

Florida quarterback John Brantley was held out of practice Monday but is expected to play against South Carolina. See story, Page 13.



David Carr / Alligator

Nick Wright, a 19-year-old criminology sophomore and chaser coach practices on Flavet Field on Sunday night for the upcoming International Quidditch World Cup in New York City.

Club Quidditch team heads to World Cup

► THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE TEAM HAS MADE IT TO THE TOURNAMENT.

JULIA GLUM

Alligator Contributing Writer

From a distance, the cluster of UF students practicing at the center of Flavet Field Sunday night might have looked like an ordinary sports team.

But upon closer examination, the details were different. Players rode on PVC pipes, running, leaping and dodging balls under the moonlight.

They weren't playing soccer or football.

They were playing Quidditch.

The meeting was one of the UF students' last practices before traveling to New York to compete in the International Quidditch Association's fifth-annual World Cup for the first time.

"This is a sport," said team president Bridget Siegel. "It's 'Harry Potter,' but it's a sport."

Non-magical Quidditch, inspired by J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter fran-

chise, is a mixture of rugby, lacrosse and dodgeball without any padding, said Siegel, a 19-year-old religious studies sophomore.

Seven athletes from each team play one of four positions at a time. There are four balls and six hoops, and all players except the snitch runner must keep a broomstick between their legs.

Florida Quidditch players use PVC pipes for broomsticks during practice.

"We have a lot of stamina and a lot of speed, and we're just going to run the big teams into the ground."

Nick Wright
criminology sophomore

For the competition on Saturday and Sunday, about 2,000 athletes from 100 teams will gather on Randall's Island in New York City to vie for a trophy, 14 handcrafted broomsticks and the title of best Quidditch team in the world.

Because there are no requirements
SEE QUIDDITCH, PAGE 5

Bicyclist struck by RTS bus near Commuter Lot

► THE DRIVER WAS CITED FOR CARELESS DRIVING.

EMILY MORROW

Alligator Writer

A UF employee was taken to Shands at the University of Florida after he was hit by an RTS bus Monday afternoon.

Ayman Abdellatief, 31, was riding his bike south on Gale Lemerand Drive around 3 p.m. when he was hit by an RTS Route 121 bus as it turned into the Large Commuter Parking Lot, according to a University Police Department news release.

The bus, driven by 51-year-old Craig Pearson, was also traveling in the southbound lane when the

accident happened, the release said.

Maj. Brad Barber, public information officer for UPD, said Abdellatief was pinned under the bus for several minutes before police officers and Gainesville Fire Rescue workers were able to pull him out.

Abdellatief was taken to Shands with arm injuries, Barber said. However, Barber said he did not know how severe the injuries were.

Abdellatief's status was not available as of press time.

"The bicyclist is very fortunate to have survived this incident," Barber said.

Pearson was cited for careless driving.

Gator Growl turnout came up short despite show changes

CLARE LENNON

Alligator Writer

Despite entertainment changes, turnout for this year's Gator Growl was lower than expected.

The UF student-run pep rally, put on by Florida Blue Key, attracted a crowd of about 26,000 this year, said Gator Growl Producer Aaron Heger. Staff had projected more than 30,000 people would attend.

Final attendance numbers were not available at press time, but Heger said about 11,000 students attended, which he estimated is about 2,000 more than last year.

This year the stage was moved from the north endzone to the student section of Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, fireworks were brought back after a two-year hiatus, and a headlining

music act returned after a year without one. From what he has heard, Heger said the stage change has generated the most positive feedback.



Machen

"It's just much easier to see from multiple angles across the stadium," he said. Heger said the return of fireworks and the "Ask Bernie" skit were also received well. In the skit, UF President Bernie Machen did "the Bernie," a dance from the 1989 movie "Weekend at Bernie's."

Audience members also enjoyed this year's entertainment, Heger said. Joel McHale, who hosts "The Soup" on E! Entertainment network and acts in NBC's show

SEE GROWL, PAGE 5

Today

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Names of some deceased show up in UF directory

Eleven people were listed last year, pg 3.

Students celebrate release of Asian-interest magazine

A party will be held today in the Reitz Union, pg 8.



Some students use apps to get dates

Smartphone apps that let members see profile of other users nearby are gaining popularity, pg. 4.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Canned Food Drive at Santa Fe College

Today through Thursday
All food collected for this Thanksgiving food drive will go to the Bread of the Mighty food bank. The goal is 5,000 pounds of canned food. There will be a collection box in every building at Santa Fe College. Student Government will have a collection table in the south breezeway on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

UF School of Forest Resources and Conservation John Gray Distinguished Lecturer Franklin Boteler

Today, 8:30 a.m.
Paramount Plaza Hotel
2900 SW 13th St.
Franklin E. Boteler, assistant director of the Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment, will speak on "Forest Resources: Constant Values in a Sea of Change." For more information, visit <http://sfrc.ufl.edu/download/JG2011.pdf> or call 352-846-0850. The event is free.

HEAL's Fourth Fall Meeting

Today, 6:30 p.m.
Leigh Hall, Room 207
Come to the fourth meeting of Health Education Asian Leaders. Learn more about the group's upcoming Health Panel and how to be a part of it. Learn about the prestigious Junior Honors Medical Program as well as the Honors Combined BS/DMD Program.

Hamara Asia Film Series Part 2

Today, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Reitz Union Auditorium
Asian Kaleidoscope Month presents the screening of "The Namesake," an acclaimed film that follows the life of an American-born South Asian who struggles with his identity and the clash of the two cultures. See www.ufakmonth.com for more information.

Audra McDonald Performance

Today, 7:30 p.m.
Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
Multiple Grammy and Tony Award winner Audra McDonald will perform popular show tunes, cinema classics and original pieces. McDonald starred in ABC's hit TV series "Private Practice" and will play the lead role in this winter's Broadway run of "The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess." Student tickets are \$15. Visit performingarts.ufl.edu for more information.

FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
PARTLY CLOUDY 79/55	SUNNY 79/51	THUNDER STORMS 77/47	PARTLY CLOUDY 67/45	PARTLY CLOUDY 73/51

The Neuroscience Club Meeting

Today, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Little Hall, Room 121
The group will be providing information on how to apply to the IDS neurobiological sciences major. This unique and flexible major is designed for undergraduates interested in the biological basis of the brain and behavior. Free pizza and drinks will be provided. For more information, visit the group's Web page at <http://neuroscienceclub.webs.com/>.

A Taste of Israel

Tuesday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
UF Hillel
Come cook, taste and discover the history and role of food in Israel. Shakshuka will be available.

Children Beyond Our Borders General Body Meeting

Today, 7:30 p.m.
Computer Sciences/Engineering Building, Room E220
Come out to learn more about upcoming events, activities and other ways to get involved with Children Beyond Our Borders. A representative from Teach For America will speak about the organization as well.

First Amendment Free Food Festival

Wednesday, noon to 2 p.m.
Plaza of the Americas
Students can trade their First Amendment rights for free food. This event is meant to educate people about the importance of free speech.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to jflechas@alligator.org. To ensure publication in the next day's newspaper, please submit the event before 5 p.m. Please model your submissions after above events. Improperly formatted "What's Happening" submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

BRIEFS

Memorial service to be held for former professor

Friends and family will gather at M. Jack Ohanian's memorial service on Saturday to honor the former associate dean for research and administration and a professor of nuclear engineering at UF.

Ohanian, who retired in 2001, died Oct. 31. He was 78. His family has not released the cause of death.

His friends said he was passionate about nuclear engineering.

He was active in showing the need for the country to use nuclear power in light of various oil problems, said Gene Hemp, who knew Ohanian for 40 years through working together in the nuclear engineering department at UF.

When not devoting his time to work, Ohanian traveled to other countries, mainly in Europe, and spent time with his wife in their timeshare in Fort Myers.

The memorial service will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church, 3146 NW 13th St.

— ASHLEY HEMMY

Flamingo spotted on a lake north of NYC

POUND RIDGE, N.Y. — It wasn't a lawn ornament on a suburban New York lake. It was a real pink flamingo.

According to the New York Post, Chris Evers spotted it last month while canoeing on Lake Kitchawan near his Pound Ridge home.

Concerned the tropical bird would die in the cold overnight, he brought it home and placed it in a water-filled bathtub.

An ID band on the bird's leg showed it had been hatched at an exotic-animal business in North Carolina.

The flamingo's owner was quickly contacted. He's a private zoo operator who lives 15 miles from Evers and has a state permit to keep a flock of flamingoes. The bird had been missing for two days after flying the coop on Oct. 22.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Alligator strives to be accurate and clear in its news reports and editorials.

If you find an error, please call our newsroom at 352-376-4458 or email editor@alligator.org.

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Names of deceased still appear in UF directory

► ELEVEN PEOPLE WERE LISTED LAST YEAR.

SAMANTHA SHAVELL
Alligator Contributing Writer

J. Robert Cade, the inventor of Gatorade, died Nov. 27, 2007, at the age of 80.

According to the UF directory, he can be reached at 352-392-8592. His email address is also listed.

Professor Gerald Kish died in September after suffering a heart attack. But he is no longer listed.

Students, faculty and identification coordinators in each department can update the directory themselves, said Warren Curry, the manager of identity access management at UF. However, some people do not publish their information, and it doesn't get updated.

Students can update their addresses by accessing myUFL and changing their directory profile.

The information is stored in the identity registry, Curry said.

For a professor or student who has passed away, their information is marked with a deceased flag. The Office of Human Resources Services must flag for a UF employee, and

the Dean of Students Office must flag for a UF student.

"It can sometimes take a few days," Curry said. "We have to be careful with that transaction."

However, the information on the deceased does not get deleted. It remains on the registry hidden from the public view.

The online directory updates at least once a day from the main source registry. Some cases can be updated within an hour, Curry said.

Unlike the online directory, the UF printed directory gets updated every year.

James S. Evans is a directory systems operator at UF. He notices that every year the UF directory is printed with incorrect information, including the information of deceased people. It makes his job tougher.

In last year's directory, there were 3,337 people listed without phone numbers, 1,900 people listed with incorrect phone numbers and 11 deceased people listed, Evans said.

"I was told by my supervisor that a few mistakes in the directory is nothing to complain about," he said.



Haley Stracher / Alligator

False Alarm

Five firetrucks pulled up in front of Ben Hill Griffin Stadium on Monday afternoon for a false-alarm fire signal. An overheated elevator shaft set off the alarm.

Students to host cultural identity forum

MARIA GALINDO
Alligator Contributing Writer

Gatorship, a program of UF's Multicultural and Diversity Affairs, will host a forum discussing the relationship between cultural identity and campus involvement today at 6 p.m. in the

Graham Gallery.

"Out of the Box: Cultural Freedom and Limits" aims to encourage UF students to step outside their cultural boundaries, said Breanne Palmer, 20, Gatorship co-assistant director of educational development.

The forum will feature a pan-

el of three students: Matt Davidson, Soma Nwokolo and Xavier Suarez, who will talk about their cultural experiences at UF.

"I will be speaking on my past and current involvement in organizations that someone who looks like me wouldn't get involved in," said Davidson, 21.

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CRIME

Probation bracelet helps police track robbery suspects in Georgia

MORGAN WATKINS

Alligator Staff Writer

Days after local law enforcement agencies teamed up to investigate three robberies, an anonymous tip and a probation bracelet led to the arrest of two men who now face extradition from Georgia.

Michael T. Spralding, 24, and Henry L. Murray, 31, were arrested Saturday in Hapeville, Ga., in connection with two of the crimes, according to a joint news release from

the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and Gainesville Police Department.

GPD detectives received an anonymous tip that the men might be connected to the crimes, said Cpl. Angelina Valuri, GPD public information officer.

Murray was wearing a GPS tracking bracelet because he is on felony probation in Florida. The bracelet helped law enforcement officials find them, said Sgt. Todd Kelly, ASO public information officer.

The agencies got arrest warrants for the men and worked with Georgia authorities to bring them into custody, he said.



Murray

One of the home invasions occurred on Sept. 6, when an elderly couple was tied up in their home on Northwest 49th Lane and had their white Ford Explorer and other items stolen.

The second set of charges is related to a Nov. 2 robbery in which a woman was tied up in her home on Northwest 38th Street and had her white Subaru Legacy stolen.

Both of the cars have been found.

They face an extradition hearing in Georgia before they can be brought to Alachua County, Kelly said.

ASO and GPD are continuing to work together on the home invasion investigation because they

believe there is at least one more suspect at large, Kelly said.

No one has been charged in the first home invasion robbery, which occurred on June 27 at a home on Northwest 45th Avenue.

Spralding and Murray have been charged with two counts each of home invasion robbery with a firearm and false imprisonment and one count each of aggravated battery on a person 65 years or older, larceny and grand theft, according to the news release.

Humans vs. Zombies returns with some wardrobe changes

► THE PLAYERS WILL SPORT UPD-APPROVED BANDANAS PAID FOR BY STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

MINA RADMAN

Alligator Writer

Nerf darts will fly, and the zombies will multiply when the Humans vs. Zombies game returns to campus — this time sporting new, Student Government-funded accessories.

The 24-hour-a-day campus-wide game of tag begins at midnight Wednesday and ends Sunday night.

A group of people wearing bandanas on their arms and carrying balled-up socks and Nerf guns act as humans who ward off zombies. The zombies, who wear bandanas on their heads, tag the humans to turn them into zombies.

Players must wear the designated orange and blue Humans vs. Zombies

bandanas during the game. The 1,600 bandanas were bought over the summer and paid for by SG, which gave the club \$3,600, according to Rebecca Foster, Humans vs. Zombies chapter president.

"We negotiated with the police to use bandanas instead of T-shirts," said game moderator Anthony Cardona, a 19-year-old exploratory liberal arts sophomore.

Bandanas are distributed to players at the rules meetings. The final rules meeting will be held in Rinker Hall Room 110 today at 8 p.m.

Participants must attend a rules meeting, receive a waiver and check out a bandana before they play.

Players must return the bandanas by Sunday or they will be fined, Cardona said.

As of Monday evening, there were 182 people registered for the game. About 1,100 people participated in the largest Humans vs. Zombies game at UF held in spring 2010.

NATIONAL

White House has no proof of aliens

WASHINGTON — Sorry, E.T. lovers — the White House says it has no evidence that extraterrestrials exist.

The White House made the unusual declaration in response to a feature on its website that allows people to submit petitions that administration officials must respond to if enough people sign on.

In this case, about 5,000 people signed a petition demanding that the White House disclose the government's knowledge of extraterrestrial beings, and about 12,000 signed another petition seeking formal acknowledgement of an extraterrestrial presence engaging the human race.

In response, Phil Larson of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy wrote that the U.S. government has no evidence that life exists outside Earth, or that an extraterrestrial presence has contacted any member of the human race.

"In addition, there is no credible information to suggest that any evidence is being hidden from the public's eye," Larson wrote.

But he didn't close the door entirely on a close encounter of an alien kind, noting that many scientists and mathematicians believe that, statistically speaking, odds are high that there is life somewhere

among the "trillions and trillions of stars in the universe" — although odds of making contact with non-humans are remote.

It's not the first petition to force the White House to engage on a somewhat off-beat topic since the "We the People" website was unveiled in September. The White House also has been forced to explain why it can't comment in response to a petition demanding "Try Casey Anthony in Federal Court for Lying to the FBI Investigators" (because it's a law enforcement matter).

And various petitions demanding legalization of marijuana have gathered about 100,000 names, to which the White House argues that marijuana is associated with addiction, respiratory disease and cognitive impairment, and legalizing it would not be the answer.

When the website debuted, the White House promised to respond to any petition that garnered 5,000 or more signatures within 30 days, but it's now raised that threshold to 25,000.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Larson

Dating apps for smartphones gain popularity among some students

ASHLEY HEMMY

Alligator Contributing Writer

Snagging a date for Friday night can be as easy as checking your phone.

A growing trend of smartphone applications are being used by 20- and 30-somethings to set up instant dates.

Users upload photos, interests and their locations. Some choose to text and chat online with others for a few weeks before meeting, while some meet each other right away.

Some apps, like OkCupid Locals, are part of larger dating websites, while others, like Blendr, are solely apps.

The creators of Blendr, which unites people with common interests, also launched Grindr, an app launched in 2009 and that's popular among gay men.

Unlike ordinary dating websites, Blendr and Grindr use location-based networks, allowing users to view the profiles of other app users who are nearby.

Initially offered only on the iPhone, Grindr is now also available on most Blackberry models. In November, the app surpassed 3 million users in 192 countries with 814,000 U.S. users, according to a Nov. 3 Grindr news release.

Jesse Scanlon, a digital media technology junior at Santa Fe College, has friends who use

Grindr and said it is a better alternative to OkCupid Locals, the app he uses.

Scanlon said he has made friends and set up successful dates with the OkCupid app.

"Only a few years ago, people would make swift judgment or criticism toward the idea of digital dating," Scanlon said, "but today, it seems more than feasible, in my opinion."

Ilan Shrir, an assistant UF psychology professor, said college-aged students tend not to use dating websites because they have large social networks.

This growing trend of using social media to meet new people can erase previous stigmas toward dating sites for young people who say they don't need them.

"Young people in college are using a combination of both chatting online and meeting face-to-face," he said. "If anything, an app would help them."

Other ways young people meet online are through Facebook, Twitter and other networking sites, he said.

Freshman Alissa Giordani, 18, said she has not used dating websites or smartphone apps, but said she sees how other college-aged people may be interested.

"Apps seem to make the other person more real," she said. "You can text them on your phone instead of just talking to them online."



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Using social media to meet new people is a growing trend among 20- and 30-somethings. Apps like OkCupid Locals and Blendr let young adults set up instant dates.

The 21 team members, coaches paid \$10,000 to go to New York City

QUIDDITCH, from page 1

to enter, the UF club team, ranked third in Florida, has been planning to go since last November.

Thirty-one people — 21 athletes plus coaches and supporters — spent about \$10,000 out-of-pocket to fund the trip.

During the World Cup's randomly generated pool stage, the team will play the University of Ottawa, the State University of New York at Geneseo and the Delaware Valley Dragons.

Arizona State University will be the team's fiercest competitor.

If UF makes the top three, the players will progress to the bracket stage.

Chaser coach and criminology sophomore Nick Wright, 19, said he thinks the team could go far in the competition.

"I expect our style of play to be completely new to those big northern teams," Wright said. "We have a lot of stamina and a lot of speed, and we're just going to run the big teams into the ground."

About 30 players tried out

for the 21 spots on the World Cup team in August.

Since then, they have been increasingly trading fun practices for agility drills, suicide sprints and intense scrimmages, Wright said.

This training has helped the team move together more fluidly, said Hannah Pohlmann, 19, the club's vice president of tournaments.

The team has improved significantly so she expects it to progress to the bracket stage.

"We have been practicing extensively, and we've been playing more consistently than any other team in Florida," said Pohlmann, a mathematics sophomore.

Regardless of outcome, the entire team is excited for the World Cup atmosphere.

Siegel said Quidditch allows players to bond whether they are from Gainesville or New Zealand.

Good sportsmanship is a key part of Quidditch, as is making new friends.

"There's some sort of weird joy that comes from Quidditch, just because it is based on something that is fictional, which is fun," Pohlmann said. "It's fun to be silly."

Pep rally estimated to have cost \$1 million

GROWL, from page 1

"Community," performed as the Gator Growl comedian. The Goo Goo Dolls played as the headlining band.

Heger said a 1,500-student survey conducted in the spring indicated that 90 percent of respondents wanted a music act at Gator Growl.

Bringing the Goo Goo Dolls cost \$110,000 and bringing McHale cost \$85,000, Heger said.

Student Government transferred \$71,000 from reserve funds to Student Government Productions in September for Gator Growl to put toward the Goo Goo Dolls.

Gator Growl Public Relations Director Cait Feroletto estimated that Gator Growl expenses totaled around \$1 million.

Kaitlyn Hosticka, a 23-year-old criminology junior, said she had never heard of McHale before Gator Growl staff announced he would be the comedian.

She said McHale turned out to

be her favorite part of the show. She particularly enjoyed his jokes about the Kardashian family and about the University of Georgia.

Hosticka said the Goo Goo Dolls were good, but she was interested in seeing more recent acts like Maroon 5, LMFAO or Lupe Fiasco.

She posted her thoughts on Twitter on Friday night: "Joel McHale was the best part! Goo Goo Dolls are great, but next year they need a more current performer."



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

About 26,000 people attended Gator Growl on Friday night, said Gator Growl Producer Aaron Heger.

GatorWell Be Well. Do Well. GatorWell

Dating Tip #2

8 out of 10 UF students find a drunk person less attractive.

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Editorial

Let Them Pray Voluntary service outside school OK

In our Oct. 24 issue, we sided with an atheist Rhode Island student who claimed that her school was violating the First Amendment's establishment clause. In the school, a mural depicting a prayer hung on the wall and was titled "School Prayer." It was also Christian in nature, clearly violating the establishment clause of the Constitution.

Closer to home, the Clay County School Board recently told a local pastor that his traditional morning prayer service was unconstitutional.

Ron Baker, the pastor of Russell Baptist Church in Green Cove Springs, holds voluntary prayer services at the flagpoles outside of various elementary schools in the area, one of which he has been coming to for 12 years.

The school's district attorney, J. Bruce Bickner, opined that these services constituted a "clear violation of the establishment clause and a clear case of endorsement of religion generally and Christianity particularly."

He also said that it is unconstitutional "for a teacher, school administrator or other school district employee to join in a prayer session during their work time." Bickner has been encouraging Baker to move his services to before 7:10 a.m., when teachers usually arrive to school.

In this situation, Bickner shows a blatant lack of understanding about the establishment clause. In the previously discussed case of the Rhode Island school, the mural indicates that the prayer itself is connected to the school and therefore creates the appearance that the school is respecting a particular religion.

In the case at hand, the Florida school has neither endorsed nor tried to restrict Baker from coming to a school to conduct a voluntary prayer service for teachers and students. Bickner's interpretation that the reach of the First Amendment's "establishment clause" prohibits public employees from engaging in religious practices during their work time is way too broad and completely off-base.

The establishment clause, in relation to school prayer, should only prevent teachers or administrators from respecting beliefs or leading students in prayer. Otherwise, all outside voluntary associations do not violate the Constitution.

For instance, if a Muslim teacher needs to observe prayers throughout the day, his or her participation in religiously required prayer rituals violates neither the rights of her students nor the First Amendment.

Public employees should not have to give up their personal religious freedom when they walk through the door.

In its simplest interpretation, the purpose of the First Amendment was to prevent state-sponsored religion as well as religious persecution. Holding a voluntary prayer service at the flagpole in front of the school does neither of the above.

Bickner and the Clay County School Board should worry about more important matters than infringing upon voluntary associations.

Reader response

Today's question: Have you ever had a close call with a bus?

Monday's question: Have you ever had sex in a public place or somewhere you weren't supposed to?

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164 TOTAL VOTES

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Column

Greeting cards part of American culture

My mom has worked in Hallmark stores for as long as I can remember. By this point, I've learned almost as much about the company as she has.

The work can be fun with all the cute gifts and hilarious cards. However, you can also come home covered in glitter and smelling like the new, terrible candle scents that are in season. There are noise-making cards and any number of figurines that could break at any moment. As with any job, it has its ups and downs.

But do you recall the most famous downside of all? Every holiday is ruined months beforehand.

In Hallmark world, Christmas really does start in July. Stores start selling tree ornaments early, which means they received the ornament shipments even earlier than that.

It's the worst. Anyone who works there doesn't get to complain on Nov. 1, like the rest of us, about Christmas commercials starting already. No one whines about when to start playing Christmas songs, because they've already been playing them for months.

Lights around your house all year long? Hallmark backrooms have the same problem, so no judgment here.

Don't get me wrong, I love the entire holiday season: sipping eggnog, looking at bright lights on houses, watching Claymation specials on TV. It's delightful, truly. But not for Hallmark employees. They don't get to enjoy any holiday season, ever.

I guarantee you there are boxes of Valentine's Day cards already in the storerooms of most Hallmark stores.

Some may say holidays are perpetuated or created by the greeting card industry. But let me tell you, they're not happy about it. Don't blame card and candy companies for keeping holidays alive, because at this point, they find no enjoyment in them. Holidays are simply a means to an end.

There are always new events for holidays to promote, which take up quality time during actual holiday weekends.

Then again, the stores should be grateful for those big



Sami Main
letters@alligator.org

holidays. Between e-cards and the current American apathy, I don't see a good future for most greeting card stores. Of course, it's just ingrained in all of us to buy a card for the gift we're giving, but how can that sustain so many different stores? It probably can't.

Hate the greeting card companies? Fine. Think holidays are silly? Some of them are, sure.

But both of those things are a part of American culture. We just can't let them die out so easily. We need them to remind us of those holidays. Without them, we'd be stuck with those sad Publix commercials, and I won't have that.

Not only are those Publix commercials way too sad, but grocery stores are much more necessary than greeting cards — they're in no danger of being eliminated.

Every once in a while, I'll wonder why McDonald's or Coca-Cola still run commercials and advertisements. Who hasn't heard of them by now? Everyone knows those major companies exist. But people might forget about their local greeting card store, right? Those are the ones that need to be pushing for more customers in any way possible.

Even though Hallmark isn't a "mom and pop" shop, the people who run them are moms and pops. And, just like other season-driven businesses, they rely on the public to remember and depend on them at the right time.

All companies have their faults, sorry. It's going to happen in an imperfect, capitalist economy. Maybe Hallmark isn't as "green" as you would like or as hip and happening. But you're not going to find a cool greeting card store.

So suck it up and tell someone that you're thinking about them with a puppy sitting in a boot while you listen to Michael Buble's new Christmas album. It's the American way.

Sami Main is a journalism junior at UF. Her column appears on Tuesdays.

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

UWire

Greek debt bubble is a political issue that needs to be addressed

Is there a future for the Greek people, the Greek government and the Greek nation? There is no time for daydreaming or guessing, or for nightmarish scenarios or for wishful thinking. The present ailing system needs to be dismantled and restructured on new foundations.

The primary budget surplus that many Greeks are hoping for will prove impossible to achieve if the hugely inflated Greek debt bubble is not completely removed from Greek society. Behavior does not change by handing out orders or an attitude of slandering. The only thing that will help change the way of thinking is a slow but effective realization that development has lacked balance and stands precariously on a bubble.

The Greek bubble includes, surrounds and defines every "modern-era" Greek citizen. It intensifies social injustice and the resulting social inequality.

This bubble has skyrocketed consumerism but with no productive results. Success and prosperity increased mainly as a result of corruption, illegal transactions, tax evasion, the granting of privileges to certain workers and union, and the embezzlement of state and Social Security funds. Fraudulent acts brought wealth to many Greeks, regardless of industry.

It is indisputable that those bubbles are a political issue and thus need to be resolved by politicians. Action should be taken, and decisions should be made. However, that is not an easy task.

For many years, inequality has existed in Greece. Political leaders have been giving benefits to wealthy, powerful and well-connected citizens at the cost of indigent citizens, unemployed citizens and pensioners. This has to change, and if it does not, the debt will never resolve.

Greek politicians fail to acknowledge the issues at hand. In a press conference three days ago, Evangelos Venizelos, the country's Minister of Finance, claimed the "sacrifices [of] the Greek people have paid off."

"These harsh measures are the country's ticket towards alleviation of the national debt," he continued.

I cannot help but dissent. These sacrifices have not yet paid off, and we still do not know if Greece will be alleviated of its huge debt. Such ear-caressing political statements are cliché and outdated, and Greek citizens are fed up with them. We are trying to get rid of this bubble. Such statements may have been effective in the past in mild situations, but now the country is on fire. Today's reality demands political acts, self-criticism

George Petrocheilos
UWire

and clear messages that will support and unify the nation. Greek

politicians should finally consider acting like how they are supposed to act: like leaders.

No one can say for sure to what extent the crisis will affect us or how long it will continue to harass the Greek population. Greeks have lived for the past 20 years in a state of fictitious security. Now, they are asked to jump into a state of controlled bankruptcy.

The whole nation has had to radically change its rhythm of life, mentality and everyday habits and continue living in a new society where everything will be completely different. Greeks need visible and radical political action that will bring more just changes to the lives of every citizen.

"Absolute poverty is not the problem in our societies. In the developed world, we are not in need of more wealth but of more justice," said British epidemiologist Richard Wilkinson, who studied the relation between inequality and social problems in more than 20 countries, including Greece.

In an interview with a Greek newspaper,

Wilkinson said "equality must come about as a result of free choice."

"The citizens must understand that the more social equality exists in a society, the better life quality will exist in all levels of that society," he said. "It is a matter of societal education."

So what would the benefits be? Better physical and mental health, longer life expectancy, better education, lower crime and drug-use rate, more social trust and greater involvement in community acts.

Recession may aggravate inequality, but it may also take the edge off it. Let's look at the previous economic crisis of the 1930s: The British government passed laws that dropped the price of goods at a faster rate than that of salaries. Therefore, inequality was very much limited as people could buy more with less money.

Although it is risky to compare the recession of the 1930s with that of the modern day, we can reach one conclusion: Some Greek citizens are paying the price, and some others are refusing to pay the cost of the crisis. The crisis that they brought to the Greek nation. That is the bubble.

George Petrocheilos is a columnist for The Johns Hopkins News-Letter at Johns Hopkins University.

UWire

Needless Kardashian, Humphries fame the real problem

Kim Kardashian is famous for a lot of reasons that society would hate to admit, but on Aug. 20, the world had an American wedding that could challenge the royal wedding in terms of importance to People Magazine.

On that day, society took great hope, because as bad as basketball and, seemingly, at life as Kris Humphries was, he could get with someone like Kim Kardashian. As many people continue to wonder what happened, we are left to speculate on what crashed this couple.

Kardashian is one of those people like Paris Hilton or Joe the Plumber — it is hard to describe why they're still famous. Her claim to fame ranges from being the daughter of a guy on O.J. Simpson's defense team to having a public relationship with Brandy's brother.

Kardashian's staying power has centered on dating a number of athletes, including Miles Austin. The E! Entertainment network has shown "Keeping up with the Kardashians" over the last five years. The show centered on her family and is possibly the worst television experience since "Deal or No Deal." At least "Deal or No Deal" didn't have spinoffs for Kardashian to appear on.

Kris Humphries is an NBA player. Devoting any more

Kendall Kaut
UWire

space to him is a tragedy while the NBA is locked out but is necessary to fully understand this divorce.

Humphries played one season at the University of Minnesota and then was drafted by the Utah Jazz in 2004. After several mediocre NBA seasons, he ended up in New Jersey. This past season, Humphries averaged a career high, averaging a double-double for the New Jersey Nets.

Humphries' success can largely be attributed to playing on a terrible team and having Deron Williams, one of the NBA's best point guards, feed him the ball.

The couple's marriage had obvious signs of failure. First, Kardashian was too intelligent for Humphries. If you believe America's education system does not risk leaving people behind, you have not heard Humphries speak.

Kardashian is attacked for being illegitimately famous but demonstrates her intelligence in interviews, displaying an advanced knowledge of legal proceedings and business concepts. If there's something to gain from this marriage, it's finding out how we could produce someone like Humphries in America.

In reality, Humphries was probably the first casualty of the NBA lockout. Humphries should have been spending September and October preparing for the NBA season but instead had a ton of free time.

Kardashian was an independent woman who, for all of her discussions on wanting to find love and get married, traveled the country promoting her brand.

In the brief time they dated, Kardashian probably enjoyed the few moments she got to spend with Humphries, but as those moments turned into weeks and those weeks turned into more than a month, Kardashian took decisive action.

Kardashian was not about to wait around like the NBA and the players union toward an inevitable 50/50 split; she was going to take everything Humphries had given her and walk.

Before we jump to criticize the couple, maybe we should stop to ask ourselves why they get the attention they do. We're almost as much to blame as they are for this little media circus.

Kendall Kaut is a columnist for The Lariat at Baylor University.

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Students to celebrate release of Asian-interest magazine

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STEFANIE CAINTO
Alligator Contributing Writer

UF now offers a magazine that caters to the Asian community.

Sparks Magazine, UF's only Asian-interest publication, will hold its release party today on the second floor of the Reitz Union by the auditorium.

Magazines will be distributed after the screening of the 2006 film "The Namesake" at 5:30 p.m.

The magazine aims to inspire members of the Asian-American community and provide insight about Asian culture in Gainesville.

"I've always felt that magazines were a powerful way to communicate with society," said Kevina Lee, the magazine's editor-in-chief.

Maureen Mariano, co-managing editor of the magazine, said she hopes the release brings support and publicity.

"I want people to see the message behind

this first issue," said Mariano, a 20-year-old journalism sophomore.

The release is in collaboration with UF's Asian Kaleidoscope Month, which is dedicated to celebrating Asian history, culture and contributions.

Before Sparks Magazine was created, the Asian community at UF had a magazine, but it was geared toward literary writing.

Lee, a 21-year-old journalism junior, wanted to get involved, but the publication shut down before she could do so.

After being involved with the Asian American Student Union organization at UF, she decided she wanted to revive the cultural aspect of the magazine but with a different vision.

"I wanted to make a brand new magazine, incorporating more journalism and more of a reason for people to read it," she said.

Linda Son, the magazine's creative director and a 20-year-old telecommunication junior, wants the magazine to be a constant source of information and hopes it can be a long-lasting voice on the UF campus.

The magazine also has a website, sparksmag.com, which is updated regularly.

Organization plans to build comfort home for veterans

JESSICA PINCUS
Alligator Contributing Writer

Next fall, veterans receiving medical treatment in Gainesville will have a free place to stay.

At the Gainesville Fisher House, veterans, members of the military and their families will be able to stay for free when receiving treatment from a military medical center.

The Fisher House is currently in its planning and fundraising stages. It will be located next to the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center and across from Shands at UF on Archer Road.

"The Gainesville Fisher House will be a comfort home where military veterans and their families can stay for longer durations," said Patti Fabiani, executive director of the Gainesville Fisher House. There are 56 Fisher Houses nationwide.

The Malcom Randall VA Medical Center currently serves 50 counties that are home to about 120,000 veterans and military members, Fabiani said.

This Fisher House location would potentially have 20 fleets, which are rooms outfitted for families. Anywhere from 20 to 60 people could stay in the house at one time.

Fundraising goals need to be reached before the opening of the house. It will cost about \$6 million to build, and the organization's goal is to raise \$3 million, which will be matched by the Fisher House Foundation.



Fabiani

In an effort to help raise funds, the Fisher House will be hosting a 5K on Veterans Day.

Brandon Davis, the campus recruitment chair for the Fisher House, originally planned the 5K as a philanthropic event for the Agricultural Economics Club, part of the Food and Resource Economics Department at UF.

The 5K is open to all participants who register online at active.com.

If all goes well, the Gainesville Fisher House should be up and running by next fall, said Davis.

NATIONAL

Parents of missing Washington boy had been cited before

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police searching for a 2-year-old Washington state boy focused their efforts Monday around the home of his mother, who reportedly told investigators she last saw him in her stalled car on a city street as she walked away for an hour to get gas.

It wouldn't be the first time Sky Metalwala had been left alone in a car. When he was just 3 months old, court records revealed, his parents left him in their sport utility vehicle in a Target parking lot for 55 minutes on a 27-degree day. They only came out of the store to get him after police arrived and asked for the vehicle's owner to be paged.

The toddler's disappearance Sunday in Bellevue, a city of 122,000 across Lake Washington from Seattle, came at the height of a custody fight between his parents, Julia Biryukova and Solomon Metalwala. They separated in March 2010 amid back-and-forth protective orders and allegations of abuse and psychiatric problems.

Last December, a social worker determined that there was a "preponderance of evidence" that Metalwala had struck his daughter hard enough to cause bruising, court records show. The social worker also said Sky had troubling bruises, but because the boy could not talk, it wasn't clear where he got them.

Last week, at a mandatory mediation session, a tentative agreement was hammered out that would allow Metalwala to have some visitation with Sky and his older sister, his lawyer said.

Biryukova reported that her car ran out of gas in Bellevue on Sunday morning, police said. She said she left Sky in the unlocked vehicle and

walked with her daughter, who is 4, about a mile to a gas station. When she returned to the car, Sky wasn't there, she said.

Investigators searched a 20-block area and even went door to door but found no sign of him. There was no gas can at the car, police said.

"Missing person, abduction, foul play has not been ruled out."

Mike Johnson
Bellevue Police Major

The Bellevue Police Department said both parents were cooperating, and Biryukova had consented to have her vehicle and home in nearby Redmond searched. The older child is in protective custody.

"We're looking at it from all angles, at this point," said Bellevue Police Maj. Mike Johnson. "Missing person, abduction, foul play has not been ruled out."

Biryukova did not immediately return a call seeking comment. Her younger brother, Stanley Biryukov, said Julia cried frantically when she called him Sunday afternoon and explained what had happened.

"I'm hoping they'll find the child," he said.

Metalwala spoke with reporters at the office of his lawyer, Leslie Clay Terry III. They said his estranged wife's story was bizarre: Why didn't she call for help, knock on a nearby door or take the child with her?

"I don't understand why she would leave a little baby in the car," Metalwala said.

In December 2009, Redmond police cited both parents for reckless endangerment at the Target parking lot. A shopper who heard the baby crying in the SUV called police, and a responding officer reported that

the car felt cold.

Paged inside the store, the couple said they had left the baby in the car for 15 to 20 minutes because they didn't want to wake him up. Surveillance video of the parking lot later proved it had been 55 minutes.

The case was dismissed early this year after the pair completed a year of probation, 40 hours of community service and a 10-week parenting

class.

The couple had been together for 14 years. He was 21 and she was a high school sophomore when they began dating, according to one of her court declarations. In another declaration, her mother, Nadia Biryukova, wrote that they married in 2003 in her kitchen just before he was to be deported to Pakistan.

In court documents filed in con-

nection with their divorce, Julia Biryukova said their relationship deteriorated in 2008 after they bought an expensive home in Kirkland and couldn't keep up with the payments on that property and a condominium they also owned.

CPS received six referrals about the family from late 2009 to late 2010, state officials reported in court documents.



AP Photo

In this undated photo provided by Solomon Metalwala, Metalwala, right, is seen holding his son, Sky Metalwala. Police in Washington state spent a second day on Monday searching for the toddler.

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2 For Rent unfurnished

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Quiet neighborhood. Lots of upgrades.
Free 32" HD Plasma TV for new Sec 8 lease.
Must see! Call 332-7700 12-7-11-74-2

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FREE Cable with HBO
All the amenities & FREE tanning
Gated, PET FRIENDLY
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postj@bellsouth.net - 376-0080, 284-3873.
12-7-11-74-2

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●3BR/2BA, fenced yard, \$1000
●4/2 in NW \$1300.
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Apts in the heart of downtown
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1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Apartments
Move in by September 15th
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2 For Rent unfurnished

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- Centerpoint - 1220 NW 12 ST \$450 - Bike to UF
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- 3BD/1BA House - 2046 NW 31 PL No application fee, most pets ok.

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11-16-11-20-2

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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. aprleve@aol.com 538-1550 12-7-11-19-2

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Greenwich Green 372-8100
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STUDENTS NEEDED - TOWNHOUSE
W/D, clubhouse, pool, gated, parking, on bus route. \$350/mo + utils per room. Available December. Call 727-729-1561 11-30-26-4

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Convenient location to Shands, UF & Butler Plaza. Asking \$650/mo. Please call Ketty 305-332-6566. yttek@hotmail.com 11-9-11-9-4

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NEW CONDOS-WALK TO UF
For Info on ALL Condo for Sale, Visit www.UFCONDOS.COM or Matt Price, University Realty, 352-281-3551 12-7-74-5

5 Real Estate



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6 Furnishings

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BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 12-7-11-74-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC
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Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 12-7-11-74-6

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. 12-7-74-6

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 12-7-74-6

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SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather.
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****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. 12-7-74-6

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A ₁	I ₁	U ₁	F ₄	L ₁	N ₁	P ₃			
A ₁	A ₁	A ₁	B ₃	D ₂	M ₃	L ₁			
E ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	T ₁	M ₃	S ₁	P ₃			

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BEST SCORE 224

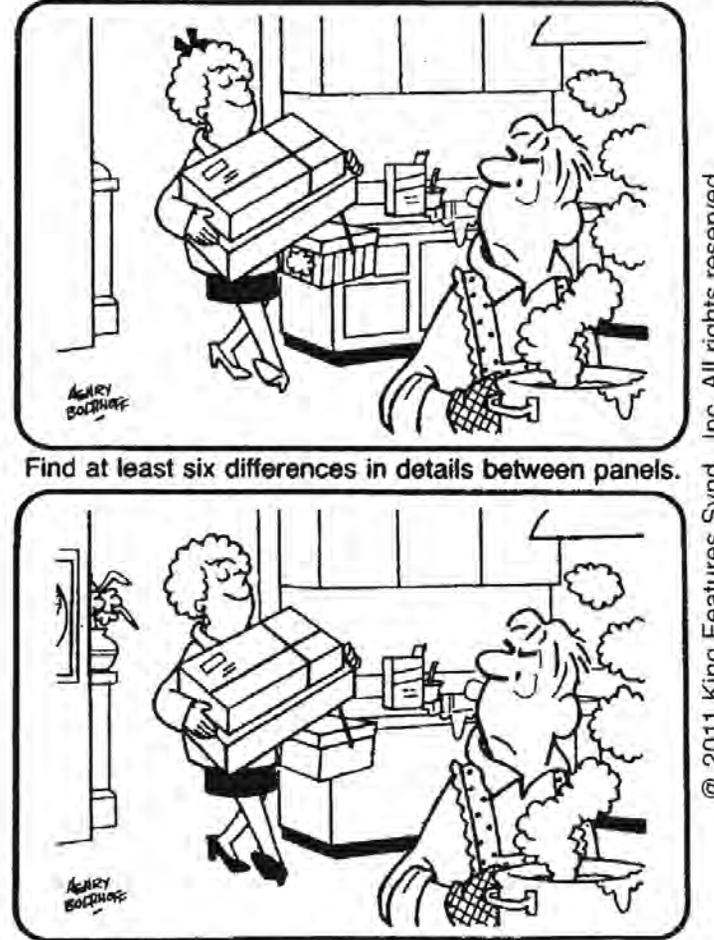
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DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" scored as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the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

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11-08

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Plant is on table. 2. Woman's bow is missing. 3. Picture is hung on wall. 4. Box is different. 5. Shoes are black. 6. Cabinet has no doors.

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9 Bicycles

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

10 For Sale

●●●●PARKING●●●● Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF. Reserve now! Reasonable rates. 352-538-2181. Can leave mssg. 12-7-11-74-10

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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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12-7-11-74-11

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WE BUY JUNK CARS

Titles Only. Call KT 352-281-9980 or 352-215-3151 12-7-11-74-12

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Call Anytime 352-339-5158 11-30-11-61-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES BACK TO SCHOOL SALE! PRICES SLASHED!!!! NO CREDIT CHECKS!!!! 352-338-1999 12-7-74-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES ALL VEHICLES \$0 DOWN! NO CREDIT CHECKS CASH VEHICLES \$999 & UP! 352-338-1999 12-7-74-12

92 EAGLE TALON \$999 89 FORD BRONCO \$999 94 FORD TAURUS \$999 96 HONDA ACCORD \$1499 352-338-1999 12-7-74-12

12 Autos

96 CADILLAC DEVILLE \$1999 95 NISSAN 200SX \$1999 98 FORD F250 \$2500 02 CHEVY BLAZER \$4999 352-338-1999 12-7-74-12

96 TOYOTA CAMRY \$1999 98 PONTIAC GRAND AM \$1999 01 DODGE NEON \$1999 00 OLDS ALERO \$2500 352-338-1999 12-7-74-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES CERTIFIED USED VEHICLES NO CREDIT CHECK MOVE VEHICLES \$500 & UP! 352-375-9090 12-7-74-12

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13 Wanted

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LOCAL ARTIST NEEDS: ★ Gold ★ Diamonds ★ Gems ★ Class Rings ★ ETC ★ Top Cash \$\$\$ or Trade ★ OZZIE'S FINE JEWELRY 352-318-4009. 12-7-74-13

13 Wanted

UF GRAD PAYS MORE for gold jewelry, scrap gold, Rolex, diamonds, guitars, etc. Top \$\$\$ Get my offer before you sell! Call Jim 376-8090 or 222-8090 12-7-74-13

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED I AM BLIND & WOULD LIKE HELP WITH: ●Rides to church: Mass at Queen of Peace. ●Learning to rake knit hats to send to Haiti & other places. Call 352-219-6948 11-10-11-77-13



St. Francis House is a homeless shelter and soup kitchen located in downtown Gainesville and we are looking for help from volunteers like you. St. Francis House is in need of donations such as personal hygiene items and household cleaners such as bleach and liquid Lysol. If you are interested in helping, please contact Stephanie Breal at (352) 378-9079 or by e-mail at sfhcoor@stfrancis.cfcxmail.com

14 Help Wanted

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BARTENDING **\$300 A DAY POTENTIAL** No experience necessary, training provided. 800-965-6520 ext 138 12-7-11-74-14

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Flashbacks buys, trades, and consigns clothing, jewelry, shoes and purses. We pay \$. We buy name brands, mall brands, indie, punk, goth, urban, prep, hippie, retro, and costume. 509 NW 10th Ave. 352-375-3752 12-7-74-14

STUDENTPAYOUTS.COM Paid survey takers needed. Gainesville. 100% FREE to join. Click on Surveys 12-7-11-73-14

Earn \$1000-\$3200 per month to drive our cars with ads. www.FreeCarJobs.com 11-18-11-57-14

●●●ATTENTION SMOKERS!●●● ●●Do you want to quit smoking?●● Smokers needed to participate in a smoking cessation study. You may be compensated. Call UF Smoking Lab & Clinic (352) 870-6509 or email: ufsmokelabclinic@gmail.com 11-17-20-14

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

ACROSS

- 1 Argentine dance
- 6 Move a little
- 10 Peak measurement: Abbr.
- 14 Abraham nearly sacrificed him
- 15 Right-hand person
- 16 Curtain material
- 17 Cocktail party mouthful
- 19 Unsullied
- 20 Woo with a tune
- 21 Fill, as a moving van
- 23 Swallowed
- 24 New Mexico art community
- 25 1950s kiddie show hosted by "Miss Frances"
- 32 Bewildered
- 33 Dundee demurrals
- 34 Horror film franchise
- 36 "So Sick" R&B artist
- 37 Collect compulsively
- 39 It may begin with "Knock knock"
- 40 Bird that can hold its coffee?
- 41 Many Christmas trees
- 42 Steakhouse order
- 43 They frequently shoot par or better
- 47 Word often sighed
- 48 Big Band
- 49 Whacks on the bottom
- 52 On cloud nine
- 57 Yale Bowl rooters
- 58 Very last moment
- 60 List heading
- 61 Buck suffix
- 62 Bunsen burner cousins
- 63 Did laps, perhaps
- 64 Hair care products
- 65 Put into effect

DOWN

- 1 Eccentric mannerisms
- 2 1968 U.S. Open champ Arthur
- 3 Solution for a hairy situation?
- 4 Show astonishment
- 5 National anthem in Nunavut
- 6 Depress
- 7 It waits for no man, purportedly
- 8 Dictator Amin
- 9 Stepped in for
- 10 Sun Bowl site
- 11 Praise
- 12 Beigelike shade
- 13 Prez's next-in-line
- 18 Brussels-based defense gp.
- 22 Fireworks reactions
- 24 Title of the first Fabergé egg owner
- 25 Copenhagen native
- 26 Anatomical canals
- 27 "Bye Bye Bye" boy band
- 28 Prefix with thermal
- 29 Grind together, as one's teeth
- 30 " _ Mio"
- 31 California hoopster
- 35 Dampens
- 37 Run into trouble
- 38 Warriors in Warcraft games
- 39 The PB in a PB&J, maybe
- 41 Columbo portrayer
- 42 Fixed price
- 44 Kidnapper's demand
- 45 Long-tailed tropical wall climbers
- 46 Approximately
- 49 Tennis match parts
- 50 Oxen's burden
- 51 Enslaved princess of opera
- 52 Earth sci.
- 53 Business envelope abbr.
- 54 Turner on stage
- 55 Apple product
- 56 " _ Magnifique": Porter tune
- 59 Anger

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 11/08/11

By Donna S. Levin (c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 11/08/11

Attention Advertisers

In honor of our Veterans,
 The Alligator will not be publishing on Friday, November 11.

Run Date Deadline

Mon, Nov. 14 Wed, Nov. 9
 Tues, Nov. 15 Thur, Nov. 10

This is for both classified and display advertising

alligator the independent florida

Display: 376-4482
 Classifieds: 373-3463

Brantley expected to play at South Carolina



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Quarterback John Brantley sat out the final nine minutes of UF's win against Vanderbilt on Saturday after suffering an injury to his arm.

► HE LEFT VANDY GAME IN FOURTH QUARTER WITH INJURY TO RIGHT ARM.

TOM GREEN
Alligator Staff Writer

Florida redshirt senior quarterback John Brantley was held out of practice Monday after injuring his right arm against Vanderbilt.

Coach Will Muschamp said Brantley's injury is "nothing serious," and that he expects the signal-caller to return to practice today and be ready to start against South Carolina this weekend.

Brantley suffered the injury late in the fourth quarter of Saturday's 26-21 win and sat out the end of the game while freshman Jacoby Brissett took over the offense.

After the game, Brantley walked off the field with his bicep wrapped in ice.

Brantley said he hasn't thrown since late in Saturday's game, when he tossed some warm-up passes on the sideline before the coaches and trainers decided it would be best for him to sit out the final minutes.

"It feels better," Brantley said. "Took a good shot on it and right now it's just bruised up, nothing more than that."

As for Brantley's right ankle, which he sprained just before halftime against Alabama on Oct. 1, the quarterback said he is inching closer to being 100 percent, but was sporting an air cast Monday.

Although his mobility is still limited, he and Muschamp said the quarterback will "possibly" be able to take snaps from under center at some point this week.

"Whenever we feel that I can do that at 100 percent, we will," Brantley said.

Pistol here to stay: After Florida unveiled its version of the pistol formation against Vanderbilt, Muschamp said the Gators will continue to use the set to establish a downhill rushing attack.

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 15

Gators looking to move past SEC struggles

JOSH JURNOVOY
Alligator Writer

The Gators have never been more ready to forget about the Southeastern Conference.

No. 23 Florida (16-7, 7-4 SEC) will look to put a disappointing stretch of SEC games in the rearview mirror as it prepares this week for the opening round of the NCAA Tournament.

"I'm just happy to get out of the league right now," coach Becky Burleigh said.

The Gators experienced unprecedented struggles within the SEC during the last three weeks.

Prior to this season, Florida had never lost more than three games within the conference in school history. The Gators surpassed that total by losing to LSU and South Carolina at home to end the season, their first ever back-to-back home SEC losses.

After defeating Georgia and Alabama in the first two rounds of the conference tournament last week, Florida fell 3-2 to a seventh-seeded Auburn team it defeated during the regular season.

Burleigh said having the opportunity to play an opponent outside the conference will give her team a fresh start.

"For our players it's going to be nice to be out of the SEC in terms of not playing somebody that

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 14

UF Soccer

THE RALLY

Should the SEC expand from eight to nine conference games?

Tyler: University of South Carolina President Harris Pastides said Sunday that the SEC will expand to a nine-game conference schedule starting next season. SEC officials, for their part, went all "nothing to see here" and said they had not even discussed changing the current eight-game format.

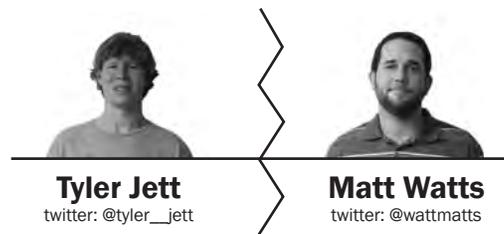
This would be all well and good, except Pastides' comments were well thought out, certainly not incoherent thoughts spewing from a crazy southern gentleman's skull. Pastides said one of three previously scheduled nonconference opponents (Wofford, East Carolina or UAB) would not play South Carolina next season. If the Gamecocks lost money by going back on their word, the SEC promised to cover it, Pastides said.

Regardless of how many conference games will be played next season, the SEC has at least considered expanding the season. Or Pastides

is playing a weird joke — seems unlikely for someone who works at an institute of higher learning.

Adding a ninth conference game makes more sense because, if for no other reason, Gators fans are guaranteed at least one more quality opponent each year. Florida would have to drop one of four nonconference games next season, probably against Jacksonville State or Louisiana-Lafayette, to make room for an SEC West team.

Matt: I disagree with expanding the conference schedule to nine games, and, like all things related to college football these



Tyler Jett
twitter: @tyler_jett

Matt Watts
twitter: @wattmatts

days, it's all about the money.

Adding an extra conference game to the schedule is a logistical problem, first of all. The SEC signed a 15-year, \$2.25 billion contract with ESPN in 2009 and another

with CBS for 15 years and \$825 million. Who knows if exceptions were built into those contracts to expand the pay rate for another SEC game? Or will the SEC simply have to bite the bullet and give the networks a game under the current money agreement?

Then, you also have to factor in the actual market value of the conference's deal on the current landscape. Those contracts run

through 2023 — smart for the networks, maybe not so smart for the SEC.

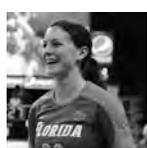
The Pac-12 signed a 12-year, \$2.7 billion deal in May, already making the SEC's contract undervalued. Now, they're talking about adding more value in the form of another game.

Supposedly, the SEC and ESPN agreed for "look-ins" — periodic evaluations of the contract — throughout the deal, but the latest from the Worldwide Leader isn't so promising: "They don't reopen the deal. There's no outs," said Burke Magnus, a senior vice president of college sports programming in June.

Tyler: If the SEC wants to reopen the contract, ESPN will play ball. The SEC is the best conference, and ESPN can't afford to lose it.

The conference wants its own network like that of the Big Ten, which will be generating

SEE THE RALLY, PAGE 15



Florida freshman Holly Pole has earned additional playing time after excelling during volleyball team practices. See Story, Page 16.

Lerner Honored

Florida punter David Lerner is set to receive the Dick Schaap Sportsman of the Year Award from the Greater New York Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America.

The Podcast

Check out alligatorSports.org or iTunes for the latest edition of the podcast. Join host Greg Luca and writers Tom Green and Matt Watts as they break down UF's win against Vandy.

UF awarded No. 2 seed, favorable draw in NCAA tournament

SOCCER, from page 13

knows us so well," Burleigh said. "That whole second half of the season where everybody knows every single player on every single team is a little bit of a grind."

The SEC's presence in the NCAA Tournament is greater than ever, with a record eight teams making the field.

"We're battle tested," said Burleigh, referring to the quality of the SEC.

Florida learned Monday afternoon that it received a No. 2 seed and will play host to the Atlantic Sun Conference champion Florida Gulf Coast on Saturday in the opening round of the tournament.

The Gators defeated the Eagles on Sept. 11, 5-0, but Burleigh said that win does not have any bearing on Saturday's match.



Burleigh

"We don't get any extra points for having beat them earlier in the year," she said.

Although Burleigh said the Gators' previous win is irrelevant, she said she likes having

game tape to review.

While the Gators have had inconsistencies on both offense and defense throughout the season, Burleigh said the team sees the tournament as a chance at a fresh slate.

She also believes the experiences of the up-and-down season will serve them well going forward.

"We have done a lot of things that have helped to prepare us," she said. "We've played in a lot of pressure situations. We've played from behind. We've been able to dominate games."

"Those things make us better in the long run, but now it's time to put all of those things together and execute."



2011 NCAA Division 1 Women's Soccer Championship

First Round
November 11, 12 or 13

- 1 *Stanford (19-0-1)
- Montana (8-11-4)
- Texas (11-5-1)
- *South Carolina (15-6)
- *Santa Clara (13-2-5)
- California (12-6-2)
- Marist (13-5-2)
- *Boston College (11-5-2)
- 3 *Auburn (14-6-2)
- Utah St. (15-4-2)
- La Salle (15-1-3)
- *Maryland (10-5-4)
- *Illinois (16-4-2)
- Notre Dame (10-7-3)
- Ark.-Pine Bluff (16-4-1)
- 2 *Oklahoma St. (19-1-2)
- 2 *Virginia (14-4-2)
- Long Island (12-7-1)
- Washington St. (12-6-3)
- *Kentucky (13-7)
- *West Virginia (17-4)
- Virginia Tech (12-7-1)
- LSU (13-7-1)
- 3 *Texas A&M (15-5-2)
- 4 *Memphis (21-0-1)
- UT Martin (14-6-2)
- Dayton (19-3)
- *Louisville (12-6-3)
- *Oregon St. (13-5-2)
- Portland (9-9-1)
- Samford (14-5-2)
- 1 *Florida St. (14-6-1)

Second/Third Round
November 18 & 20

FIRST ROUND

3 – North Carolina (11-5-1) Chapel Hill, N.C.
As the predominant program in women's college soccer, the Tar Heels have won 20 NCAA championships since 1982. One of the few times North Carolina has fallen short of an NCAA Championship came in 1998 against a Florida squad featuring Abby Wambach.

William & Mary (17-2-2)
With UNC's success and seeding in mind, William & Mary is an unusually tough draw in the first round. The Tribe were ranked 25th nationally to end the regular season and reeled off 10 straight wins in September and October.

Texas State (14-5-1)
Making the NCAA Tournament for just the fifth time in school history, the Bobcats have to travel over to Waco, Texas, to take on a Baylor Bears team they previously lost to 2-0 on Sept. 9.

Baylor (14-3-3) Waco, Texas
Baylor just missed out on a Big 12 Tournament Championship berth after falling in penalty kicks to Missouri. But all was not lost for the at-large Bears, who received a tourney bid for the first time since 1999.

UCF (11-4-5) Orlando
The Knights might have struggled to a fourth-place finish in Conference USA, but they showed their upset potential earlier in the year with a win against No. 11 Penn State.

FIU (13-6-3)
As the Sun Belt Conference Champion, FIU makes the field of 64 for just the second time and will play a UCF team it hasn't beaten since 2000.

Florida Gulf Coast (14-4-2)
After being trounced 5-0 by the Gators in Gainesville on Sept. 11, the Eagles rebounded nicely with an Atlantic Sun Championship and just one other loss through the rest of the season.

2 – Florida (16-7) Gainesville
Much like its favorable Southeastern Conference Tournament draw last weekend, Florida received a manageable path to the third round of the NCAA Tournament and, potentially, will not have to leave the state until the quarterfinals.

*Host institution for preliminary round games
Order of semifinal games will be determined after quarterfinal round games are completed.
Second semifinal game will begin play 45 minutes after the conclusion of the first game.

Source: NCAA.com

Shawn Janetzke / Alligator Staff

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Butler, UF looking to future

JOE MORGAN

Alligator Writer

Headed into her fifth season as the Gators' coach, Amanda Butler admits that due to the changing nature of the game, there are no universal solutions to her past obstacles.

"Each year ... is so different," she said. "We certainly have learned and grown — myself included, my staff — and we're just excited to have this group of seniors."

This season's senior class, led by center Azania Stewart, holds special significance.

When Butler took over in Gainesville prior to the 2007-08 campaign, Stewart was among the first players she brought into the program.

"(Butler's) energy is out of this world," Stewart said. "If you don't match it and you don't come to her expectations, then you get left behind."

Butler's 78 wins at UF mark the best four-year total in school history, and she is also the first Gators women's basketball coach to lead her squad to a postseason berth in each of her first four seasons.

However, Butler is just 7-20 against ranked opponents at Florida and has advanced to the NCAA Tournament only once.

The senior class boasts five members while the Gators return 10 players overall from last

year's squad.

With that experience in tow, Butler has been impressed by her squad's "sense of urgency."

"They are defining — by the way they play — what Florida basketball means on the women's side," Butler said.

Since taking over as the Gators' coach, Butler has tried to change the definition of Florida women's basketball.

While Butler has shown signs of improvement as a coach, redshirt senior Jordan Jones says that it's important for the players to reciprocate their coach's support for them.

"I really do respect her a lot — not just as a coach, but as a person," Jones said. "That's important: to play for a coach you respect a lot."

Butler's main strategy to return to the NCAA Tournament is simple: win more games.

Improving their total in the win column will start with Friday's season opener against Michigan at 4:30 p.m. in the O'Connell Center.

"We just want to put ourselves in a position where people aren't making decisions for us," Butler said. "We want to be in control of our own destiny."



Butler

THE RALLY, from page 13

about \$333 million annually by 2015, according to the financial information firm SNL Kagan.

The SEC added Texas A&M and Missouri to bolster the future SEC Network. Really, the expansion was about picking up the St. Louis, Kansas City and Texas TV markets.

More eyeballs tied to the conference will be good for the future SEC Network, as will more conference games.

Matt: I agree that the expansion was mainly about picking up the lucrative markets you mentioned, but I'm not sold on the prospects of an SEC Network or the SEC's sway over ESPN and their contract.

ESPN has extended its reach. They're not as reliant on the SEC as you might think. Still, there are more money issues to this schedule expansion talk than just TV deals.

If Florida had to play another conference game during this year's regular season, the Gators, among other SEC under-achievers, would be in serious jeopardy of making it to a bowl game.

Instead of a gimme win against Furman in two weeks, Florida could be

playing Texas A&M or Arkansas.

Think about that.

The Gator Bowl, a likely destination for Florida, generated \$2.75 million in revenue for each team last season.

That's a serious windfall to miss out on.

Tyler: Without a nine-game schedule, however, the SEC is flawed. Starting next season, Florida will play six games against East teams. That leaves two games against the West: One against LSU every year and one against another team.

If the SEC goes with home-and-home rules against that second West team, it will take UF about 10 years to play every conference team in the regular season.

Under the current rules, Florida fans will be waiting too long to see teams like Alabama, Arkansas and Auburn. Adding an extra conference game will make these quality matchups more frequent.

Matt: The SEC will say this is good for the fans, but what it comes down to, truly, is the conference's bottom line.

Playing an extra game does more harm to the SEC than good, unless your name is on that new, assumably much larger check.

Contact Tyler Jett at tjett@alligator.org and Matt Watts at mwatts@alligator.org.

Demps named Southeastern Conference Offensive Player of the Week

FOOTBALL, from page 13

The formation worked well against Vanderbilt, as the Gators rushed for 197 yards and three touchdowns, including a career-high 158 yards from Jeff Demps, who was named the Southeastern Conference Offensive Player of the Week on Monday.

While Florida found plenty of success with

the set Saturday, Muschamp said he still prefers a traditional I-formation offense.

"That's when you keep defenses off balance," Muschamp said.

"Being able to be effective in running the ball and the play-actions off of it ... are better from under center."

Injuries: Aside from Brantley's injury, Muschamp updated the status of several other

Gators on Monday. Cornerback Jeremy Brown (knee) is the only player listed as out for the South Carolina game.

Muschamp said linebackers Jelani Jenkins (undisclosed) and Lerentee McCray (shoulder) returned to practice Monday after missing the Vanderbilt game.

Running back Chris Rainey (right ankle), right tackle Chaz Green (right ankle) and left

guard Dan Wenger (undisclosed) are expected to participate in practice today.

Freshman guard Tommy Jordan had shoulder surgery Monday and will miss the remainder of the season and take a redshirt. He joins fellow freshman offensive lineman Trip Thurman, who had season-ending shoulder surgery earlier in the year.

Contact Tom Green at tgreen@alligator.org.

HEISMAN WATCH



1. ► Andrew Luck, Stanford quarterback (20 points): 174.1 passer rating, 2,424 yards, 71.3 completion percentage, 26 touchdowns, 5 interceptions; 147 rushing yards, 5.1 yards per carry, 2 touchdowns.



Once again Andrew Luck tops our poll, this time as a unanimous selection. The senior has been a consistent force throughout the season, leading the Cardinal to a 9-0 start. Facing Oregon State last weekend in a tough road environment, Luck threw for just 206 yards but had three touchdowns to just one interception as Stanford won 38-13.

3. ▲ Kellen Moore, Boise State quarterback (8 points): 179.5 passer rating, 2,229 yards, 74.1 completion percentage, 29 touchdowns, 5 interceptions.



Kellen Moore continued his efficient dominance, throwing for five touchdowns despite sitting the majority of the fourth quarter in a 48-21 thrashing of UNLV. In all, he completed 18 of 31 passes for 219 yards. Boise State is still undefeated, and Moore's 29 touchdowns and 74.1 completion percentage both rank second nationally.

2. ► Trent Richardson, Alabama running back (14 points): 1,078 yards, 6.3 yards per carry, 17 touchdowns; 23 receptions, 292 receiving yards, 1 touchdown.



Despite losing the Game of the Century, Trent Richardson remains at No. 2 in our poll. LSU defeated Alabama 9-6 in overtime on Saturday, but Richardson posted a game-high 89 rushing yards on 23 carries and a game-high 80 receiving yards on five catches. After scoring a touchdown in every game before Saturday, Richardson failed to find the end zone against the nation's No. 3 scoring defense.

4. ▼ Case Keenum, Houston quarterback (8 points): 192.4 passer rating, 3,626 yards, 74.1 completion percentage, 34 touchdowns, 3 interceptions; 27 rushing yards, 2 touchdowns.



All Case Keenum does is put up numbers, and all Houston does is win. Saturday against UAB, Keenum completed 39 of 44 passes for 407 yards and two touchdowns as Houston rolled, 56-13. Keenum leads the nation in yards and touchdowns, ranks second in passer efficiency and is tied for second in completion percentage.

5. ▲ Brandon Weeden, Oklahoma State quarterback (5 points): 158.47 passer rating, 3,212 yards, 72.1 completion percentage, 26 touchdowns, 9 interceptions.



Almost entirely on the strength of a single second-place vote, Brandon Weeden makes his debut in our rankings this week. The fourth undefeated quarterback in our top five, the 28-year-old former minor league baseball player has led Oklahoma State to a 9-0 start and a No. 3 national ranking. Saturday, he had perhaps his best game of the year, completing 36 of 46 passes for 502 yards and four touchdowns as OSU downed Kansas State 52-45.

OUR RANKINGS

*The number in parentheses next to each name indicates how many points the candidate received from the *alligatorSports* columnists.

Greg Luca:

1. Andrew Luck
2. Trent Richardson
3. Kellen Moore
4. Case Keenum
5. Russell Wilson, Wisconsin

Tyler Jett:

1. Andrew Luck
2. Kellen Moore
3. Trent Richardson
4. Landry Jones, Oklahoma
5. Case Keenum

Tom Green:

1. Andrew Luck
2. Brandon Weeden
3. Trent Richardson
4. Case Keenum
5. Kellen Moore

Matt Watts:

1. Andrew Luck
2. Trent Richardson
3. Case Keenum
4. Landry Jones
5. Brandon Weeden

Pole, Mann earning more playing time

BRYAN HOLT
Alligator Writer

Chloe Mann and Holly Pole are different players. Standing 6-foot-1, Mann has become a dominant middle blocker for Florida, playing as high above the net as any Gators middle has in years, according to UF coach Mary Wise.

At 5-foot-8, Pole is a cheerful defensive specialist who has recently earned extended playing time due to her performance in practice.

But past the obvious contrasts, the two are similar. "Chloe and I are definitely really close," Pole said. "We played together (on club team) Gainesville Juniors. We played against each other in high school. It's definitely cool that we both get to start because we have a lot of the same friends that come to the games."

Mann and Pole grew up in Gainesville and Ocala, respectively. They briefly played club volleyball with one another. For both, volleyball was just part of a two-sport regimen in high school.

Mann got started with volleyball when she was looking for a sport to play outside of tennis season. For Pole, volleyball was a fall sport to supplement her Vanguard High basketball team, which she led to the 2010 FHSA Final Four.

"When you have good athletes, they get those volleyball skills, they get the experience and then you get them playing at their best," Wise said. "We felt that both had a high ceiling, and we're seeing them move in that direction now."

Recently, the two have improved enough to gain starting spots and extended playing time.

For the past three games, Mann, a sophomore, has started in place of senior Cassandra Anderson. On Sunday against Ole Miss, Pole, a freshman, got her first career start and responded by recording seven digs and helping turn around the Gators' passing game.

"(It's) not so much experimental as much as both Holly and Chloe have been playing well," Wise said. "I wanted to give them a chance."

The moves meant Anderson and freshman defensive specialist Madison Monserez sat out during the weekend for the first time all season.

"If we struggled, I wouldn't have hesitated to put either of those two — Maddy or Cassandra, who have more playing experience — in those positions," Wise said.

However, the two locals have not struggled. Mann led the team in points with 20, picking up eight kills and six blocks in Sunday's game.

"It's nice to play in front of a lot of people that we know and see some familiar faces out there in the crowd," Mann said. "It's definitely nice."



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Florida freshman defensive specialist Holly Pole earned the first start of her career Sunday against Ole Miss.

Despite loss, Mather's play impresses

MEGAN WALSH
Alligator Writer

Joanna Mather didn't walk away from the USTA/ITA National Indoor Championships this weekend with the collegiate grand slam title she was so close to capturing.

Instead, the UF tennis senior fell to Southern Methodist's Marta Lesniak in a 7-5, 6-1 defeat in the tournament's finals in Flushing, N.Y.

But even with a fall season-ending loss, Mather's play during the weekend was nothing for the Gators to be disappointed with.

"She did an amazing job, frankly," UF coach Roland Thornqvist said.

"Obviously she played at a very high level, but I think mentally that was the best I've seen Jo. She was very calm. She was resilient. She was confident."

Mather worked her way through a competitive round of 32 to face off against 10th-ranked Lesniak, who previously downed Florida's Lauren Embree in the tournament's round of 16.

In Sunday's finals, Mather jumped out with a 5-2 first-set lead, but Lesniak soon pulled away by wearing Mather thin with hard shots deep into the corners to win in straight sets.

Despite the loss, Thornqvist sees plenty of positives for Mather heading into the spring season, which picks up again in January.

"She did a really good job playing it point-by-point," Thornqvist said. "Whether we played a good one or we played a bad one, she had great composure and bounced back and played the next point like it was the first one of the match."



Mather

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