or 222-8090
4-20-70-13

The American Cancer Society
Road to Recovery Volunteers Needed!
VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED
to transport cancer patients to treatment.
Flexible schedule.
Training and liability insurance provided.
Please call
352-240-5053 if interested.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
I AM BLIND & WOULD LIKE HELP WITH:
●Rides to church: Mass at Queen of Peace.
●Learning to rake knit hats to send to Haiti & other places. Call 352-219-6948
2-11-11-70-13

14 Help Wanted

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

the independent florida
alligator
ACCOUNTING CLERK

The Business Office at The Alligator has an open position for an Accounting Clerk. Applicant must be a currently enrolled student, majoring in Accounting or Business Administration. Duties include operating Quickbooks accounting system to work with accounts receivables and accounts payables. Other duties consist of manipulating Excel spreadsheets, answering phones, and general office duties. Organization and a great attitude is a necessity. Candidate should be able to work 10-15 hrs per week and commit to a 1 year term. Summer availability is a MUST. Please submit resume, along with a cover letter to:
Mail: Business Office,
The Independent Florida Alligator
PO Box 14257,
Gainesville, FL 32604-2257.
Email: mbell@alligator.org AND
dkradolfer@alligator.org,
or Fax: 352-376-3015.
No phone calls please.

BARTENDING
\$300 A DAY POTENTIAL
No experience necessary, training provided.
800-965-6520 ext 138 4-20-10-70-14

Students in Accounting, Aviation, Business/Sales and computer science needed for various positions. Flexible schedules and competitive pay. Join our team! Learn more at www.gleim.com/employment 4-20-10-70-14

\$STUDENTS GET CASH ON THE SPOT\$
For gently used clothing/accessories & furniture. No appt.necessary! - Sandy's Savvy Chic Resale Boutique 2906 NW 13th St. 372-1226 sandyresale.com 4-20-10-70-14

TUTORS NEEDED 1-on-1 tutoring at-risk K-12th grade students. \$10/hr. 1-4 afternoons/wk. 15-20 min drive from campus. UF Fed Wk Study Permit req for emp. Volunteers welcome. Contact Sally at st23@cox.net 2-15-10-35-14

Gator Tail Dancers
Now Hiring
Call 352/672/1892 3-29-10-60-14

HIRING ALARM DISPATCHER
24/7 monitoring center w/part-time, day, evening & overnight shifts currently available email ddamiano@cpss.net or fax 352-491-3617 2-28-10-39-14

An awesome summer job in Maine! If you're looking to spend this summer outdoors, have fun while you work, and make lifelong friends, then look no further. Camp Mataponi, a children's summer camp, has positions available in Land Sports (lacrosse, soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, field hockey), Waterfront (sailing, canoeing, waterskiing, life guarding, WSI, boat drivers), Ropes Course, Tennis, H.B. Riding, Arts & Crafts, Theater, Dance, Gymnastics, Video, Photography, Nurses, Maintenance, Cooking and more. Top salaries plus room/board & travel provided. Call us today, 561-748-3684 or apply online at www.campmataponi.com. 2-11-10-26-14

MAGIC MAZE ● DISTILLED SPIRITS

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

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

| | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| Akvavit | Cognac | Liqueur | Vermouth |
| Aperitif | Gin | Mezcal | Vodka |
| Bourbon | Grappa | Rum | Whiskey |
| Brandy | Horilka | Sherry | |

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14 Help Wanted

Summer Jobs
 ● \$2100
 ● Co-ed camp
 ● Room and Board included

Get Paid to Play!
 The Florida Elks Youth Camp (FEYC) needs college students for summer camp counselors ages 18 and up. FEYC is an over-night camp located in Umatilla, FL. The camp runs June 13 - July 30. Please contact Krysta Ragland at 1-800-523-1673 Ext. 251 or 352 455-4267. 4-20-11-66-14

●●●ATTENTION SMOKERS!●●●
 ●●Do you want to quit smoking?●●
 Smokers needed to participate in a smoking cessation study. You may be compensated. Call UF Smoking Lab & Clinic (352) 870-6509 or email: ufsmolkelabclinic@gmail.com 3-16-20-14

HOUSEKEEPING - CLEANING JOB
 All around cleaning & laundry. FT available Mon-Fri, 10am - 5pm. \$7.25/hr, experience and good attitude preferred. Call 256-3323 for more info and interview. 2-16-25-14

STUDENTPAYOUTS.COM
 Paid survey takers needed. Gainesville. 100% FREE to join. Click on Surveys 4-20-11-65-14

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST:
 Full time. Responsible for scheduling, phone calls, verifying insurance and coordinating office activities. E-mail resume afn22025@bellsouth.net 2-17-20-14

Web Programmer (P/T)
 Programming websites and applications using Classic ASP and SQL Server. Small company in G'ville, great work environment. About 20 hrs/wk. www.oandp.com/careers 2-25-11-17-14

P/T Administrator for Non-Profit
 Local nursing home outreach program seeks P/T admin coordinator to handle inquiries, monitor volunteers, coordinate projects, etc. About 10 hrs/wk, www.acrosstheages.org/job 2-25-11-17-14

NANNY NEEDED 25-30hrs/wk; \$12/hr 3 kids: infant to 7yrs; M-F 2-8pm clean bkkg; exp + refs; long term commit; email resume, sched, pix, + hello to NOAH'S ARK NANNY: gnv@nanoneone.com 2-10-11-5-14

ATTENTION SMOKERS!!!
 Smokers are needed to participate in a study assessing the effects of various activities on smoking. Compensation provided. 336-406-3706 or uflsmokelab@gmail.com 2-15-7-14

Summer Camp Counselors Needed
 Trail's End & Chestnut Lake Camps - PA Guaranteed Experience of a Lifetime; Limited openings for Sports Specialists, Crafts Specialists, Lifeguards & Bunk Counselors; June 17th - August 14th
 Gain experience working with kids. SUBMIT AN ONLINE APPLICATION NOW! www.trailsendcampjobs.com 2-18-11-10-14

SANDY'S SAVVY CHIC RESALE BOUTIQUE
 NOW HIRING. Great working environment. PT/FT positions available. \$7.50/hr + incentives. 352-372-1226 - 2906 NW 13th St 2-18-11-10-14

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|------------|
| P ₃ | R ₁ | O ₁ | M ₃ | O ₁ | T ₁ | E ₁ | RACK 1 = | 61 |
| S ₁ | U ₁ | B ₃ | D ₂ | U ₁ | E ₁ | | RACK 2 = | 15 |
| H ₄ | A ₁ | M ₃ | B ₃ | O ₁ | N ₁ | E ₁ | RACK 3 = | 78 |
| S ₁ | U ₁ | P ₃ | P ₃ | O ₁ | S ₁ | E ₁ | RACK 4 = | 61 |
| PAR SCORE 150-160 | | | | | | | TOTAL | 215 |

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14 Help Wanted

Gator Dining Services, located on the University of Florida Campus, has an immediate opening for experienced cooks.

We offer flexible schedules, competitive pay, and a great working environment. Those interested in joining this dynamic team can apply online at www.gatordining.com or in person in room B-73 of the Reitz Union. 2-14-11-5-14

Family CARE GIVERS is Looking for RN's for Home Visits to give Meds. Immediate opening competitive pay please call today! (352) 307-8044 2-15-11-5-14

MOBILE WAITERS NEEDED - Immediate Interviews. PT, avg. \$40-\$60 per 3-5 hr shift, make your own schedule. Must have own vehicle, cell phone with texting, be 21+ y/o. To apply go to www.d-d-i.com or call 888-334-9675 ext. 1. 2-10-11-2-14

Delivery Drivers needed,
 Must know the area and the grid system, with open availability.
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15 Services

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

ACROSS

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Get used to it | 3 -ly word, usually: Abbr. | 37 Response to "You were kidding, right?" | 47 Designated 49 South American grilled meat dish |
| 6 PBS moderator | 4 Spanish fort | 38 Word of action | 50 Croesus' kingdom |
| 10 Go for | 5 Rich dessert | 39 And friends, facetiously | 52 Exhausts |
| 14 Martinez with three Cy Young Awards | 6 Food merchant | 42 Capt.'s heading | 54 "Happy Days" mom, to the Fonzo |
| 15 By ___: from memory | 7 "The Caine Mutiny" novelist | 43 Like DVDs in a restricted room | 55 Auel heroine |
| 16 Sale modifier | 8 Cigar tip? | 44 "We can talk now" | 58 Altar promise |
| 17 Delta location | 9 Early Indian leader | 10 Strong-arm | 59 Fresh |
| 19 Actor Sitka who appeared in numerous Three Stooges films | 10 Wired for sound | 11 Did a deli job | 60 Letters seen in many forms |
| 20 Source of showroom shock? | 13 "Total Eclipse of the Heart" singer | 18 Camera company that merged with Konica | |
| 22 Healthy routine | 21 With some sauce jobs, in metaphor | 23 Jewish social org. | |
| 25 "Catcher in the Rye" author | 24 Things to wear vibrator | 28 Wear away | |
| 26 Make ___ dash for | 29 Relay runner's assignment | 32 Wheel securer | |
| 27 Hersheiser with a Cy Young Award | 30 Wind instrument | 34 Spokane university | |
| 30 Wind instrument | 31 Send | 36 Play with a dog toy, maybe | |
| 33 Battle gp. | 35 Standing by for an on-air appearance | | |
| 40 Bauble | 41 Citi Field org. | | |
| 43 Central Chinese city | 46 Jazzman Stan | | |
| 48 Some are named for music genres | 49 Carrying limit | | |
| 51 Fit for consumption | 53 Risk calculation | | |
| 56 Beard-preventing brand | 57 Its components are hidden at the ends of 17-, 20-, 35- and 53-Across | | |
| 61 Forest denizens | 62 Capri, e.g. | | |
| 63 Quilt filler | 64 Used too much | | |
| 65 USNA part: Abbr. | 66 Puts in a hold | | |

DOWN

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Mortgage no. | 2 "De Civitate ___": "The City of God," St. Augustine work |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|

By Don Gagliardo
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UF avoids letdown, continues hot streak with dominant win

By GREG LUCA
Alligator Staff Writer
gluca@alligator.org

COLUMBIA, S.C. — After picking up two critical victories during their best week of the season, the Gators came out Wednesday and avoided a letdown in a big way.

No. 17 Florida (19-5, 8-2 Southeastern Conference) dominated South Carolina (13-9, 4-5 SEC) from start to finish, never trailing en route to a 79-60 victory in Columbia.

"We're just going to stay focused," senior forward Chandler Parsons said. "Ranked or not ranked, we need to come out here with the maturity just to play to the best of our ability."

Parsons avoided a personal letdown as well, recording his third straight double-double and sixth consecutive game with 10 or more rebounds.

In his first contest since being named National Player of the Week, Parsons nearly logged a triple-double, finishing with 14 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists.

The senior was effective at facilitating the offense and crashed the glass on nearly every rebounding opportunity.

"What he's doing is incredible," coach Billy Donovan said. "He's turned out to be a very, very complete player."

Although the Gamecocks dominated the interior in their first meeting this season, the Gators attacked the basket aggressively in the rematch.

UF recorded 36 points in the paint and 18 second-chance points while only having two shots blocked against a team that stuffed eight of their attempts when they played on Jan. 15 in Gainesville.

Center Vernon Macklin was particularly effective on the interior, logging 16 points on 7-of-9 shooting.

"We just went to the hole strong," Macklin said. "We didn't change anything. We just wanted to go to the rim and keep being aggressive."

Another player who never shied away from

the interior was junior guard Erving Walker, who complemented his three floaters in the paint with 4-of-5 outside shooting on the way to a game-high 25 points.

"I felt like Erving was going to come in and play well, just because I feel like (South Carolina guard Bruce) Ellington played such a great game at our place and (Walker) is a competitive guy," Donovan said. "Not that I thought he was going to get 25 points, but I knew he was going to be ready to play."

The game was a sloppy affair for both sides, as the teams combined for 34 turnovers.

This often created a frenetic pace with a number of fast breaks in either direction.

Florida capitalized on this up-and-down style, scoring 15 fast-break points in the game.

"That always makes it easy if they're going to turn the ball over and give us easy points," Walker said. "We prefer to get out and run and get easy transition points than work in the half court."

As a team, the Gators shot 55.4 percent for the game, their best mark yet in SEC play.

Of the six players who scored for UF, five shot 50 percent or better.

The only blemish for UF was its 16 turnovers, the most since opening conference play.

"We were being a little careless with the ball in the first half," Parsons said. "We knew they were going to run and jump and trap us and play hectic defense, so we just need to take care of the ball against pressure like that."

With the win, Florida avenged its earlier 72-69 loss against South Carolina.

The Gators have now beaten every team in the SEC East and own a two-and-a-half-game lead in the division.

"They got us earlier this year in our place, so we definitely wanted to come in here and get one," senior Chandler Parsons said. "Any time you win on the road in the SEC, it's big time, and our guys really stepped up tonight."



Men's Basketball



AP Photo

Florida guard Erving Walker drives to the hoop during the first half of the Gators' 79-60 win on Wednesday. Walker led UF with 25 points on 7-of-9 shooting.

Gators placing greater focus on maintaining intensity

■ THE GATORS HAVE LOST SEVERAL CLOSE GAMES AFTER STARTING FLAT.

By MATT WATTS
Alligator Writer

The Gators believe in making an impact in the first four minutes of the game. But after a number of close losses, there's a new time emphasis surrounding the team.

Forty minutes.

The Florida women's basketball team (14-11, 4-7 South-

eastern Conference) came out flat and never held in a lead in a two-point loss to Ole Miss a week ago, and it trailed by 11 at halftime against Vanderbilt before surging back and forcing double overtime in the 103-97 loss.



Butler

problem is we just play with that fight in different mo-

ments of the game."

The Gators gave up multiple easy buckets against the Commodores when their defense was slow to get back in transition. It was the clear-cut difference-maker in another close game for Florida.

"When you look at a game that could have decided by one possession, you've got to visit those things," coach Amanda Butler said.

While last month's meeting with Tennessee (22-2, 10-0 SEC), an 83-40 shellacking, certainly was more than a one-

SEE W-HOOPS, PAGE 18

TEERING OFF WITH TYLER JETT

■ Ross Ohlendorf, who went 1-11 last season with the Pirates, won his arbitration case against the Pirates. Team executives were disappointed, not because it cost them more money but because Ohlendorf used up his lone good effort of the year. ... NY Rep. Christopher Lee resigned after shirtless photos surfaced online. Don't worry; he's still a candidate to replace Sammi Sweetheart next year, MTV confirmed.

UF SWIMMERS RECOGNIZED

■ Junior swimmers Brian Howell and Anna-Liisa Pold were named to the 2011 SEC Swimming and Diving Community Service Team, which was announced Wednesday.

CLAYE IN RUNNING FOR BOWERMAN

■ Jumper Will Claye was added Wednesday to the watch list for The Bowerman, collegiate track and field's most prestigious award. The junior joins teammates Jeff Demps and Christian Taylor on the list.

Florida looks to freshmen to replace Brooks, Walker

■ UF WILL DEBUT AN ENTIRELY NEW LEFT SIDE OF THE INFIELD.

By **STEPHEN SHEEHAN**
Alligator Writer

Francesca Enea may have been the Gators' top player last season, but the loss of fellow senior Corrie Brooks might be just as difficult to deal with this season.

Brooks started at third base the past three years, and her graduation leaves a big hole on the left side of the infield.

While she never wowed anyone with her hitting ability, she was a consistent, durable player and a strong defender at the hot corner.

"Corrie Brooks being a senior, starting there three years in a row, kind of somebody who flew underneath the radar, really did a great job," coach Tim Walton said.

Brooks improved her batting average every season until it dipped from .301 to .285 last year.

But her strong defense at third base — an important spot in softball — will be missed the most.

After tying Megan Bush with a team-high 15 errors in 2008, Brooks committed 10 errors during her final two seasons.

Walton plans to replace Brooks with freshman Kasey Fagan, who was named the 2010 Gatorade National Player of the Year after going 26-1 in the circle for Dunnellon High while hitting .574 with eight home runs and 61 RBIs.

While she certainly has great upside, it won't be easy to fill Brooks' spikes.

"Kasey may be a little bit more athletic than what Corrie was, but Corrie was just so solid and just game-steady and was always in the right position," Walton said.

Even though she hasn't proven herself at the college level yet, Walton is certain-



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

Florida coach Tim Walton plans to use freshman Kasey Fagan to replace Corrie Brooks at third base, while Cheyenne Coyle will likely be the team's new shortstop.

ly excited about the addition of Fagan to an already-talented team.

"We got a solid, solid human being, Gatorade National Player of the Year, valedictorian of her high school, just a well-rounded kid," he said. "You get what coaches dream of. You get a kid from an athletic family that gets it both on and off the field."

NEW SHORTSTOP IN THE FOLD: Fagan won't be the only freshman starting on the left side of the infield.

California native Cheyenne Coyle should take over at shortstop for Brittany Walker, who transferred to Texas A&M after starting 48 games last season.

Walton said despite Coyle not playing a game for Florida yet, she is already one of the best shortstops he has coached in his six seasons at Florida.

He also said she is already head and

shoulders above where Walker was at this time last season.

"She can adjust on the fly if she feels like she's in an uncomfortable situation on defense where she can't cover this and she has to give up this," he said. "She throws the ball as well as I've ever seen a shortstop throw the ball."

NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR WATCH LIST: Senior Stephanie Brombacher and sophomore Brittany Schutte were named to the 2011 USA Softball Player of the Year Watch List, announced Wednesday by the Amateur Softball Association of America.

The 50-player list consists of 23 seniors, 12 juniors and 15 sophomores from 36 different schools.

The group will be cut to 25 players on April 13, down to 10 on May 11 and three finalists will be named on May 25.

THE NEW LEFT

The Gators lost the entire left side of last season's infield, as third baseman Corrie Brooks graduated and shortstop Brittany Walker transferred to Texas A&M. Florida will rely on two new faces, both freshmen, to fill the void.

SS Cheyenne Coyle, Freshman



As a high school senior...

- .528 batting average
- 13 home runs
- 40 RBI
- .988 fielding percentage
- 20-3 record, 0.93 ERA

3B Kasey Fagan, Freshman



As a high school senior...

- .574 batting average
- Eight home runs
- 61 RBI
- .989 slugging percentage
- 26-1 record, three no-hitters



Saj Guevara / Alligator

Florida guard Deana Allen, the team's leading scorer in conference play, will likely be a major factor in UF's matchup tonight at Tennessee as the Gators look to match the Volunteers' size.

Gators wary of talented Vols, still feel they can play with anyone

W-HOOPS, from page 17

possession difference, Florida made similar mistakes. And the Gators realize they can't afford to have that same mentality this time.

Allen said they can't concern themselves with the name on the front of their opponents' jerseys, adding that the way UF played in the second half and overtime against Vanderbilt gives them confidence going forward.

"We've just got to believe that we can do it," Allen said. "The last time we met up with [Tennessee] we gave them too much respect."

Allen and fellow guard Brittany Shine figure to play a prominent role against the Vols. Shine has come on as of late, and she led the Gators in scoring in the meeting in Gainesville. Allen is the team's leading scorer in SEC play and has shown a knack for draining clutch shots.

But their biggest advantage may be their size. Shine and Allen are the tallest of team's guards at 5-foot-9 and 5-foot-10, respectively. After Tennes-

see outrebounded Florida by 20 in the prior matchup, its size and ability to play close to the basket will be critical in Knoxville.

"We want to get this 'W' bad, but we've just got to play our game," Shine said.

"We've just got to believe that we can do it. The last time we met up with them, we gave them too much respect."

Deana Allen
Florida guard

Butler agreed.

"Can you play poorly and beat Tennessee?" she asked, answering her own question. "No."

But that didn't stop her from saying she believes the Gators can pull off an upset against the No. 5 team in the country.

"You have to play well, there's no question about that," Butler said. "But we feel like we can play with anyone in the country."

Pro basketball referees: 'as pure as the driven slush'?

Three years ago, NBA referee Tim Donaghy was busted for betting.

Although fished from a coal mine of corruption, this "canary" never sang.

Donaghy said, "I'm alone in this."

He got 11 months because he "cooperated."

Huh?

If I wrote 20 years ago what I'm writing now, someone would have put "two behind my ear."

If this tale is true, I couldn't have written it back then. If the story's a fable, then it's a damn fine fairy tale.

A caricature, straight from central casting of "Jersey Shore," reported to my firehouse.

Frankie had the whole package: gold chains, thin black mustache and a Brooklyn accent too thick for "Goodfellas."

NY firefighters tend to generalize, to categorize, to paint with a broad brush — nothing's sacred.

I figured Frankie for a "Polly-O Mozzarella." Polly-O's a brand name cheese. Not the genuine mozzarella cheese sold in good Italian delicatessens. It's phony, a poor imitation wrapped in plastic and marketed for mass consumption.

Street guys use this idiom to describe bullshit gangsters: "wannabes." (Guys who act like they're connected.)

After working with Frankie for a month, I discovered he was a good firefighter and a decent guy. A little much with the "wise guy" shit — but an alright guy.

Because I had owned two saloons, he asked me to help him set up a bar he had bought by Belmont race track. I said sure.

Two months later,

"Hey Billy, I'm stuck for a bartender Friday and Saturday night. You think you can do me a solid and fill in?"

I said, "Frankie, I'd help you out, but it's not my kind of joint. I work Irish Pubs. Your place is a wise-guy joint."

"Hey man, I'm really stuck. You gotta bail me out."

I have a full bar, but nothing I can't handle. Because I set up the joint, I know my way around. Most of my customers are dressed in suits and accompanied by fine-looking women. I'm wearing a white shirt and tie — class joint. No problems.

A well-dressed, heavysset guy walks in and plants himself in the middle of the bar.

I toss a bev-nap casually in front of him,

"What'ya having pal?"



Bill O'Connor
Confessions of a
New York Bookie
sports@alligator.org

He decorates the mahogany with a C-note.

"Give me a Johnnie Walker Black on the rocks with a water side, and give everyone at the bar a drink. Put whatever's left in your tip cup."

Wow, I think, this guy's a sport.

Extending my hand, I say, "I'll tell the customers the drinks are on who? My name's Bill."

He grabs my mitt and says, "I'm Tommy."

I build his cocktail and do the honors up and down the bar.

I work my way down, continually pointing to the hulk sitting at the middle of the bar, "That's on Tommy, that's on Tommy."

I snatch the hundred and tell him the tariff's \$77.

He says, "Throw the rest in your cup."

"Thanks a lot, Tommy."

I've got \$500 on the Lakers game, so as I work the stick, I keep glancing up at the TV screen.

Tommy says, "Ya got a bet on the game?"

"Yeah, a nickel on the Lakers."

"What's the spread?"

"Four and a half."

"Watch the last two minutes of the game. I guarantee you Magic has the ball in his hands the whole time."

I say, "Yeah, well that's why Johnson gets the big bread. He's the best player on the team."

"Magic gets big bread because he does what Jerry Buss wants him to do with the ball in the last two minutes," Tommy says, "and he makes it look good."

Buss owns the Lakers and the L.A. Forum. I've seen him at the World Series of Poker, so I know he gambles.

Tommy continues, "Buss bets huge on, or against, the Lakers, and Magic brings it home for him."

I nod my head politely. But, I figure, what does this guy know?

When the game's over, it's pushing 2 a.m. The bar's thinning out, and Tommy's had six healthy pops of scotch.

"Let me tell you a story," he says. "Three years ago, Vegas was losing a ton of money on totals in the NBA. They were getting killed on overs and unders. The casinos demanded that David Stern, the NBA commissioner, investigate."

"Stern said, 'Nothing's going on.'"

"The CEOs said, 'Fine. We're pulling the NBA off the board because something's going on.'"

He leans closer to me, "Stern decides to investigate. Because if Vegas pulls the NBA games, who's gonna watch?"

They find out someone's gotten to the timekeepers. In six major cities, the timekeepers are quick or slow with the clock depending on whether they want to add or subtract minutes from the game. Think about it. There are so many fouls that even a two-second clock difference could add four or five minutes to an NBA game."

"How come I never heard anything about that?"

"Why would you?" he says. "The league doesn't want that coming out."

"What do you do for a living, Tommy?"

"I tend bar."

"You're a bartender. Just like me. So, why do you know so much?"

"I just know."

The next few minutes, I wash glasses and wipe down the remnants of the night.

I say, "So listen, thanks for the splash tonight. I appreciate your patronage. Where do you work? I'll come and make a stop."

"Don't worry about it," he says.

"No, man. You came to see me. Let me reciprocate. I want to do the right thing. Where do you work? I'll come see you."

He says, "Well, you really can't. I work in a private club."

"A private club?"

"Yeah, I tend bar in the 'Ravenite Social Club.'"

I start laughing, "Jesus Christ. You work for John Gotti. How the hell do you get that job? You must have to be deaf, dumb and blind."

He laughs. "Just about."

Suddenly, his story has more credibility. That's exactly how those guys operate.

They don't buy off guys at the top. They wave big money in front of guys that can't resist temptation — low-level earners that can be bought.

Two months later, I'm drinking a cup of coffee in the firehouse and I grab a copy of the New York Daily News. Plastered across the front page is a picture of my buddy Frankie opening the Cadillac door for John Gotti. He had driven "The Teflon Don" to his trial in Manhattan.

Holy shit. Frankie's not a "Polly-O." Frankie's the real deal.

Bill O'Connor is a Vietnam veteran, former Bronx firefighter and pub and restaurant owner. He is currently a journalism major at UF and a standup comic. The highly irreverent and acerbic O'Connor performs free standup comedy in various locations in Gainesville.

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UF GYMNASTICS

Gators adding all-around athletes as season progresses

By **ALLISON BANKO**
Alligator Writer

Stick it. Flash a smile. Wave to the crowd. Sprint over and embrace your teammates. Repeat three more times.

This is the routine of Florida's crew of all-around gymnasts every time they take the floor to compete.

The Gators' roster currently has five all-around competitors: freshmen Mackenzie Caquatto, Alaina Johnson and Brittney Noble and sophomores Ashanée Dickerson and Marissa King.

Although Dickerson began this season as the only all-arounder, she was quickly joined early this season by new regulars Caquatto and Johnson.

Both freshmen have already proved themselves to be stars on the rise.

Johnson has won the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week three times.

Recently, she was joined by Caquatto after her history-making all-around debut against Alabama.

"I don't have one event that I'm extremely good at like some of the girls on the team," Caquatto said. "I'm just consistent all-around for all four events.

"They aren't all huge scores, but they're good enough scores to be good in the all around."

Caquatto's 39.575 in her first performance was the highest total in an all-around debut in

school history.

Dickerson, the squad's veteran all-arounder, has competed in ev-

ery event since her first meet with the Gators last year, and she has grown to love the competition because it allows flexibility.

"If you make a mistake on something, you can pick yourself back up on the next event and help the team out in a different way," she said. "Whereas if you do just one event and you mess up, you can't go back and redo it again."

Injured all-arounders King and Noble are healing quickly, and they expect to be back on the all-around roster soon.

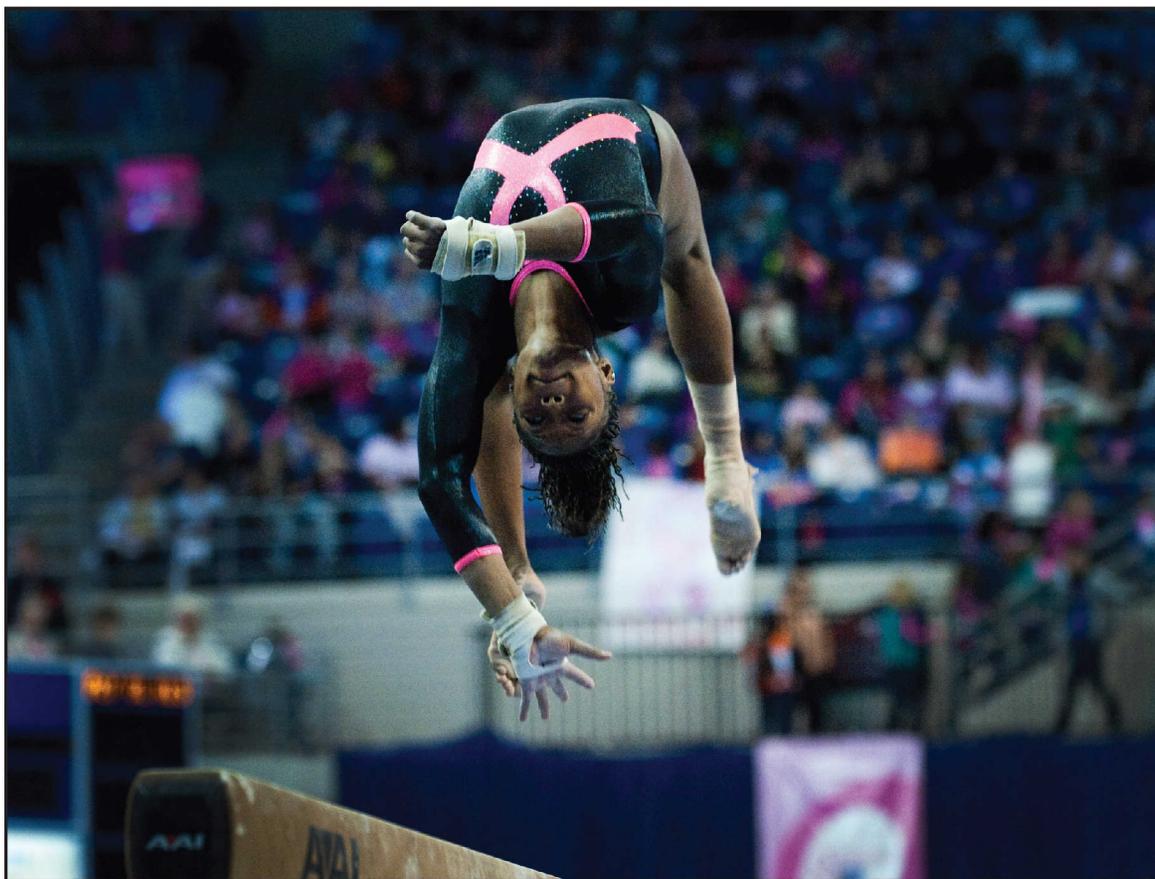
While Noble said she is going to ease back into floor and vault in the coming weeks, King has slowly been creeping back into all four events.

She has competed in all but bars so far this season.

UF coach Rhonda Faehn said the all-around is the sport's most exhausting position — something that poses a remarkable challenge for her athletes.

"They're having to compete in so many events every single weekend, and it's a lot," she said. "It's taxing on the all-arounders mentally and physically.

"Sometimes, they're human, and they're going to make mistakes, but I think that's what competition's all about."



Matt Tripp / Alligator Staff

Florida sophomore all-arounder Ashanée Dickerson began the season as the Gators' only four-event competitor, but she has been joined by four other UF gymnasts in the all-around competition this year.

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