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Scott to UF: It's time to tighten your belt

UF sees \$12 million slashed

By **JOEY FLECHAS**
 Alligator Staff Writer

"However, we recognize the state of Florida is in a very difficult economic situation."

Bernie Machen
 UF President

A broken air conditioning system, a hole in the roof and a busted water chiller.

The cost of these would-be repairs, after Gov. Rick Scott vetoed roughly \$12 million in funding for UF Thursday, would not come out of state funds.

Instead, the university will have to somehow foot the bill.

"We might have to make some very tough decisions," said UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes.

Scott vetoed a record \$615 million dollars from the state budget before signing it, including about \$5.3 million for routine maintenance and repairs at UF and \$500,000 for a statewide brain tumor research program based at the McKnight Brain Institute.

The veto includes \$6 million for a research and academic facility at Lake Nona in Orlando — a project that has already broken ground.

UF President Bernie Machen issued a statement Thursday stressing the importance of these projects and disappointment that they won't be funded.

He also acknowledged the difficulty of budgeting in tough times.

"However, we recognize the State of Florida is in a very difficult economic situation, and the Legislature and the Governor faced hard choices," he said. "Hopefully, these projects will be funded when the revenues return."

Gov. Scott's Vetoes:

\$5.3 million for maintenance and repairs of existing facilities

\$6 million for Lake Nona Research and Academic Facility

\$369,000 for WUFT-TV and WUFT-FM, UF's public television and radio stations

\$500,000 for Statewide Brain Tumor Registry Program at the McKnight Brain Institute

\$34,000 for Southwest Alachua County Primary and Community Health Care Clinic, a project run by the UF College of Nursing

Locals remember those who died serving the U.S.

■ VETERANS FOR PEACE ERECT MEMORIAL.

By **MICHAEL SYKES**
 Alligator Contributing Writer

The Gainesville chapter of Veterans for Peace erected more than 6,000 tombstones along a mile of Northwest Eighth Avenue between Northwest 34th Street and Northwest 23rd Street this Memorial Day weekend.

The tombstones, which stood in rows of four, with 6 inches between columns and 4 feet between rows, were part of a memorial to United States soldiers who have died in the wars in Afghanistan since 2001 and Iraq since 2003.

This is the fifth year the memorial has been displayed, and as the number of casualties continues to climb, it will not be the last, said Scott Camil, president of Veterans for Peace Chapter 14.

There's nearly 200 feet of space between the last stones placed and a sign that reads "Afghanistan 2012" in expectation of next years' victims.

It took about 30 minutes for some to walk the tribute, stopping every so often to look at unfamiliar names and handwritten messages along the way. But for Anita High, it took longer.

"Your mom misses you like crazy," High wrote on the stone of her nephew Randolph A. Sigley, 28, who was killed April 18, 2010 in Afghanistan.

SEE MEMORIAL, PAGE 12



Jonny Shiver / Alligator

Walking tall

Leah Gaddis, 10, left, and Kelsie Mizzell, 8, middle, play around as Summer Gaddis, 11, slaps five with a festival volunteer on stilts during the Palatka Blue Crab Festival on Sunday. See more, page 12.

■ Florida short-shop Nolan Fontana and the Gators baseball team captured their first SEC Tournament title since 1991 after beating Vanderbilt 5-0 on Sunday in Hoover, Ala. See Story, Page 13.



Snakes on a train terrify passengers in Vietnam; owners apparently escaped

HANOI, Vietnam — Railway officials have discovered snakes on a train in Vietnam — highly venomous king cobras in bags under a seat.

Railroad official Pham Quynh says passengers were terrified when four cloth bags containing the writhing cobras were spotted Friday. The snakes were alive but had their mouths stitched shut.

Quynh says the exact number of snakes was unclear but the bags weighed 100

pounds (45 kilograms).

Security staff removed the cobras, which were likely destined for restaurants in Hanoi. Their owner apparently escaped in the chaos.

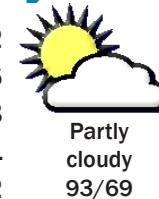
Snake meat is considered a delicacy in Vietnam, but cobras are protected by law.

Quynh says the cobras were given to forest rangers who released them into the wild Saturday after no one claimed them.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NATIONAL

No good humor in frosty Pa. frozen treat feud

UNIONTOWN, Pa. — Police are hoping the threat of losing their permits will be enough to thaw the frosty relationship of two Pennsylvania ice cream truck drivers accused of trying to run each other off the road.

The Herald-Standard of Uniontown reports police told the rival vendors to chill out after a dispute Wednesday night.

Authorities say the wife of one vendor told police the other man tried to run her husband off the road.

The implicated ice cream driver disputes the woman's account, saying it was her husband who tried to force him off the road.

He also claimed the man had returned his good humored hello by shouting an expletive.

Patrolman Thomas Kolencik says he warned both drivers the city could explore revoking their permits if they can't get along.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wash. board nixes colon cancer 'butt' billboards

KENNEWICK, Wash. — A health board in Washington state has reversed itself and voted against endorsing a colon cancer awareness campaign that uses billboards saying, "What's up your butt?"

The Tri-City Herald reports that Wednesday's vote by the Benton Franklin Health District in Kennewick, Wash., was in response to complaints the ads are in poor taste.

The butt billboards were earlier displayed in Yakima to raise colorectal cancer awareness and encourage people to get screened for the disease.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pa. man knocks out wall, pulls plane from basement

CAMP HILL, Pa. — Lots of houses have a two-car garage. Dan Reeves' had a one-airplane basement.

Until, that is, the central Pennsylvania man knocked out a wall to get it out.

Reeves spent the past nine years building a two-seat airplane in the basement of his Cumberland County home.

The plane arrived in pieces via mail but eventually it became way too big to get up the steps.

So Reeves dug a trench down to the foundation and took out a wall. Reeves pulled the plane out Wednesday using a truck, a chain and some neighbors.

Onlookers were drawn to the spectacle by the "Airplane Removal Wednesday" sign put up on Reeves' porch.

Reeves tells The Patriot-News of Harrisburg he spent \$40,000 on the plane and about \$5,000 on the excavation.

—THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 PARTLY CLOUDY 93/69	 PARTLY CLOUDY 92/70	 SUNNY 92/70	 PARTLY CLOUDY 94/70	 PARTLY CLOUDY 96/71

STATE

400-plus stung by jellyfish on central Fla. beach

COCOA BEACH — More than 400 people have suffered jellyfish stings over the holiday weekend on a central Florida beach.

Brevard County Ocean Rescue Assistant Chief Eisen Witcher says legions of jellyfish called mauve stingers washed ashore from the Atlantic, primarily around Cocoa Beach.

Witcher says more than 200 people suffered stings to their legs, arms and torsos on Saturday. More than 200 more people suffered similar stings Sunday. No major health problems were reported.

The reddish-colored jellyfish have purple barbs that sting. Lifeguards offered victims sprays of vinegar to neutralize the stinging cells. Witcher recommended that swimmers apply Benadryl to itching or painful welts.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Teen accused of stabbing man at N. Fla. mud bogs

INGLIS — North Florida authorities say a 15-year-old boy fatally stabbed a man fighting with his father over engine revving at a mud bog.

According to the Levy County Sheriff's Office, 24-year-old Roderic Sparks was stabbed Saturday at the Horse Hole Creek mud pits in Inglis.

Deputies say the teen's father had been arguing with Sparks about revving his engine when the two men began physically fighting. The teen allegedly joined in and stabbed Sparks in the upper torso.

Sparks died at a hospital. Deputies say bystanders blocked the teen's vehicle to prevent him from leaving before authorities arrived.

The teen faces a manslaughter charge. Deputies say they retrieved the knife from the mud.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police: Drive-by shooting leads to chase, crash

CLEARWATER — Authorities in the Tampa Bay area say a vehicle involved in a drive-by shooting led police on a chase before crashing into a building.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office says deputies saw shots fired from the vehicle Sunday night at a 21-year-old man in Largo. He was hospitalized with a gunshot wound in the upper right thigh.

The deputies chased the vehicle when it fled the scene. At one point, deputies deployed stop sticks which deflated the vehicle's front right tire. The vehicle careened into a Clearwater

business, damaging a plywood display.

Deputies said one passenger fled the scene. Three others in the car were arrested.

Authorities are looking for the fourth suspect.

Deputies said they also recovered two guns that had been thrown from the vehicle.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miami slam poet killed outside his cafe

MIAMI — Authorities are investigating the death of a poetry slam champion who was gunned down outside his North Miami café.

The North Miami Police Department says Willie Lee Bell Jr. had just closed The Literary Café and Poetry Lounge early Sunday when he was shot repeatedly.

Police say the men did not take any of Bell's possessions, which included cash and jewelry. Police do not currently have a motive.

The 47-year-old Bell, whose stage name was Will Da Real One, has been featured on Def Poetry Jam.

Police are asking anyone with information about the shooting to call Crime Stoppers at 305-371-8477.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orlando installs meters for donations to homeless

ORLANDO — The city of Orlando has installed 15 meters intended for donations to the homeless.

The red, orange and blue digital stations look like parking meters, but they're not. Coins dropped into them go to the Central Florida Commission for Homelessness. The nonprofit group aims to end homelessness by helping people become self-sufficient.

The stations were donated by a parking-meter manufacturer. They can be found in high-traffic downtown spots like Amway Center and Lake Eola Park, areas frequented by panhandlers.

Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer says the donation stations give people an alternative way to contribute.

But Cathy Jackson, an advocate for the homeless, says the meters wrongly equate homelessness with panhandling. She says the meters should be part of a bigger plan to help the homeless.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Meyers pursues printing pledge

■ CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN BY THE END OF SUMMER

By **GABRIELA ROSIAS**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Student Body President Ben Meyers' mission to expand free printing on campus is underway.

The inaugural meeting of his Free Printing Task Force took place Friday in the Reitz Union. Meyers said free printing has been a part of Student Government platforms many times before, and the initiative is something students have needed for a long time.

"For the first time, we not only have the motivation to complete it and see it done, but the ability to do so," he said. "For the first time, we [will] have the funding to pursue a project like this."

He stressed the importance of making sure every student's needs were represented.

He said his initial approach will be to research the areas on campus where access to computers and printing will be most critical. Then he will create a plan that addresses these needs and put the plan into action.

The committee is led by co-chairmen Jacob King

and Laser Kaplan. Other members include seven student senators and the entire Student Government Executive Committee.

King and Kaplan assigned task force members to gather information from each college about its printing and computing needs by talking to IT managers and students. Once the requirements are assessed, the committee will also choose the best course of action to reach those needs.

During a speech at the meeting, Meyers discussed sweeping changes to UF's computer services. He explored options such as dropping CIRCA, who currently manage the computer labs and give student support, and equipping new facilities with Apple computers instead of the Dell machines that are commonly seen in the labs.

The project will be funded from the \$1.3 million attained from last year's Activity and Service Fees, which saw a 15 percent increase.

Although all student projects have to be presented to the Activity and Service Fee Committee before getting funding, Meyers said he was not concerned.

He said the turnover time for the project will be minimal and hopes to begin construction by the end of the summer.

Local News

UF ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Florida Ultimate falls in tourney

By **CLARE LENNON**
Alligator Writer

Florida Ultimate failed to defend its Ultimate Frisbee national championship, suffering two losses Friday and Saturday at the 2011 USA Ultimate nationals tournament in Boulder, Colo.

In pool play, the team lost to the University of Wisconsin 12-10 and Luther College 14-13 before knocking off the University of California, Santa Cruz 15-11.

A 15-12 loss to the University of Washington eliminated Florida Ultimate from the championship competition, sending them to the consolation rounds.

In their consolation matches, Florida Ultimate lost to the University of Virginia 15-7 and the University of Illinois 12-11, finishing the weekend with a 1-5 record.

Alton Gaines, a management

graduate student at UF and team captain, said the team used the two following consolation matches to give the younger players more experience and playing time.

In the championship final Monday, Carleton College knocked off the University of Wisconsin 11-5.

Last year, Florida Ultimate defeated Carleton's team 15-12 to win the championship.

Brodie Smith, the team captain at the time, was the runner-up for the Callahan Award, which is awarded to the most valuable player each year.

Gaines said that repeating a championship is difficult in any sport, including ultimate. He attributed the losses to a lack of energy and life in the play.

"We just came out flat," he said. "Against the level of competition we played, you can't do that and expect to win."

Gaines said members of the team, including fellow captains Cole Sullivan and Alex Hill, had been in Boulder a week before the tournament to get used to the altitude change and practice.

"Against the level of competition we played, you can't do that and expect to win."

Alton Gaines
Team captain

Sullivan said the team couldn't handle the altitude change. Florida Ultimate had won five of six tournaments going into the championship. Sullivan said the team was expecting another championship and felt disappointed about the outcome.

"Great year but horrible finish," he said.

Trustee Talk

Members of UF's Board of Trustees' Committee on Education Policy and Strategy held an informational conference call Friday to discuss academics and a tuition hike in anticipation of the Trustees' June 9 meeting. The university will ask the Board of Trustees to recommend a 7 percent tuition increase for approval by the Board of Governors. This will bring the total tuition increase up to 15 percent — the maximum allowable under state law — in an effort to decrease the current budget gap from \$54 million to \$30 million.

The Board will also be asked to approve a new bachelor's program in international studies, approve applications for tenure and promotions, select someone to have access to the university's classified material and approve UF's work plan. The work plan is a new effort requested by the Board of Governors in which each public state university submit a report that includes information such as university statistics, a list of budget requests for the next legislative session and a list of five goals for the next two to three years.

UF's five goals include:

- 1. Improving baccalaureate retention and the graduation rate**
 - ◆ UF's graduation rate improved from 58 percent to 64 percent from 2008 to 2009.
 - ◆ UF Provost Joe Glover said the goal now is to understand that phenomenon and try to maintain the upward trend.
- 2. Expanding distance education and electronic platform courses**
 - ◆ UF President Bernie Machen has cited the expansion of distance education as an important source of revenue for the university that may become crucial as state budget cuts continue to roll in.
 - ◆ Last year, UF made \$58 million from enrollment in distance education.
 - ◆ Glover discussed the possibility of creating 24 general education electives that will be available statewide on an electronic platform. This may be one of the requests made for the 2012 legislative session.
- 3. Improving access to education through the creation of the new spring/summer cohort of students**
 - ◆ This is a new group of students who will only be enrolled in on-campus classes during the spring and summer semesters.
 - ◆ The policy is expected to bring about 2,000 new students to UF and will begin in January 2013.
- 4. Completing the Florida Innovation Hub**
 - ◆ The hub is a facility that will support start-up companies based on UF research. It will be part of the 40-acre Innovation Square being constructed near SW Second Avenue.
- 5. Completing the research center at Lake Nona**
 - ◆ Lake Nona is an estimated \$61 million, 60,000-square foot research facility being constructed in Orlando.
 - ◆ Gov. Rick Scott vetoed a \$6 million fund designated for the project, leaving UF searching for additional funding in order to complete construction.
 - ◆ Machen has previously addressed the possibility of putting the project on hold in the face of recent budget cuts.

Emily Morrow and Rosa Taveras / Alligator Staff



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UF RESEARCH

Officials break ground on new \$45M research facility

By **EMILY MORROW**
Alligator Writer

UF broke ground Thursday on its new Clinical and Translational Research Building, a \$45 million, 120,000-square-foot complex expected to be completed by January 2013. The facility will work to streamline the transition of medical research from the lab to the doctor's office by centralizing research currently scattered around campus.

"Scientists working in the new building will accelerate discovery and translate it into practice," said Dr. Marco Pahor, director of the UF Institute on Aging, one of the programs that will be housed within the new building.

The building will also contain the Clinical and Translational Science Institute and the departments of biostatistics, biomedical informatics, epidemiology and health outcomes and policy.

The facility is expected to create about 175 new jobs.

A \$15 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, alongside \$30 million of UF funds, will pay for the facility. The university expects to recoup its money through donations and research.

The building's design incorporates environmentally friendly features such as the use of low-emission building materials as well as light sensor and water conservation technologies.

These design features will exceed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program's requirements to reach the highest rating for green building — Platinum Plus.

Dr. David Nelson, the director of the UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute, said the facility will contain a broad range of research, including investigations on aging, cancer, cardiovascular conditions, diabetes, muscular dystrophy and rare diseases.

"[It is] an effort that will reach well beyond the corner of Mowry Road and Gale Lemerand," he said.



Max Reed / Alligator Staff

UF President Bernie Machen, with officials involved in the construction of the Clinical and Translational Research Building, pose for the groundbreaking Thursday at the northeast corner of Mowry Road and Gale Lemerand Drive.

Back from Europe, Obama consoles tornado-ravaged Missouri

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOPLIN, Mo. — Exactly a week after Joplin was nearly leveled by the deadliest tornado to strike the U.S. in decades, President Barack Obama visited the Missouri city to offer hope to survivors and promises of help.

Obama came face to face Sunday with the legions of homeless, consoling the community as it remembered the more than 130 people killed in the storm. The memorial service erupted in cheers when Obama said, "I promise you your country will be there with you every single step of the way," a pledge he extended to all parts of the nation raked by violent storms this season.

Hundreds stood in Joplin's Cunningham Park for a moment of silence at 5:41 p.m. — to mark the first report of the tornado — surrounded by wrecked cars and twisted poles. Many in the crowd wore white T-shirts emblazoned, "Joplin's Heart Will Sing Again."

"We will rebuild Joplin," City Manager Mark Rohr told the crowd. "You have my word on it."

The Joplin tornado was the worst to hit the United States in decades. Hundreds were injured, and 39 people remained unaccounted for as of late Sunday. There are four more people whom family members have reported as deceased, but those deaths haven't been officially confirmed.

Air Force One flew over a massive swath of brown — a land of flattened houses and stripped trees — on its approach to Joplin. On the ground, the destruction was even more stark and complete. Obama confronted painful sights at every turn and said nothing in his life measured up to what he saw this day.

Yet he spoke, too, of redemptive moments, the stoicism of the community and tales of plain luck. He told a story of a man he talked to who had taken a chicken pot pie out of the oven, heard the storm was coming, hid in a closet and "came out without

a scratch." Obama celebrated the spirit of volunteers who have flocked to Joplin to help, the pickup truck owners who ferried people to the hospital and the citizens who lined up for hours to donate blood to people they don't know.

"You've demonstrated a simple truth," he told the service, "that amid heartbreak and tragedy, no one is a stranger. Everybody is a brother. Everybody is a sister. We can all love one another."

Obama got a notably warm reception in this conservative part of Missouri. His remarks were tailored for a religious service, with quotes from Scripture, references to the love that binds people to each other, and comments on the essential goodness of humanity. The stories of the storm lead us to "put aside our petty grievances," the president said. "There are heroes all around us, all the time. So, in the wake of this tragedy, let us live up to their example: to make each day count."

Before the service, Obama's motorcade pulled into a neighborhood where downed trees cleaved open houses, roofs were stripped or blown off, cars were cratered and splintered wood was everywhere. He saw nothing intact, but rather small domestic sights — a view into a room with a TV still in place, a recliner sitting amid rubble, a washer-dryer standing next to a decimated house. American flags were planted here and there in the mess.

To those working at the scene, the president said: "We appreciate everything you guys are doing. God bless you." One volunteer told him that people were coming in from other states to help in any way they could.

"This is not just your tragedy," Obama said. "This is a national tragedy, and that means there will be a national response." He said: "We are going to be here long after the cameras leave."

National News

City officials talk two-in-one election

■ OFFICIALS HAVE UNTIL OCT. 1 TO DECIDE.

By **LISA JARDIM**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Gainesville residents might have to wait a little longer to find out the day they are supposed to vote for their future leadership.

There has been talk of the city hosting its spring elections in conjunction with the Florida presidential primary, which is slated to take place Jan. 31. Doing this, proponents say, would save the city money and lead to a higher voter turnout for city elections, which have been dismal in recent years.

In a recent city commission meeting, Elizabeth Waratuke, an assistant city attorney, said having the city election with the presidential primaries could lead to a reduction as high as \$200,000.

According to the city's current ordinance, a date for the city election must be selected by July 1.

However, one of the provisions in the election bill signed by Gov. Rick Scott last week may hinder the selection of that date.

Normally, the date selection for the presidential preference primaries in Florida is decided by the legislative during the

legislative session, but the bill stated that the date will now be decided by a selected committee.

The committee has until Oct. 1 to make a decision.

Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Pam Carpenter said in a recent interview that the city could wait until the state decided on a date to make its decision.

"We are having an election whenever the state says we are having one."

Pam Carpenter
Supervisor of Elections

"We are having an election whenever the state says we are having one," she said. "If the city chooses to piggyback, they will need to have their information in to us in a time frame that will allow us to go to print with our ballot."

A shorter time period, Carpenter said, will tighten the time line to reserve polling locations and train poll workers, which could potentially increase the overall election budget.

Despite Tallahassee formalities, the City Commission has unanimously passed an ordinance that puts the election date on Jan. 31.

Midtown gets crafty as summer business slows



Max Reed / Alligator Staff

Stephen Alford, with Alford's Affordable Services, poses after touching up Tijuana Flats' storefront. Tijuana Flats, as well as other midtown restaurants and bars, are seeing fewer customers in the summer months.

■ BUSINESSES TURN TO USING PROMOTIONS.

By **KELLI FOLSE**

Alligator Contributing Writer

The summer heat has arrived. Students have fled the city, and the midtown business drought is on.

During the fall and spring semesters, Tijuana Flats, located on University Avenue, normally makes \$20,000 a month, said manager Nick Roland. When summer rolls around, the number plummets to \$1,000.

Since the restaurant is not open late, it doesn't draw business from the bar scene, Roland said. So, during these months, the business leans on its promotional tools: Taco Tuesdays, buy-one-get-one-free specials, an online newsletter and discounts for faculty and public servants.

The Italian Gator, a small pizza stand just down the road, has been utilizing a new strategy to stop the summer bleeding — lots of free stuff.

The restaurant has started using tools like Groupon to try to lure customers to its service window, said general manager Damon Bailey.

By doing so, he said, the restaurant is avoiding the same fate as its neighbors.

They have also introduced a VIP Lunch Club Card, valid Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., which offers a free soda or bottled water with the purchase of two slices of pizza.

"It's taken a bit of time for the steam to build up," said Bailey, "but it's been pretty good — a really big relief."

Even a larger entity like Miller Lite is trying to find ways to boost sales during the slow season.

One way Miller Lite has tried to generate business is by creating a Taste Points system. Points are given out in bars or printed on cases of Miller Lite. Customers can redeem prizes online with a certain number of points.

The company has also tried to promote sales by transforming its promotional models into "Liteguards" by having them wear company-branded bathing suits and whistles out to the bars.

One such model, Nicole Vonderhaar, said the Liteguards have been a hit with bar-goers.

"People will get all excited and say things like 'Are you guys real life guards? Because I think I need saving,'" she said.

NATIONAL

Tech mogul pays bright minds not to go to college

SAN FRANCISCO — Instead of paying attention in high school, Nick Cammarata preferred to read books on whatever interested him. He also has a gift for coding that got him into Carnegie Mellon University's esteemed computer science program despite his grades.

But the 18-year-old programmer won't be going to college this fall. Or maybe ever.

Cammarata is one of two dozen winners of a scholarship just awarded by San Francisco tech tycoon Peter Thiel that comes with a unique catch: The recipients are being paid not to go to college.

Instead, these teenagers and 20-year-olds are getting \$100,000 each to chase their entrepreneurial dreams for the next two years.

"It seems like the perfect point in our lives to pursue this kind of project," says Cammarata of Newburyport, Mass., who along with 17-year-old David Merfield will be working on software to upend the standard approach to teaching in high school classrooms.

Merfield, the valedictorian of his Princeton, N.J., high school class, is turning down a chance to go to Princeton University to take the fellowship.

Thiel himself hand-picked the winners based on the potential of their proposed projects to change the world.

One winner wants to create a mobile banking system for the developing world. Another is working to create cheaper biofuels. One wants to build robots that can help out around the house.

The prizes come at a time when debate in the U.S. over the value of higher education has become heated. New graduates mired in student

loan debt are encountering one of the toughest job markets in decades. Rising tuition and diminishing prospects have led many to ask whether college is actually worth the time and money.

"Turning people into debt slaves when they're college students is really not how we end up building a better society," Thiel says.

Thiel made his fortune as a co-founder of online payment service PayPal shortly after graduating from Stanford Law School. He then became the first major investor in Facebook. In conversation and as a philanthropist, Thiel pushes his strong belief that innovation has stagnated in the U.S. and that radical solutions are needed to push civilization forward.

The "20 Under 20" fellowship is one such effort. Thiel believes that the best young minds can contribute more to society by skipping college and bringing their ideas straight to the real world.

And he has the shining example of Facebook to back up his claim. Thiel's faith in the world-changing potential of Harvard dropout Mark Zuckerberg's idea led him to invest \$500,000 in the company, a stake that is now worth billions.

Still, the Zuckerbergs of the tech industry are famous because they are the exceptions. Silicon Valley is littered with decades worth of failed tech start-ups.

Vivek Wadhwa, director of research at Duke University's Center for Entrepreneurship and a writer for TechCrunch and Bloomberg Businessweek, has assailed Thiel's program for sending what he sees as the message that anyone can be Mark Zuckerberg.

"Silicon Valley lives in its own

bubble. It sees the world through its own prism. It's got a distorted view," Wadhwa says.

Thiel says the "20 Under 20" program shouldn't be judged on the basis of his own educational background or even the merits of his critique of higher education. He urges his critics to wait to see what the fellows achieve over the next two years.

According to data compiled by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, workers with college degrees were laid off during the Great Recession

at a much lower rate than workers without degrees. College graduates were also more likely to be rehired.

But for fellowship recipients like John Burnham, 18, such concerns pale next to the idealism of youth. At his prep school in western Massachusetts, Burnham started an alternative newspaper to compete with the school's official publication.

Now his ambitions have grown.

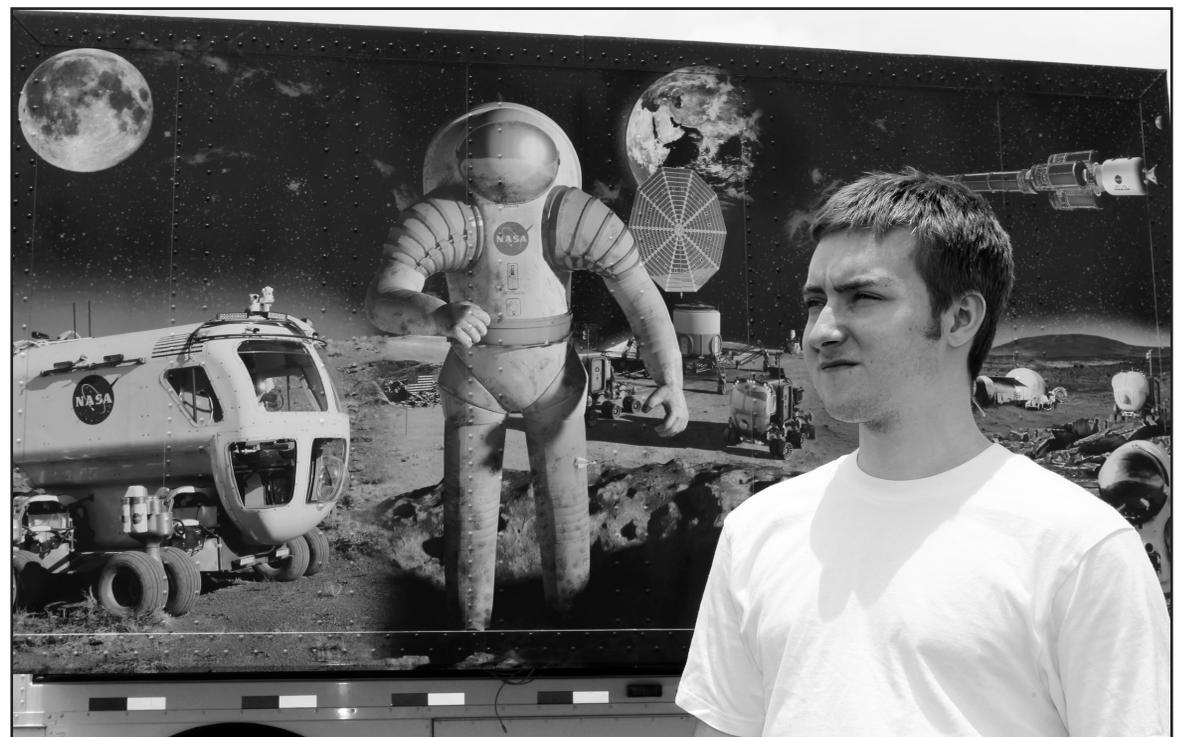
Burnham believes that the world's growing population will put an unsustainable strain on the planet's natural resources. That's why he's looking to other worlds to

meet humanity's needs.

Specifically, he believes that mining operations on asteroids could hold the key. For the next two years, he'll be studying rocket propulsion technology and puzzling through the economics of interplanetary resource extraction.

"This fellowship is so much of a better fit for my personality than I think college would be," Burnham says. "When you get an opportunity of the magnitude of this fellowship, I couldn't see myself being able to wait."

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



AP Photo

In this May 27, 2011 photo, John Burnham, one of two dozen recipients of a unique scholarship, walks past a space mural on display at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex in Cape Canaveral.

Editorial

He Did It Again!

But then again, it's Rick Scott (he tends to do this)

This isn't even fun anymore.

Typically, we'd thumb our noses to authority over any kind of miscarriage of budgeting, but this one's just too easy. It sucks the joy right out of it.

Now, Gov. Rick Scott is just pissing us off.

Scott, a member of the so-called "party of no," solidified himself as the "governor of no" when he vetoed a record \$615 million from the budget.

This translates into a loss of about \$12 million of funding for UF, a figure that leaves some university projects in limbo.

Money for a statewide research effort on brain tumors?

"Sorry, thanks for playing."

Some cash to help out a local community health clinic run by UF's College of Nursing?

"No soup for you!"

A little dough to fix stuff when it breaks?

"Nah trick nah!"

The shocker was that \$5.3 million for maintenance and repairs. That forces UF officials to make tough decisions should a situation arise where serious repairs to infrastructure are needed.

We better hope this unbearable heat doesn't knock one of our air conditioning systems out, or this place may start to feel like a real swamp.

We know the tired logic behind his hatred of spending: You can't just throw money at the problem.

Well, Mr. Scott, you can't horde your way into prosperity, either.

We understand cuts have to be made and not everything is going to survive those cuts. Perhaps the research and academic facility at Lake Nona can stand to be put on hold for now.

But vetoing funding for programs that actually have some scientific standing is no way to go about digging a technology-and-innovation-starved state out of the hole it's in.

Focusing on the results, a method Slick Rick is quick to support, involves taking time and yes, spending a little coin.

So he refused to fund what he considers "wasteful spending." But not only does he insult the importance of local projects, but he turns the signing of the budget into a members-only party.

When he signed the budget at The Villages Thursday, a group of Democrats was unceremoniously ejected from the proceeding.

Sorry, liberals. No to you, too!

Sumter County sheriff's deputies said the event was "private" as they kicked the group out.

Problem is, it wasn't.

Scott's people maintain that it was a public event. The Villages Daily Sun, the local newspaper, advertised it as such.

The deputies had received their instructions from a special assistant to Scott, Russ Abrams, who refused to talk to the press on the issue.

Guess there is a new sheriff in town.

A Scott aide made a stupid mistake that makes his boss look like partisan schoolboy sitting in his tree house with a big sign nailed on the side: NO DEMS ALLOWED!

Well, Scott doesn't really need much help with projecting that image. He's already etched himself into Florida's history as a incredibly unpopular man with stubborn and highly unreasonable beliefs about how to cope with budget issues.

For a man who daily rapes the state of Florida, "no" is just another word in the way of the red pen.

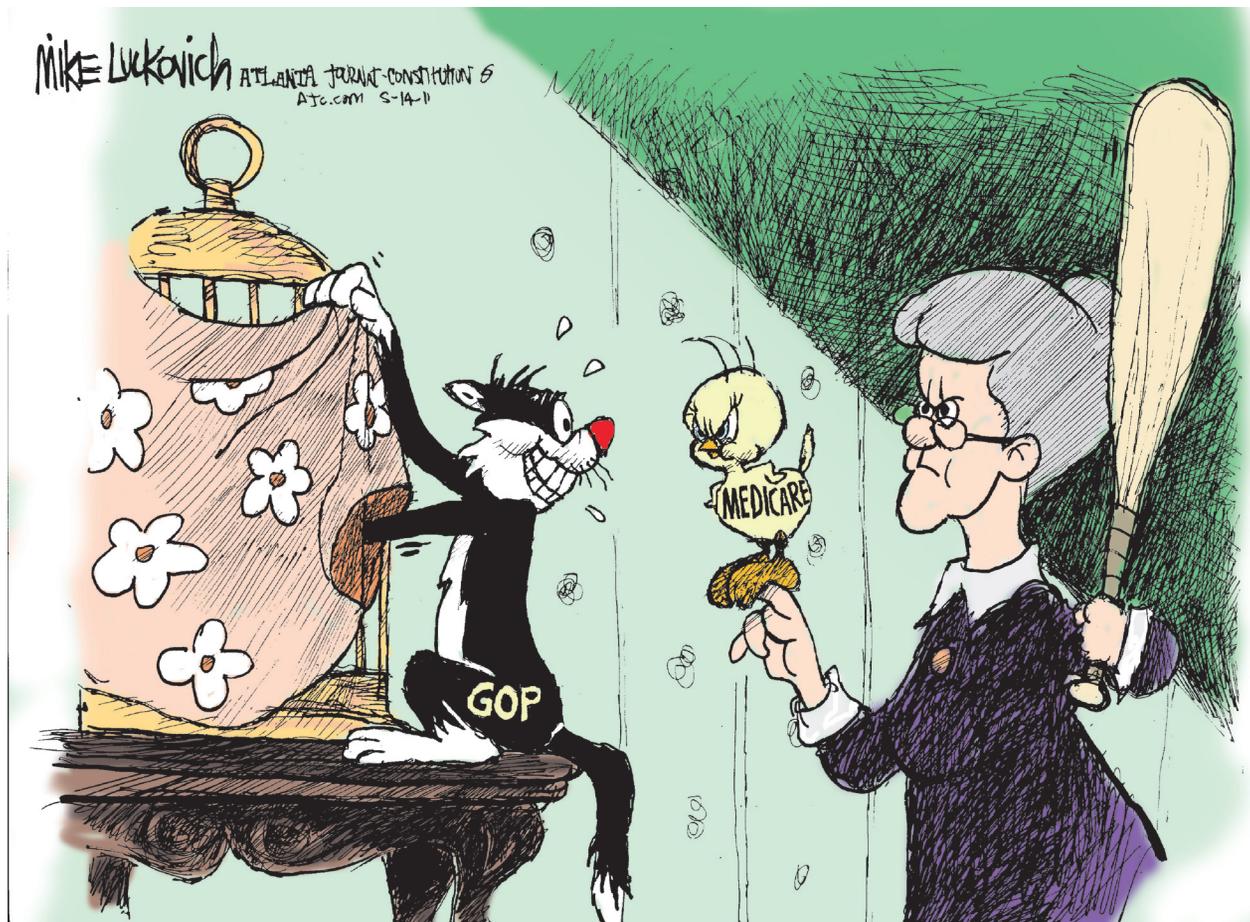
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Column

Leave it to prophets to ruin a good party

Impending doom arrived May 21, 2011.

Well, it's May 31, 2011, and I see no demons rising from the ash mounds of hell.

We have had our fair share of disasters in recent years: Y2K, anthrax scares, SARS, AIDS, Bird Flu, tsunamis, typhoons, earthquakes and global economic meltdowns. Now we have tornadoes in the Midwest going completely Charlie Sheen. So maybe God is PMSing at least a little bit. Expect his wrath to be full-force once His menstruation starts, and trust me, God has quite a heavy flow.

What is the fascination with the world ending? Are our lives so boring that people actually "hope" for some type of cosmic shitshow to make things more interesting? What makes you think you are awesome enough to interpret His "Word" to the exact date? Don't you suppose that God would be pissed at you for thinking you are arrogant enough to even consider the possibility that you could decipher His super-secret plan?

Give Him some credit. What point is there in divinity if there is no mystery or overarching badassery? A belief in a Christian God should support his eternal dominance, the type that turned jabronis into pillars of salt.

And what about the surprise? God planned a surprise party for the past 7,000 years for Jesus on Earth with plenty of fireworks and demon smashing, and you have the audacity to ruin it?

Why don't you just take the first piece of cake for yourself while you're at it, ya big dick?

What is more frustrating is the fact that these are based on undeniable "proof." Harold Camping has stated that one day for the Lord is obviously a thousand years. Since the flood occurred in 4990 B.C., the spiritual apocalypse would definitely come 7,000 years later in 2011.

The date of May 21 is represented by 722,500 days after the crucifixion. Determined by $5 \times 10 \times 17 \times 5 \times 10 \times 17$. These numbers were selected of course because they were religiously symbolic.

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



Shea Ford
letters@alligator.org

At least the Mayans give us an extension to Dec. 21, 2012 at 11:11 p.m. Personally, I give more credence to them. At least their guess is based on the sun's alignment in the center of the Milky Way for the first time in 26,000 years rather than the writings of old desert scribbles where numbers written in the book by the author were meant to be interpreted differently than how they were written.

Fundamentalists, however, believe the Bible is meant to be taken word for word – except the numbers in it. Those are meant to be "interpreted."

"Shea, wouldn't the rest of the Bible be open to interpretation then?"

"Nope. Just the numbers in it."

"What about the Book of Numbers?"

"Shut up or you will burn in hell!"

I was under the impression that perhaps a miscalculation would instill Camping's followers with a little humility. They would have bought thousands of party hats and noisemakers only to be terribly disappointed at their inability to wear them proudly on their Savior's return in May.

Do they lose their faith? Do they continue going to work as if nothing happened? Of course not. Obviously Jesus was busy, so he had to reschedule. No biggie.

Attention everyone. The physical Rapture will now be October 21, 2011. Make sure to set the event in your Google calendar.

As for me, I cannot side with a group of people who try to avoid the fun of killing demons. Have fun floating up to Heaven naked while I curbstomp the spawn of Satan.

Or perhaps I'll wait for the Mayan destruction. At least there was an entertaining movie about that.

Shea Ford is a psychology senior at UF. His column appears on Tuesdays.

Reader response

Today's question: Do you believe Urban Meyer when he says he's not eyeing the Ohio State job?

Thursday's question: Do you wear a seat belt when you drive?

94% YES

6% NO

153 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Letter to the Editor

Gov. Scott is killing education one penstroke at a time

When Gov. Rick Scott announced his budget proposal in February, the word "education" was notably absent from the political event. And when he did roll out his education budget proposal, it called for slashing already underfunded public schools by more than 10 percent.

The education budget approved by the Legislature did not cut schools as deeply as the governor recommended, but it was almost as irresponsible. Teachers and other school employees will lose their jobs, programs will be drastically cut, and schools will be closed. Florida's classrooms cannot be protected from these decisions.

On Thursday at his political event announcing what items he would veto out of the state budget, the governor made a big show of saying he was putting money back in the schools' budget. It was a politically expedient message for a governor with plummeting poll numbers but also a cruel suggestion for school employees who face layoffs and furloughs and for school children who attend Florida's inadequately funded school systems.

This Legislature handed out more than \$300 million in tax cuts in a year while the education budget was slashed. The governor lobbied hard for these tax cuts, but didn't lift a finger to prevent the real harm that will be caused by cuts in education and health and human services.

Andy Ford is president of the Florida Education Association.

HANGOVER 2

MIKE LUCKOVICH
ARTISTA TOWARD CONSTITUTION
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Column

Lost in the sauce: A hitchhiker's (hazy) guide to alcoholism

I gulp a frosty mug of Pabst, wink at Gerry and ask, "Hey Hank, when are you going to start serving blacks in here?" Mueller's steel eyes glare at Gerry and me. He sneers then spits out a robotic response.

"As soon as I find someone stupid enough to eat them."

I give Gerry my "holy shit" look.

Less than three miles from Charleston Air Base, Mueller's is run, and owned, by two German racists, Hank and Jim. They won't serve blacks and don't like whites.

It's 1968 in South Carolina, yet nobody has heard of the Orangeburg Massacre.

■ ■ ■

"Why not come to Jacksonville this weekend?"

Gerry's smile invites larceny. "My pal Waldo and me will take you to a joint that makes the best Singapore slings in Florida."

Blessed with teeth like Chiclets, premature-gray hair, and a tall athletic build, Gerry wows the chicks, but I'm not bottom feeding. I hang out with him because he drinks like a dying man.

"I don't know, Gerry," I say. "I'm strapped."

"Don't be a pussy," he fires back. "Crash and eat at my house. You only need booze money."

"Besides," he adds, "my sister's a piece of ass"

"You're using your sister for bait?"

"She'll like you man. Take her to the movies. See how it plays out."

■ ■ ■

Asleep on the couch at Gerry's house, I hear a rumbling in the kitchen. I open one eye and spy Gerry's drunken old man pissing into the refrigerator.

I eat out the entire weekend.

■ ■ ■

The next night finds Gerry, Waldo and I sitting on stools in the promised oasis. We're pounding Singapore slings. Within two hours, it's painfully obvious I'm out of my league. I can't keep pace and am fading fast.

When closing hour rolls around, I'm useless protoplasm that Gerry pours into Waldo's car.

For the second straight night, rumbling startles me out of a coma-like sleep.

"This one's alive. He's moving."

A bright light hits my eyes. I try to make sense of that last sentence. My jaw feels as if Joe Frazier knocked me out. I regain my senses and spit out crumpled enamel like so many bits of sand.

I see only the car's roof. My head rests on the seat and my



Bill O'Connor
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knees on the floor.

An oak tree mushrooms from the car's hood. The car's fenders embrace the tree. To my left sits a mangled steering wheel, and the windshield has disappeared.

Don't move. Piece it together, what the hell happened? What did Waldo say before you passed out?

"You'll like this baby. I got it for a

song. Let me show you what it can do."

Tossed through the missing windshield like two duffel bags, Gerry and Waldo are dead. Veins that pumped gin and blood hours before are now wrapped in body bags and lifted into an ambulance.

I start to feel each limb: delicately, slowly, hazily. My arms are fine. My legs are fine. No leaks. No sign of blood.

I look at the paramedic examining my chest, then the E.M.S. bus.

How can this be? My two friends are dead, and except for broken enamel, I'm unscathed.

■ ■ ■

My drunkenness saved my life. When my chin hit the dashboard, my teeth absorbed the full-force of the crash. Miraculously, I was knocked cold.

"Fifteen years on the job, I never saw anyone walk away from a wreck that bad," the state trooper said.

■ ■ ■

My disease won't nourish mourning. Gerry got a bad break, the luck of the draw.

After his death, I resume gambling, drinking and drug-ging.

In 1966, Truman Capote's book "In Cold Blood" depicted two murderers hitchhiking. They're determined to kill the next Good Samaritan who picks them up.

The book's grizzly murders haunt my psyche the way "Jaws" haunts future generations. One night after a bad bout with booze at Mueller's, I hitchhike the short ride back to base.

It's well past 2 a.m., but cars still stop along this short strip for servicemen. So despite the rain, and imagined menace, I decide to "thumb it."

A pick-up truck pulls over. I leap into the passenger seat.

"Thanks a lot man," I tell the driver. "I really appreciate you stopping."

I size up my benefactor through bleary eyes and note the hands on the steering wheel look like canned hams. The driver doesn't acknowledge my presence. He slowly accelerates back onto the main drag.

"I was only out there a couple of minutes when you came along. I'm just going up the road to the air base," I say.

Still the taciturn driver stares straight ahead.

"I've been in Charleston almost two years, but I'm from N.Y. originally. You from around here?"

Still nothing, he just stares into the night's deluge. The blackness smothers the deserted road.

I begin to feel antsy.

Most people pick up hitchhikers for company. They break up the monotony of a long trip, or, in my case, help out someone in a jackpot. This guy's different. He's mute. He hasn't turned his head or taken his two giant mitts off the wheel.

F**k him. I combat silence with silence. It's no skin off my ass. At least I'm out of the rain. Soon, I'll be back in the barracks. I resign myself to silence.

The stillness doesn't last.

"You really didn't learn a thing from that accident in Jacksonville. Did you?" the stranger says.

What the f**k!?! What did he say? Did I hear this guy right? I gotta be f*****g drunk. He couldn't have said that."

"Excuse me? What did you say?"

The driver turns, his face stolid. He says nothing. Bug-eyed, he stares through me, not at me.

My heart races, I'm terrified. I'm just a kid. I turn away.

The windshield wiper's cadence beats time with my heart's palpitations. I calculate.

If I jump out of a car moving 55 mph, can I survive? When I hit the ground, will I be all right to run?

The storm worsens. The road ahead appears as sleek as a seal's back. Momentarily, the stranger focuses on the curves of the road.

Less than a mile from the base, I start to shake and sniffle.

Finally the truck slows and comes to a halt outside the entrance to the base. The driver turns again, stares then waits a month before he chants one bone-chilling sentence.

"Nice night for a murder."

I spring the handle on the door and bolt. I don't offer him a "thanks" or a "f**k you." I never hear the truck accelerate. I don't look back.

Nice night for a murder? Was he playing a game? What was that stuff about Jacksonville? How did he know?

Good or bad, my mania forbids lingering. My brain hops like a frog on speed. I reflect on both incidents but refute mystical explanations.

He said Jacksonville taught me nothing. He was right, but I'll learn.

Unfortunately, my new professors speak Vietnamese and wear black pajamas.

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

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8-15-11-25-2

College Manor
Studios from \$505
Unlimited Utilities! Call 372-7111
8-15-11-25-2



Gainesville Place Apartments
Student friendly 4/4's
Only \$409 per person!
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8-15-25-2

Action Real Estate Services
Houses to Condos
1-4 BR, Starting at \$450
www.action-realtors.com
352-331-1133 ext 114
8-15-11-25-2

Studios starting at \$509
Across from UF
Call 352-371-7777
8-15-11-25-2

Clean, Quiet 1 & 2 BR apts.
Off SW 20th Ave. \$425 to \$545. Sorry, no
pets, or Section 8. Call 335-7066 for info.
8-15-11-25-2

AVAILABLE NOW & FALL
Studio \$410 ●1BRs \$425-495 ● 3BRs \$630
Gore Rabell Real Estate 378-1387
www.Gore-Rabell.com 8-15-11-25-2

!! LIVE LIFE ON THE BOARDWALK !!
● 1/1 Flats & Cool Lofts!
● 2/2's and 3/2's * Pets Loved!
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● Washer/Dryers * HUGE Floor Plans!
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BRIDGELIGHT
1 BR Loft Style
starting at \$515 mo.
M-F 1-6 Sat. 10-2.
3006 SW 23rd St. 377-5221
www.bridgelightapts.com
Text: **bridgelight@65374**
8-15-11-25-2

3/2 House Available Immediately
Near Law School, Shopping, Restaurants
Free UF Parking!
352.371.7777 8-15-11-25-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

Sun Bay & Sun Key
1.1 from 475
2.1 from 550
Walk to campus;
8 short minutes on the bus
pet friendly!
full time grads
no deposit for 1.1
352.376.6720
352.376.7041
8-15-11-25-2

Sun Harbor
2.1.5 townhome
600 - 675
1 month free on 650.
8 minutes to campus on bus;
walk to campus
pet friendly
352.376.7041 or
352.376.6720
8-15-11-25-2

Pine Rush Villas
**Sign a lease by 4/30 and enter to
win a FREE YEAR OF RENT!!**
Pet Friendly No weight limit
Near UF and Oaks Mall
352-375-1519
8-15-11-25-2

Greenwich Green
2/2 for \$829
Patio and Storage Closet
Call 352-372-8100
8-15-11-25-1

Spacious 1, 2, & 3br starting at \$495. Many
floor plans, some with enclosed patios or bal-
conies. Italian tile, bedrooms carpeted. DW,
W/D hook-ups, verticals, CH/AC. Near bus
route, some walk to UF. Call 352-332-7700
8-15-11-25-2

SECTION 8 HOUSING ACCEPTED
Newly remodeled 2 & 3 BDs
Quiet neighborhood. Lots of upgrades.
Free 32" HD Plasma TV for new Sec 8 lease.
Must see! Call 332-7700 8-15-11-25-2

The Retreat at **Madison Pointe**
2/2 with Vaulted ceilings & W/D.
Garage included. Gated Community.
2701 NW 23rd Blvd 352-372-0400
MadisonPointe.org
Text MADISON to 47464 for more info!
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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
7-14-11-73-2

Courtney Greens
1/1 *\$559 *Rate includes 1 month free!*
Pet Friendly No weight limit
Brand New Energy Efficient appliances
Ph. 375-3077 **www.gremco.com**
8-15-11-25-2

Homestead Apartments
2/1 *\$599
2/2 *\$699
Rates includes 1 month free!
Pet friendly No weight limit
Close to main postal facility & shopping.
Ph. 376-0828 **www.gremco.com**
8-15-11-25-2

HISTORIC APTS Downtown Pleasant St
Historic District. 1-3BRs avail now & fall.
Ceiling fans, porches, wd flrs, some w/ W/D.
ALSO we have 2 & 3BR homes. Cats ok, no
dogs. 1st, last, sec. **aprlve@aol.com** 538-1550
6-9-11-43-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

SPACIOUS 2BR/2BA APT.
Convenient location to Shands, UF & Butler Plaza. Asking \$750/mo. Please call Ketty 305-332-6566. yttek@hotmail.com 6-2-11-31-2

2BR/1BA, 1/2 month free. \$380-\$425/mo. Mobile home w/ central AC/heat, shaded lot. Incl water, - mobile home lot \$260/mo 352-376-5887 8-15-25-2

****4/2 3962 W University Ave.****
Living room, dining room & family room, close to campus, all appliances, W/D, hot tub, fire place, screened porch, Avail Aug 1, \$1400 - 333-9874 or 317-7346 6-9-11-36-2

****3401 NW 7th Place****
3/2 living, dining, family rooms. All appliances, W/D, close to campus, large yd. Small pets OK Avail Aug 1, \$1295 - 333-9874 or 317-7346 6-9-11-36-2

****4/3 18 NW 36th St.****
Close to campus, all appliances, W/D, central heat/air Avail. Aug 1, \$1300 - 333-9874 or 317-7346 6-9-11-36-2

●NW 39 Ave Huge 3BR/1.5BA apt, w/lg loft Tile flr & nice carpet. Bright, wdlke flr \$800
●2BR/1.5BA, some w/woodlike flr. All w/new BR carpet. \$590-625. Gated patio, trees, flood lts. Part util pd. Bus rte. 373-8310, 219-3937 6-2-34-2

*****STUDENTS*****
1,2,3 and 4 bedroom houses and apartments available for August. All close to campus. Most pets accepted. Call 870-2760. 8-15-11-25-2

Renting Now and for Fall!!!

- We have REAL 1/1s
- 3 blocks to UF - GATORNEST**
575 sq ft, \$550
300 NW 18th Street
- 4 blocks to UF - GATORSIDE**
400 sq ft, only \$450!
1600 NW 4th Avenue
- BIKE to UF - CENTERPOINT**
530 sq ft, only \$450!
1220 NW 12th Street

No application fee, most pets ok.
For info call E.F.N. Properties, 352-371-3636 or visit our website at www.efnproperties.com 8-15-10-25-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

Gainesville Student Rentals.com
Near UF
gainesvillestudentrentals.com 352-317-4408
●5/3 house 630 nw 36 street \$1700
●4/2 house 1534 nw 54 drive \$1500
5-31-11-32-2

3bedroom \$509/person
All inclusive townhome with everything included! Utilities, cable, internet, furniture & washer/dryer. The Laurels Apts. Call now: 352-335-4455 8-15-11-25-2

STILL SEARCHING?



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trend4rent.com

8-15-25-25

★WALK2UF.COM★
Location, Location, Affordable
352-375-8256

8-15-25-2

PET'S PARADISE

\$390 - \$650. No app or pet fee. 1 & 2BR, privacy fenced. SW. 352-331-2099 4-05-11-10-2

****3/2 515 NW 51st St. ****

Near GHFC vaulted ceilings, all appliances, W/D, garage, small pets ok. Avail. Aug 1, \$1195 333-9874, 317-7346 6-9-11-31-2

TOP QUALITY - GREAT LOCATIONS
Upscale, 1 & 2 BR apts. 1 block to UF campus - on N & E sides. Year lease, beginning summer or fall. Sorry, no pets. K & M Properties. 372-1509 8-15-11-25-2

GREAT LOCATION - GREAT PRICE
2BR/1BA apts on Univ Ave across from UF Stadium & O'Dome. Modern, all elec, cent H/AC, \$600/mo K&M Properties 372-1509 8-15-11-25-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

WWW.BELLAPROPERTIES.NET
Palm Villas - luxury graduate apartments in a small and quiet complex. 2 BR/2 BA available for \$465 per BR. Call to tour 335-5424 8-15-11-25-2.

WALK TO UF. START SUMMER OR FALL

●Studios \$425-\$400 ●1BR/1BA \$550-\$450
●2BR \$850-\$800 1 yr lease, SD, NS, NP.
Call/Text 352-870-7256 gvl32601@gmail.com 7-28-11-22-2

CONDOS.JACKSONSQUARE.US

Luxury condos 3 blocks North of UF
352-870-9453
8-15-25-2

Walk or Bike to Campus!

1,2,3,4 & 5 BR houses & condos available.
Campus Realty 352-692-3800
rentals.campusrealttygroup.com 7-28-11-34-2

Several cute & clean houses & apartments available for August, located in quiet NW areas near UF/Downtown. Rates from \$600 per month. Call/Text Anita: 352-575-4395; Anita@cozygator.com; www.cozygator.com 5-31-11-16-2

Clean small efficiency Quiet.Wash/dry on prem.Wat/Sew incl NS No Pets.1/2m south UF/Shands,2 bus routes.\$399/m.Same furnished \$410/m 352-262-2871 Owner/agent 8-2-11-30-2

Baxter House Near Campus 1013 SW 4th Ave. 4BR/2BA, custom designed, two story brick home, W/D, new H A/C, hardwood floors & walls. Much more \$2,300/mo + util. 275-1259 ATucker458@aol.com 5-31-11-8-2

1103 SW 6th Avenue Rear, 2-story brick, 1/2 block to UF, 4BR + 2/3BA, remodeled open design, W/D, Disp, 2 A/C units, DW,MW parking, backyard, NPets, NS. Fall \$2,100 + util. 275-1259, ATucker458@aol.com 5-31-11-8-2

Post Apartments - 352 376 0080. 352 284 3873. postj@bellsouth.net
Clean, spacious, private apts. for calm, quiet, stable, mature persons.
●Duckpond duplex - 920 NE 6th Ave. \$700 Carport, large yard, big trees, burglar bars, WDH, CHA, carpet.
●1808 - 1830 NW 10th St.- 1 and 2 bedrooms. \$500-\$650. Private patio with lock gate, large yard, big trees, carpet.
●1700 SW 16th Ct.- 1 and 2 br Condos \$550 - \$650 1 block from Shands 8-15-11-25-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

Pinnacle Point large 2 bedroom townhouse just minutes from UF & Butler Plaza. All of our units are newly refurbished with all new appliances, tile, carpet, paint, light fixtures and more! Call today for specials 352-373-7578 8-15-11-25-2

LUXURY 3/2 CREEK'S EDGE CONDO
Quiet upstairs condo. 1300 sf. Like New, lg. rooms, hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen and appl. W/D. Mins to campus on direct bus rt. \$975 727-463-0560 6-30-11-14-2

LUXURY DOWNTOWN CONDO!
Stylish City living in Regent's Park Beautiful, huge and quiet!
Two story, 3BR/2.5 bath, w/garage Avail in Aug @ \$1600/mo.
Call Union Properties at 373-7578. 8-15-11-25-2

507 NW 39th Rd 1/1 \$725-hardwood floors, porch, w/d, pets-Y!, no pet fees, walk in closets, fence, close to everything Newberry & 39th rd, Avil now. MUST SEE beautiful unit. 305-586-8255 smwhite14@yahoo.com 6-9-11-9-2

3BR/1BA house available August in SW Gainesville. Central heat/AC, hardwood/tile floors, washer/dryer, carport, Florida room, private fenced backyard with patio, pet-friendly. \$900/month. ph. 352-318-1053 6-16-11-12-2

3&4 bedroom homes avail in NW Gainesville. Mins to UF and Santa Fe. Ideal for students/families. Pets Welcome! Avail Aug 5.

3331 NW 30th PL 3bed/2bath \$975
3321 NW 30th PL 4 bed/2 bath \$1175

Call Ricky for more info 352-284-5119 6-7-11-8-2

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
2 large rooms w/private baths. 10 min to UF. Large home, quiet neighborhood. \$550/mo + utils per room. Cable, W/D, hardwood floors. 5 mins to busline. Call 352-284-0979 6-30-11-13-2

1 MONTH FREE ★ NO APPLICATION FEE
★ Apts Starting at \$350 ★ Pets OK! ★ Call Today.
Meadowcrest Apts. 352-378-3988
meadowcrest@wbsproperties.com 6-14-11-10-2

1/1 w/ private gated court yard in small quiet complex. Perfect for the serious student or quiet professional small pets ok. \$450 mnth call: 352 377-2150 6-16-11-10-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

1/1 Campus Edge
3rd floor, very calm. Washer, dryer, dishwasher, stove, fridge, microwave, overlooking the pool, gym. \$699/m, Avail July 352-262-2871 Owner Agent 7-14-11-16-2

●Charming 2BR 1 BA Cottage Blocks to UF 2703 NW 2nd Ave. Central h/a, laundry with w/d, large private screened porch. No Pets, Avail August. Granddaddy oaks. \$875/mo. 1st last \$500 security. 352-332-5836 6-16-11-10-2

POOL HOUSE
4BR/3BA 2816 W Univ Ave 1 mi to UF. Fenced-in nice backyard. W/D, DW. Avail now. \$1500/mo summer, \$1600/mo fall NEG. 327-2931, 376-6183 6-16-11-10-2

The Landings

2/2.5 Townhome
ONLY \$940
Includes Internet & Cable
www.TheLandingsUF.com
352-336-3838

8-15-21-2

Very nice Rockwood Villas Townhouse 3/3 for only \$900.00/month-Great deal!
Large bedrooms, updated appliances, Washer/dryer, 2 pools, lots of parking
Call Jared at (941) 737-6997 6-30-11-10-2

Near UF. Beautiful 4BR/2BA home. Florida room w/ inground jacuzzi. W/D. All tile floor. 2-car attached garage, storage shed. Walk to grocery & shops. Avail Aug 9. \$1399/mo 904-534-6982, kencarmgravs@comcast.net 6-16-11-8-2

●●●● HOUSE ●●●●
105 NW 30th St, 2200 sq ft, 3BR/2BA+ bonus rm w/ bath, carport, lg yard, pet-friendly, 12 blks to stadium, bus rte 5, 34, 43. \$1700/mo 352-281-7932 6-2-11-4-2

2BR HOUSE. Super nice, tile floors, A/C, W/D hook-up, fenced yard, on bus route, close to UF & SFC. \$650/mo, flex lease. 914 NW 40th Ave. Call for info 352-318-8822 6-7-11-5-2

Great 3/2 House w/crpt & w/d (1100sqft)
Rent \$1050/month with lease
Pets allowed :) Available June 1st
Contact Kathryn: kesamai@gmail.com
4102 NW 21st Terrace Gville, FL 32608 7-14-14-2

2BR/1BA APARTMENT
7129 SW 45th Place. \$525/mo
No pets. Call Geri 352-538-1114 6-30-11-10-2

HUGE 4BR/2BA HOUSE 2 blks from UF/ Sorority Row/Norman Hall/Shands area dining rm, remodeled baths, cent AC/heat, wd flrs, W/D, DW, pets maybe, parking! Avail Aug 16th - 1 yr. \$2175 352-665-8166 lv mssg 8-15-11-21-2

LARGE 4BR/2BA HOUSE. Extremely Nice, bike to UF, central AC/heat, W/D, dishwasher, ice, garage, fenced yard, landscaped. No pets. Avail Aug 16th - 1 year. \$1590/mo. 352-665-8166 lv mssg 8-15-11-21-2

1/1 **POOLHOUSE**
Across from Shands W/D Pets OK
Gym Tanning Utilities Gated Entry Incl.
725 sq ft. Reduced Rate \$925/mo
Avail August 937-626-9882 5-31-11-3-2

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text (Lakewood)@65586
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O ₁	U ₁	T ₁	L ₁	P ₃	S ₁	B ₃		Double Word Score
E ₁	I ₁	O ₁	U ₁	M ₃	T ₁	T ₁		3rd Letter Triple
A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	U ₁	T ₁	N ₁	P ₃		
A ₁	I ₁	U ₁	R ₁	S ₁	C ₃	C ₃		

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 206

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

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

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05-31

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2 For Rent unfurnished

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2/2 ROCKWOOD VILLAS, \$750, NEAR MALL & UF. LOTS OF PARKING, CORNER UNIT, HAS OWN W+D D.AGUIRRE. AZOCAR@GMAIL.COM OR 347.878.9072 AVAILABLE JULY 1. 7-5-11-10-2

2/1 duplex in Tower Oaks Glen Cent A/C, laundry room w/ W/D, on bus route. No pets. \$525/mo , 1st month + last month. 6900 SW 21st Lane (352) 514-9698 6-7-11-4-2

DOWNTOWN STUDIO/GARAGE APT 416 SE 2nd St. Off-street parking, privacy. Near main bus station. H2O/sewage provided, window A/C, space heat. \$420/mo. 1st, last, sec. Call 373-6551 7-5-10-2

2BR HOUSE

Private yard. Small dog OK. \$650/mo 6200 SW 13th St. 352-372-6881 or 352-213-3901 6-7-11-4-2

LIVE ON UF LAKE PERFECT FOR PROFESSIONALS/GRAD. 2BR/2BA pristine Bivens Arm condo. Large den/3rd BR, hwd flrs, W/D, pool, canoe. Walk/bike to Shands/UF, bus stop. \$1190/mo. 407-832-1458 6-28-11-8-2

Quiet spacious 2 bed 1 bath house on large fenced corner lot, screen porch, washer/dryer hookup, pet fee, lease \$750 available june 1 1123 NW 31st ave call 352 475 1586 6-9-4-2

4bed/4 bath condo available on 7/31. \$275 per person. 1.5 miles from UF; on bus line. All appliances & some furniture included. Call J. Erney at 352-328-1266. 7-7-11-10-2

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
8-15-25-4

COLLEGE ROOMS STARTING AT \$385.00 MONTH, UTILITIES INCLUDED, NO MOVE IN COST. WE DO SEMESTER LEASING, Frances 352-375-8787 Rent Florida Realty 9-26-11-78-4

Walk to UF from a 4bd/2ba NW house. Male or female. No pets/smoking. Free off-street parking \$450/mo. Includes all utilities, wifi, security system, Available 8/1 yearly lease. 727-501-3485 5-31-11-33-4

STUDENTS NEEDED - TOWNHOUSE W/D, clubhouse, pool, gated, parking, on bus route. \$350/mo + utils per room. Call 727-729-1561 5-31-20-4

I am looking for a male roommate who is very nice and easy to get along with. Asking \$300/mo which includes util & Dish Network TV. If interested, call Joe at 331-4239 or 352-682-9412 6-2-10-4

350/mo 2 blocks from campus Close to downtown
814-440-3325 or jfidorra@hotmail.com 6-30-11-14-4

4 Roommates

MATURE PROFESSIONAL Share 3BR/3BA pool home near UF. Safe area across from Plaza Royale. Bus rte. No alcohol or drugs. \$325 + 1/3 util. 2 rms available 5/13. No pets. 371-3837 6-7-11-9-4

ROOMMATES WANTED! 2 student girl roommates looking for 1-2 roommates to share 4 bed/2 bath home. W/D, kitchen/dining/living/family rooms, side patio, fenced in yard \$500/month everything included. Great location within 5 miles of campus! Call Megan, (386)441-8208. 6-7-7-4

\$350 moves you in! No deposit or last months rent. Mature male student to share furnished 4/2. FR, LR, W/D, maid service, yrd man, 5 min from UF, new kitchen, big yard. No pets, non-smoker. (813) 362-7729 or 362-7881 6-7-11-5-4

Male college student wanted for gated 4BR/4BA Countryside condo, poolside, own BD & BA, W/D, cable, hi-speed internet, early stop on UF bus rte. Utils incl. \$400/mo. No deposit 863-634-1893 6-30-11-10-4

2BR/2BA avail now in 4BR/4BA Countryside condo. \$435/mo/room - utils incl. Direct bus to UF 3 mis. Pool, exercise room, nicely furn. 3rd Flr. W/D, wireless. Flo 352-357-9656, or 352-636-4814 6-30-11-10-4

Grad student looking for female students in fully furnished 4/4 condo at Countryside. \$425/month. Includes cable/internet, utilities, W/D. On 2 bus routes. Contact Megan 727-542-8155. 6-16-11-6-4

5 Real Estate

NEW CONDOS-WALK TO UF
For Info on ALL Condo for Sale, Visit www.UFCONDOS.COM or Matt Price, University Realty, 352-281-3551 8-15-25-5

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 8-15-25-5

WALK TO UF & DOWNTOWN! THE PALMS – New Ultra-Luxury Condos. Granite, Huge Closets, Pool, Call Eric Leightman, University Realty 352-219-2879 8-15-25-5

Perfect 2/2 Townhouse 3.5 miles UF \$135,500. Master bdrm upstairs. New A/C, kitchen appliances, siding, and much more. Pictures, ect at Realtor.com MLS #319897. 352-376-9756 6-16-11-9-5

6 Furnishings

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 8-15-11-25-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 8-15-11-25-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400 Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 8-15-11-25-6

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. 8-15-25-6

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 8-15-25-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather. Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 8-15-25-6

6 Furnishings

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 8-15-25-6

****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. 8-15-25-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 8-15-25-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 8-15-11-25-6

7 Computers

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Parts & Repair Mac & PC laptops
Joel 336-0075 www.pcrecycle.biz 8-15-11-25-7

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8-15-11-95-7

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APlusMobile@rocketmail.com
9-2-11-30-7

10 For Sale

●●●●PARKING●●●●
Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF. Reserve now! Reasonable rates. 352-538-2181. Can leave mssg. 8-15-10-25-2

UF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS are underway...
bikes, computers, printers, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: surplus.ufl.edu 392-0370
8-15-10-25-10

GOATS FOR SALE

Charlie - 352-278-1925 8-15-25-10

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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P ₃	E ₁	T ₁	U ₁	N ₁	I ₁	A ₁	RACK 3 =	<u>59</u>
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							TOTAL	<u>206</u>

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
 1 McCartney bandmate
 6 Minimal effort
 10 "It seems to me," online
 14 Fax predecessor
 15 Makes collars, say
 16 Armstrong on the moon
 17 Port of call
 19 Hindu royal
 20 Rip to shreds
 21 City near Lake Tahoe
 22 Inner Hebrides isle
 23 Switch settings
 24 Readily interchangeable, fashionwise
 27 Bygone deliverer
 29 "Rabbit, Run" author
 30 Office copy
 31 Aid for a ref's review
 34 Original Dungeons & Dragons co.
 35 Office fund for minor expenses
 38 Held a hearing, say
 41 Give a rude awakening to
 42 African capital contained in its country's name
 46 Easily bent
 48 Ochoa of the LPGA
 49 Head locks
 53 Upsilon follower
 54 Bozo, in Bath
 55 Take it easy
 56 Place for a snow blower
 57 Barrel of laughs
 58 Horseplay, and a hint to the starts of 17-, 24-, 35- and 49-Across
 60 Pacific island half?
 61 Masterful server
 62 "Fame" singer David, 1975
 63 Attends to, as a dry stamp pad
 64 Terrier type
 65 Jokes around

DOWN
 1 Largest of the Virgin Islands
 2 "Separate Tables" dramatist Rattigan
 3 Four-time Indy 500 winner
 4 Senate majority leader Harry
 5 Prescriptions, for short
 6 County northeast of London
 7 Insurance giant
 8 Beatles concert reaction, often
 9 Uncanny gift, for short
 10 Encroachment
 11 Wasn't kidding
 12 Takes by force
 13 Ending for pay
 18 Ireland, in poetry
 22 Identity thief, e.g.
 24 Dada pioneer
 25 Russian assembly
 26 "I've Grown Accustomed to ___ Face"
 28 Swabbing tool
 31 R-V connectors
 32 Lille lily
 33 Mo. to see Dracula at your door?

36 Pooch in Oz
 37 "Ben-__"
 38 Dashboard abbr.
 39 Walking-on-air feeling
 40 Craft using the element Sn
 43 Reunion attendees
 44 Come into some money, maybe
 45 Answered affirmatively
 47 Tough watchdogs
 48 Disney girl who adopted Stitch
 50 Shepherd's charge
 51 Comfy-cozy
 52 Actress Woodard
 56 Plumlike fruit
 57 Baseball stat
 58 Coll. helpers
 59 Word after a transitive vb.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ESTES CXIX ARCS
 STOIC LYME NORA
 PERSONAL PRONOUN
 ONT FOIE NITER
 GOLFER MICHELLE
 ENISLE TRI ELM
 LIE SCAR TAO
 FRENCHYES
 ITO ELOI OMB
 MACVAN SOISEE
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xwordeditor@aol.com 05/31/11

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63						64					65		

By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke (c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 05/31/11

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S
Vijay Antharam! You won \$25 for successfully completing the crossword puzzle on May 26th.
 Be sure to compete in our next crossword contest on Thursday, June 2nd. **alligator**

Crabs, camels and lumberjacks usher in summer

By **JONNY SHIVER**

Alligator Contributing Writer

PALATKA — The salty aroma of fresh seafood churned in the cool breeze blowing across the St. Johns River as children laughed and screamed out of joy or fear — and sometimes both — as carnival staff pushed mobile thrill rides to their limits.

About 40,000 people enjoyed the sunshine, vendors, entertainment and rows of seafood at the 23rd annual Blue Crab Festival in Palatka on Sunday.

The festival, which occurs on Memorial Day weekend every year and lasts Friday evening through Monday, offers something for everyone, said event chairwoman Carla Jayne Morris.

Free entry, entertainment, parking and affordable food helped make this particular Sunday one of the best the festival has seen in years, she said.

For \$10, those in attendance could catch a quick glimpse of Palatka from a few hundred feet above the St. Johns River in a helicopter.

Five dollars bought a camel ride, with the option of choosing 7-year-old Joe or Lulabell, the 8-year-old camel.

The camels were introduced last year and are back by popular demand, Morris said.

"People flock down here to see the camels," she said.

The camels are the product of three generations of animal trainers. The Riders family, from Citra, have been training animal stars for decades.

The family has trained animal superstars that have appeared in movies such as "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective," "Evan Almighty" and the upcoming "Zookeeper," which features a camel named Shorty.

Entertainment wasn't limited to just kids.

For the older crowd, the Budweiser beer tent sold ice-cold brew all day while popular tribute bands played under the adjoining tent.

The live music tent kicked off Sunday's

line-up with chef-hat-wielding Sauce Boss who not only fires up his guitar but also cooks his own special recipe gumbo on stage for audience members.

Popular tribute bands The Hendrix Experience and Led Head rocked the stage in the evening, with Motor City Josh headlining the stage at 10:30 p.m.

The International Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show, new to the festival, showcased axe-throwing, chainsaw-wielding, log-rolling lumberjacks as they chopped, sawed and balanced on a floating log in a show of precision and brawn.

The show, led by Lee LeCaptain, has traveled across five continents to show off the skills of the lumberjacks tossing axes at a target, carving tiny chairs from a log using only a chainsaw, and carefully balancing themselves on a floating log while running in place as if from a cartoon.

The lumberjacks raced manpower against machine in an epic battle between a gas-powered chainsaw and the 60-tooth wood-eating beast known as a crosscut saw in which two men, one on each

end of the saw, push and pull as the razor-sharp teeth rip through the tough cedar log.

The man-powered saw won the round with a time of only 34 seconds to cut through the roughly 12-inch log.

But people like Ron Ruggles and Marianne Ferrara, of Orlando, didn't drive all the way up to Palatka for the entertainment.

Instead, they drove up for the thing the event is named for — the food.

"We wanted to get up to our elbows in blue crab," Ruggles said.

About 40 food vendors were on hand to serve up a hefty menu of crawfish, alligator, fish, traditional grease-pit fair food and several versions of blue crab.

Ferrara said her only complaint was that most of the downtown shops were closed.

"This may be the only reason I ever come to the town," she said as she broke apart another crab leg.

At the sight of Ferrara standing up from



Jonny Shiver / Alligator

Riley Kennerly, 5, of St. Augustine, rides the back of Lulabell, an 8-year-old camel, at the Palatka Blue Crab Festival this weekend.

her shaded table next to the main entertainment stage and a mechanical bull,

Ruggles had only one thing to say: "More napkins honey, we're running out."

About 200 vendors gathered to sell a wide variety of items from hair accessories to custom-built cedar furniture.

Youth baseball teams came to sell snacks and drinks, eagerly awaiting donations to help buy equipment or travel to tournaments.

Michelle Rider, the arts and crafts coordinator, said the vendors, some of which will make upwards of \$15,000 over the course of a weekend, are required to hand-craft most of what they sell.

Morris said the Palatka Chamber of Commerce estimates the festival to have a \$4.2 million economic impact on the com-

munity.

"You can't get a motel room in Palatka," she said. "Last night you'd have to sleep in your car."

People have traveled from as far away as Texas for the blue crab, she said.

The festival closed Monday with a parade and memorial service for veterans, along with the Ducks for Bucks duck race.

The race proceeds benefit the Palatka New Vision Lion's Foundation.

The festival's turnaround, after nearly being axed last year due to a lack of funding has been a tremendous accomplishment for Morris and the nearly 75 volunteers it takes to host the festival, she said.

"Seeing the crowd — seeing everybody smiling and having a good time," she said, makes all of the hard work worth it."



Jeanna Arroyo / Alligator

Six thousand tombstones line Northwest Eighth Avenue in memory of fallen U.S. soldiers from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars on Memorial Day.

Visitors left pictures, flags and written messages for fallen soldiers

MEMORIAL, from page 1

When a person writes a message on one of the stones, the VFP knows the stone was visited and decorates it with a flag each year, Camil said. In the first year, there were 12 stones with flags for soldiers with local ties.

This year, there were more than 70 stones with flags from around the country.

Aymen Almarrani, 20, an Iraqi student studying at Santa Fe College, put a picture and a poem at the stone of Peter Neesley, 28, of Grosse Point Farms, Mich., on behalf of Neesley's mother and sister.

Almarrani never met Neesley when he was alive but has a unique tie to him.

Almarrani worked as a translator for the U.S. Army and the Iraqi Society for Animal Welfare. He said soldiers like Neesley often befriend stray dogs in Iraq and don't want to leave them behind when they come home. The ISAW works to get those pets shipped to the soldiers in the United States.

Neesley had mentioned his two dogs, Mamma and Borris, to his family while he was in Iraq.

After Neesley was killed, the dogs were left behind without anyone to look after them. Neesley's family requested the dogs be brought home and Almarrani was the one responsible

for reuniting Mamma and Borris with their family.

"It was piece of Peter," Almarrani said. "It felt great to bring them [home]."

Other people who visited the memorial had no direct ties to those on the stones, but said seeing them all spread out along the mile of road gave the lives lost overseas a new perspective to people here.

"You drive past, and it just keeps going."

Evan Webb Stuart
UF Student

"You drive past, and it just keeps going," said Evan Webb Stuart, 22, a UF student.

Kirk Anthony, a VFP volunteer, said he understood some wars had to be fought, but he wished more people would come out and show respect for the people who fought those wars and paid the ultimate price.

Anthony's son, Mark DeFord, 25, did two tours in Iraq and has been out of the Marines for 10 months.

DeFord said he hopes the display will prevent the need for memorials like this in the future.

"When our generation's making policy, their kids will be in a similar display," he said, "if we allow it to happen."

UF BASEBALL

Gators win tourney, earn No. 2 seed

JESSE SIMONTON

Alligator Staff Writer
jsimonton@alligator.org

After a steamy, emotional, rollercoaster weekend, No. 1 Florida exited Hoover, Ala., with its first Southeastern Conference Tournament trophy since 1991 and a No. 2 overall national seed in the 2011 NCAA Baseball Tournament.

The NCAA announced the field of 64 on Monday, and the Gators, one of eight national seeds, will host the Gainesville Regional starting Friday in McKethan Stadium.

Despite capturing the SEC Tournament Championship and reclaiming its top ranking, Florida was dealt an arduous draw as Miami and Jacksonville come to town this weekend.

"This time of year it's not who you draw, it's how you're playing," Florida coach Kevin O'Sullivan said. "Every Regional is tough."

UF will play No. 4-seed Manhattan at 4 p.m. Friday, while the No. 2-seed Hurricanes and No. 3-seed Dolphins play at noon.

"Great teams," senior second baseman Josh Adams said. "JU came in here and beat the brakes off of us. Miami is hot right now."

The Gators swept the 'Canes in March while Jacksonville demolished UF (11-2) two weeks ago.

The Gators return home after a wild weekend where they played five games in four days, watched one of their best players go down in a freak accident and looked on as two forgotten pitchers potentially threw themselves back into the mix.

Florida beat Vanderbilt 5-0 for a school-record 11th shutout in the championship Sunday, winning the tournament with dominant relief pitching and aggressive base running.

Gators relievers combined for 18 punch-outs and a 1.97 ERA over the five games, while Flor-

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 16



AP Photo

Florida shortstop Nolan Fontana celebrates UF's first Southeastern Conference Tournament title since 1991 after the Gators shutout Vanderbilt 5-0 Sunday at Regions Park in Hoover, Ala.

Introducing a brand new spin on a sports-writing staple

Mike Lupica shoots from the lip. Pat Dooley strokes the back nine, and Bill Simmons writes 10,000-word mailbags.

Everybody has a gimmick. I want some of that action.

So I bring you, "Musings Courtesy of A Mouth From The South."



Not since Mr. Rogers has a dude in a sweater vest been on TV this much. Jim Tressel disgracefully resigned from Ohio State on Monday, sending Shelley Meyer into an epileptic trance.



Jesse Simonton
Simon Says
jsimonton@alligator.org

Tressel may have eluded full-blown humiliation because the NCAA is expected to

slam Ohio State, but someone needs to b**** slap the NCAA.

Tressel has more skeletons in his closet than Tony Soprano, but the NCAA refuses to admit they too are in cahoots with the mob.

Tressel is a cheat, but he's far from the only one. The NCAA has operated in back alleys with seedy characters just as long as Pat Dye, Ron Meyer and Tressel have been around.

They've dragged their feet long enough, the time has come to address student versus athlete.



Lauren Embree's awe-inspiring effort to propel the Gators women's tennis team to a NCAA Championship was as good as any performance Tim Tebow ever had at Florida.

Yeah, I said it.

Embree's valiant comeback from down 4-0 against one of the country's best players, in the chick's home arena, was incredible.

SEE JESSE, PAGE 15

Former walk-on vital to WCWS run

Junior tops UF in average, steals

By BRYAN HOLT
Alligator Writer

Michelle Moultrie was going to attend Florida no matter what.

But instead of being just another finance major who graduated in the top 10 of her high school class, she decided to take a chance on one of the several sports she played growing up in Jacksonville.

"I came to [UF's softball] camp just to get coach [Tim] Walton to see me," the center fielder said.

Walton had a gut feeling about

what he saw from Moultrie and invited her back to try out for the team.

Three years later, the former walk-on is now a leadoff hitter and one of the key components on a Gators squad making its fourth-consecutive trip to the Women's College World Series.

But it didn't always feel like the junior would reach this point.

Moultrie's freshman year was filled with nerves and an ongoing battle to translate her raw athleticism into re-

efined skills.

She batted .261 and was nowhere near the defensive juggernaut Florida fans have grown to love in 2011.

"She was very, very unsure of herself when she first got here," left fielder Kelsey Bruder said.

"She would catch the ball and just let it pop right out of her glove."

Now, Moultrie is a reliable fielder and an absolute pest for opposing teams both with the bat and on the basepaths.

She has hit in 55 of UF's 62 games and reached base in all but two contests.

SEE SOFTBALL, PAGE 15



Softball

alligatorSports PODCAST

■ After a well-received first edition featuring host Jesse Simonton at the helm, the alligatorSports podcast is back again this week. Stars Matt Watts, John Boothe and Bryan Holt are back to discuss Gators athletics and much, much more. Subscribe and download on iTunes.

ONLINE

■ The Florida men's golf team heads to Stillwater, Okla., today for the NCAA Championships. Check out alligatorSports.org for a preview of the fifth-seeded Gators' quest for a title.

POLL RESULTS

Previous question: Of the five accomplished senior softball players, who was your favorite during her four-year career as a Gator?

Name	Percent
Megan Bush	31%
Stephanie Brombacher	25%
Aja Paculba	18%
Kelsey Bruder	17%
Tiffany DeFelice	8%

Gators finish strong in prelims, fill 26 spots for finals

LaCaze sets steeplechase mark

By **JOHN BOOTHE**
Alligator Writer

Even though Florida's track and field athletes only needed to crack the top 12 in each event to advance from the NCAA East Preliminary Rounds, UF coach Mike Holloway didn't let the Gators run on cruise control.

With 26 slots filled for the NCAA finals held in 10 days, Florida not only secured a throng of potential scorers to send to Des Moines, Iowa, it also sent a message with how it qualified.

"You can't coast, you get yourself in trouble trying to be cute this time of year," he said.

Over the three days in Bloomington, Ind., the Gators had seven top qualifying marks.

"We preach being ready at this time of year, the championship time of year, and so that's what we're doing now," Holloway said.

"It's not a surprise to anyone in this program or anybody associated with the program or knows us well. This is the time of the year that we look to excel."

The No. 2 men's team goes into the outdoor championships with 16 scoring opportunities — four more than it did in 2010 when it lost by one point to No.

1 Texas A&M.

Athletes like senior sprinter Terrell Wilks and jumpers Will Claye and Christian Taylor will be competing in multiple events.

UF's heavy-hitters will have to balance the team's goals with individual glory.

"The main idea I have is winning as much as I can," Taylor said.

"But in the big scheme of things, it's scoring as many points as I can towards that team title. So if I could get into many events, I can contribute. We're all going for the national title."

The top NCAA qualifier in the triple jump, Taylor will also bounce between competing in the long jump and running the second leg of the men's 4x100 relay team.



Track

With fellow jumper Omar Craddock failing to reach the finals after battling through a bruised heel, Taylor said it's going to be difficult moving forward without the third piece of Florida's heralded jumping trio.

"We're a strong group and whether we're winning or losing, we're sticking together," Taylor said. "And it's important for him, and for us, to realize that this isn't the end. We still have USAs

and Omar is still going to be practicing with us."

Holloway said the emphasis over the next week is to get the team rested up and mentally recharged to compete again for the fourth time in just over a month.

The No. 23 women's squad also overcame a missed qualifier to close the weekend strong with eight slots filled for the finals.

In the final turn of the 400m run, freshman Ebony Eutsey made a rookie mistake, running outside her lane.

She was immediately disqualified after advancing to the semifinals.

As Holloway coached Eutsey through the learning experience, fellow underclassman Cory McGee immediately picked up the slack with a runner-up finish of 4:26.53 in the 1,500m.

"I think that some of the freshmen who came in this year, you look at Ebony, Darshay [Davis], Brittany [Harrell] and a few of us, we all just have attitudes where we get after it every day. ... We're definitely bringing something else to the table," McGee said.

Florida had three freshmen athletes qualify along with junior Genevieve LaCaze, who tore through 3,000 meters of track, hurdles and water obstacles in the quickest time in UF history Friday for a fourth-place finish in the steeplechase.



Max Reed / Alligator Staff

Christian Taylor will compete in three events at the NCAA Championships held in Des Moines, Iowa.

Gators in the Pros

NBA

After sitting out a combined 110 games this season with injuries, the "Big Two" from Florida's 2000 NCAA Final run finally hit the court to help out Miami's "Big Three" against Chicago. Udonis Haslem had 23 points, 23 rebounds and five assists in the Heat's 4-1 series victory over the Bulls in the Eastern Conference Finals, while Mike Miller finished with 21 points, 25 boards and three assists. While Miller and Haslem's playing time has increased, Corey Brewer's impact with Dallas is hitting a standstill. The two-time NCAA Champion with the Gators was on the court for just five minutes during the Mavericks' Western Conference Finals series victory over Oklahoma City in five games.



Haslem

Woman's Soccer

With the FIFA Women's World Cup less than a month away, two former Gators on the team, Heather Mitts and Abby Wambach, will get one last shot to solidify their roles in a tune-up game against Mexico on June 5. Mitts, a defender, will be making her first cup appearance after playing every minute in CONCACAF qualifying, while Wambach will be playing in her third. The forward has started in each of the national teams last two games and scored in the first half against Japan on May 14.



Mitts

MLB

As a member of one of the hottest teams in baseball, Matt LaPorta's rise into Cleveland's lineup has cooled recently. The Indians starting first baseman had only four hits in his last 28 at-bats before going 2 for 3 with a homer against Tampa Bay on Saturday. Despite his streaky hitting, the third year pro is already over half-way to a career-high in RBIs with 23 on the season.



LaPorta

Men's Swimming

In his last competition two weeks ago at the Charlotte Ultraswim Grand Prix, former Florida swimmer and Olympian Ryan Lochte had his best showing in the pool during the 200-meter backstroke against U.S. teammate Michael Phelps. Lochte led Phelps going into the second-turn but was ultimately overcome by the 16-time gold medalist, who touched the wall just over a second faster. Lochte will next be competing in the Santa Clara Invitational from June 16-19.



Lochte

John Boothe and Rosa Taveras / Alligator Staff

SEC Spring Meetings



Slive

The Southeastern Conference is holding its annual conference meetings this week in Destin and coaches, athletic directors and school presidents will discuss some important legislation proposed by commissioner Mike Slive. Here are three of the biggest things to keep an eye on.

1. Oversigning — The practice commonly known as gray-shirting has become a hot topic among the conference. NCAA rules permit 28 enrollees from Signing Day until May 31, with 25 allowed to enroll for fall semester. But teams frequently oversign to counteract potential departures before the season, forcing some student-athletes to another school despite signing a letter of intent.
2. Adding money to scholarships — Following a Big Ten proposal, another item on the agenda is a potential addition of extra money to scholarships to cover expenses outside of room and board.
3. Basketball realignment and tournament seeding — An interesting topic likely to be approved is the elimination of divisions for basketball. Most every conference follows the same format, including the women's side of the SEC. The coaches will also discuss the possibility of reseeding for the conference tournament by overall record and not division finish. Western coaches blocked the proposal last year, but things could change this time around.



Rosa Taveras and Matt Watts / Alligator Staff

UF TENNIS

Embree withdraws from semifinals with injured toe

By THOMAS NASSIFF
Alligator Writer

Lauren Embree pulled out a magical performance to will the UF women's tennis team to a national championship last week, but the sophomore ran out of steam just short of an individual singles championship.

Embree continued to steamroll opponents after her comeback win on Wednesday sparked the Gators to their fifth national championship. She advanced to the semifinals of the NCAA Singles Tournament against Stanford's Stacey Tan before having to withdraw due to injury.

Embree withdrew right before playing the third set.

Coach Roland Thornqvist said a nail had come off one of Embree's toes, and skin issues on the toe were too painful for her to continue after splitting the first two sets.

"Lauren's been such a warrior but [Sunday] she was forced to retire," Thornqvist said. "She's the toughest player I've ever had the pleasure of coaching."

The loss ended a stellar 2011 campaign for Embree which saw her rebound from wrist surgery in phenomenal fashion. The loss Sunday was her first of the season, as she ended the year with a 28-1 mark.

"She had a great run, with lots of things to be proud of this year," Thornqvist said.



Embree

"This is obviously disappointing, but I know she'll be motivated to do even better next year."

In Gators men's tennis, Alexandre Lacroix's career at UF ended, but he didn't go down without a fight.

Although he was upset early in singles action, Lacroix and partner Sekou Bangoura Jr. made a deep run to the semifinals of the doubles tournament.

The Gators duo finally saw their season

end Sunday to Stanford's Bradley Klahn and Ryan Thacher.

"Like [Saturday's match in the quarter-finals], I felt like it was Alex and Sekou's best match of the year," coach Andy Jackson said. "Our guys played better than yesterday, but the level of the team we played was much better today."

Jackson said Stanford was "just too good" in the end, as Lacroix and Bangoura fell despite winning the first set.

Lacroix ended his career as the winningest player in UF history with 214 career victories. The senior also tops UF's record books for most doubles wins with 104.



Matt Tripp / Alligator

Michelle Moultrie is on pace to break the single-season batting average mark. The junior has already set the steals record with 28.

Walton said Moultrie's attention to detail contributed to her speedy evolution

SOFTBALL, from page 13

She broke the program's single-season steals record by swiping 28 bases and has not committed an error since Florida's 16-3 loss to UCLA in last season's WCWS.

Walton credits her improvements to how well she absorbs coaching and instruction.

About halfway through last season, he told her she was hitting too many fly balls.

"I don't think she hit another home run, and I don't think she hit but two more balls in the air the rest of the year," he said. "She's very literal."

In 2011, the junior, hitting .431 on the year, is also on pace to shatter Ali Gardiner's UF single-season batting average record of .407.

When asked to assess Moultrie's performance on Saturday, Walton got emotional.

"You can't assess," he said before composing himself. "She's better than anyone could ever expect. ... I just can't believe that one individual could be that good in such a short period of time."

Since Florida's bats heated up in the deciding Game 7 of the regional matchup with UCLA, Moultrie — along with sophomore Brittany Schutte — has been the primary fuel.

In three games, she has gone 6 for 11 with four stolen bases.

Four of her hits and three of her stolen bases have come in the first inning.

"We can count on her to do what she needs to do," Bruder said. "Whether it's bunt or slap, she's going to get on base."

Moultrie admits she has surprised herself during

her three years at Florida.

She said where she's at now is the result of coaching and working on little things — aspects of softball she never previously thought could be part of the game.

"She's better than anyone could ever expect. ... I just can't believe that one individual could be that good in such a short period of time. ... To see her now, she's a game-changer. ... If you could take five more Michelles, we'd never lose."

Tim Walton
UF softball coach

"I've just got to praise God for the abilities that He's given me," she said. "I never thought that I'd come this far."

"To see her now, she's a game-changer," Walton said.

"She makes every play offensively. She makes every play defensively. ... She's someone special. ... If you could take five more Michelles, we'd never lose."

Gators get regional honors: Hannah Rogers, Brittany Schutte, Megan Bush and Kelsey Bruder were named first-team selections for the 2011 Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Southeast Region Team.

Moultrie and Aja Paculba were selected to the second team.

JESSE, from page 13

Her performance epitomized and exemplified what it means to never give up.

If Muschamp is going to get the Gators back on top, he should show a highlight film of Embree's performance and say, "This is guts. This is guile. This is how you respond when you get hit in the mouth."

Then he should turn the lights out and walk out of the room. Boom.

■ ■ ■

The No. 1 Gators baseball team has a heck of a road to get back to Omaha.

Miami sits in their Regionals. Knock out the 'Canes for the third straight season and a showdown with Georgia Tech is likely lurking in the Super Regionals.

Florida won its first SEC Tournament

Championship since 1991 but just one national seed since 2000 has won the College World Series.

I think that streak ends this season, but right now, I don't see the Gators as being the ones to break it.

Florida is as talented as any, but its talent is in numbers not sheer studs.

Volume can win you 45 games — I don't know if it can win you a title.

The Gators have struggled against other team's aces (Palazzone, Grey, Garvin, Baxendale and Meyer all steam-rolled UF's bats), and in the postseason, you rarely get to beat up on a bushel of relievers on a Sunday.

Florida's Back-End Boys are nasty, but as John Smoltz said watching the Braves flameout again and again in the playoffs, bullpens don't win you championships, they only lose them.

The team needs its offense to rediscover its "Gators Swag." (Their moniker, not mine.)

They won in Hoover without contributions from their big guns.

But Florida will not get to Omaha if Zunino, Tucker and Maddox hit 10 for 57 (.175) with no long balls and just four RBIs in a Regional.

■ ■ ■

I do think juniors Nick Maronde and Anthony DeSclafani made themselves a heap of money this past weekend at the SEC Tournament.

Maligned for much of the season, Disco had two strong outings in Hoover, Ala., lighting up the radar gun and flashing his powerful right arm.

His career-best appearance against

Georgia might have single-handedly moved him into the second or third round of June's MLB Draft.

The southpaw Maronde has been outstanding all season (1.72 ERA), and he again displayed his electric stuff that teams salivate over.

Maronde pitched three times in the tourney, mowing hitters down like they were fresh off a JV squad.

Although I doubt he becomes a closer in the big leagues, he's projected to get selected in the first three rounds.

Pitching has dominated the majors in recent years and teams have put a premium on power arms. Both of UF's hard-throwing relievers should cash in.

■ ■ ■

Scottie Pippen is an idiot. 'Nuff said.

DeSclafani, Panteliodis toss solid appearances over the weekend

BASEBALL, from page 13

ida played a small-ball approach, swiping 11 bases.

But the weekend was marred by an emotional Saturday.

Before Florida and Georgia

squared off, UGA's Jonathan Taylor — the outfielder who is partially paralyzed after a violent collision with a teammate earlier this season — was honored before the game. Moments later, UF lefty starter/designated hitter Brian Johnson was

involved in his own scary scene.

The southpaw was hurt in a freak play in the first inning, taking a throw from catcher Mike Zunino to the back of the head.

Johnson threw a wild pitch that skipped off Zunino's mitt, and the

SEC Player of the Year attempted to nail out a runner advancing to second, but instead, drilled Johnson, immediately knocking him unconscious.

The sophomore lay lifeless for several minutes, but he regained consciousness and was taken to a local hospital. Johnson suffered a mild concussion but all tests were negative and he was released.

"It's one of those accidents you never want to see happen," said Zunino, who was visibly shaken after the play and was comforted by Adams and Bulldogs coach Dave Perno. "It was very reassuring to see him in the hotel."

Sunday, Johnson was in the dugout for UF's title-game victory, and according to O'Sullivan, is day-to-day, and his availability this weekend is unknown.

"We're going to let the doctors handle it and the medical staff," UF's manager said. "I'm going to stay totally out of it. With these head things, there's a process you need to follow. We're not going to get involved with it, and we're going to let our medical staff handle it."

One silver lining for the Gators was that Johnson's injury did set the stage for Anthony DeSclafani's spirited performance.

After an inconsistent regular season, the hard-throwing junior was phenomenal in instant relief. The righty pitched a career-high 7.2 innings, frustrating a UGA team that had shelled him earlier this season.

"It was great for [Disco] to have an outing like that," Adams said. "It gets his confidence back up. That's the thing about pitching in tournament play, if you don't have confidence you're not going to throw well."

In Sunday's championship, Alex Panteliodis got the start and pitched with renewed vigor as well. After toying with mediocrity all season, the southpaw tossed 5.1 scoreless innings, looking his best since being UF's ace in 2010.

The junior displayed renewed velocity and veteran moxie, stifling the SEC's best hitting team.

"He definitely stepped up in a time we needed him" Adams said. "He looked like the old Alex. He was locked in."



AP Photo

UF's Brian Johnson is day-to-day after being hit by a throw from catcher Mike Zunino on Saturday at the SEC Baseball Tournament. The sophomore was briefly knocked out and suffered a mild concussion.

Southeastern Conference All-Tournament Team



OF Daniel Pigott

.583, 7 for 12 with six runs, one RBI and six stolen bases

After a torrid weekend, the junior was named the MVP of the SEC Tourney, becoming just the fifth player to receive the award in school history.



OF Bryson Smith

.409, 9 for 22 with two runs, three RBIs and two stolen bases

In UF's second game of the tournament, Smith went 4 for 5 and tallied all three of his RBIs in the 6-0 shutout over Alabama.



SS Nolan Fontana

.187, 3 for 16 with five runs, one homer and six RBIs.

Fontana played flawless defense and plated the game-winning RBI in a must-win 3-2 victory against Georgia, sending the Gators to the championship game with Vanderbilt.



P Hudson Randall

1-0, 0.00 ERA, 8 IP, four hits and two strikeouts

In his lone start of the tournament, Randall dominated Alabama and was compared to MLB great Greg Maddux by Crimson Tide coach Mitch Gaspard after the sophomore toyed with the Tide's bats for eight scoreless innings.

John Boothe and Rosa Taveras / Alligator Staff

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