

Check out today's Avenue for a rundown of Drake's sophomore album, "Take Care." See story, page 10.



**ACTIVISM**

# Graduate assistants rally against fee hikes

**ERIN JESTER**  
 Alligator Writer

Waving colorful signs and chanting "stand up, fight back," UF graduate assistants rallied Wednesday to protest student fees they think are unfair.

About 40 students gathered on Plaza of the Americas to speak out against graduate assistant fees, which they say have increased 81 percent since 2005.

Unlike graduate assistant stipends, the fees are non-negotiable because they are not part of graduate assistant contracts, said Patrick McHenry, 32, co-president of the union Graduate Assistants United.

Graduate assistants received a 3 percent stipend raise last year but also faced a 16 percent increase in fees, he said.

"They're putting money in

one pocket and taking it out of the other one," said union member Jose Soto, 31.

Almost half of the undergraduate courses offered by the university are taught by graduate assistants.

*"They're putting money in one pocket and taking it out of the other one."*

**Jose Soto**  
 union member

On average this year, members of the union said they will return 10 percent of their stipends to UF in fees.

"If you work for the university, you shouldn't have to pay to work at the university," McHenry said.

Paul Ortiz of the United Faculty of Florida came to the rally

**SEE PROTEST, PAGE 5**



Haley Stracher / Alligator

People protest in front of Tigert Hall on Wednesday afternoon as part of a protest organized by Graduate Assistants United against increasing student fees.

# Number of international students increasing nationwide UF follows the trend

**EMILY MORROW**  
 Alligator Writer

Hyunji Lim and Moonhee Cho want to work in America.

The South Korean women are both pursuing their Ph.D. degrees in mass communication and have been studying at UF for six and three years, respectively.

Lim, 30, and Cho, 32, both applied to other American universities but decided on Florida. They said they love Gainesville and really like the weather.

Lim and Cho are among about 5,400 international students studying at UF — a number that has continued to increase in recent years.

Debra Anderson, coordinator

of international student services at UF, said the university saw its highest number of new, degree-seeking international students ever this fall.

This year, she said about 1,280 new students were admitted. In 2010 there were 1,161, and in 2009 there were 929.

Open Doors, an annual report released Monday by the Institute of International Education, indicated that this trend is nationwide. A record 723,277 international stu-

dents were enrolled in American schools during the 2010-11 school year.

Anderson said she attributes this steady increase partly to the economy. Some students aren't able to get jobs, she said, and for many, a U.S. education may be cheaper than one at home.

Countries like China, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have also recently implemented programs that promote and fund studying in America, she said.

In China, for example, the Ministry of Education has established the China Scholarship Council, a nonprofit that gives financial aid to Chinese citizens to study abroad.

About 22 percent of the total international students studying in the U.S. were from China, making it the country with the largest student representation in the U.S.

India had held this spot for the past decade, but for the first time in

**SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 5**

# Firehouse Subs grants \$13,000 to Gainesville Fire Rescue

**THE AWARD WILL PAY FOR A NEW THERMAL IMAGING DEVICE.**

**MEREDITH RUTLAND**  
 Alligator Staff Writer

You're paying for a sandwich at Firehouse Subs when an employee asks if you want to round your bill up to the next dollar for charity. Ever wonder where that money goes?

Gainesville Fire Rescue is set to get \$13,000 for a new thermal imaging device from that

donation fund. The Gainesville City Commission is expected to approve the grant at its meeting today.

When firefighters get to a building, sometimes smoke keeps them from finding flames in walls or ceilings. The device will help firefighters extinguish fires faster by pointing out which areas in the building are hottest, Gainesville Fire Rescue Chief Gene Prince said.

He said his department has a device on each of its six fire engines, but the new device will be used to replace one that is about 11

years old.

"We're using these every day in what we do," Prince said. "Time's always of the essence."



Prince

for Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation,

He said the device could also be used to find people who are in burning buildings, but the department hasn't needed to use it for that purpose yet.

Meghan Bender, community programs manager

said grant money comes from several types of donations, including selling leftover five-gallon pickle buckets for \$2 and collecting money when customers agree to round up their bill to the next dollar.

That money gets pooled from each Firehouse Subs restaurant into the grant program. Organizations can submit proposals for funding, and a board of directors decides which proposals to fund.

Bender said an organization must be located within 30 miles of a Firehouse Subs restaurant in order to be considered for a grant.

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**Editorial: What happened to accountability in SG?**  
 Senate should have impeached supervisor of elections, pg 6.  
**Wenger out for Furman game Saturday**  
 Offensive lineman Dan Wenger has an ankle injury, pg 17.



**An inside look at SG voting**  
 The Alligator explores how elections are conducted at UF and other state universities, pg. 4.



## News Today

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

## RUB Now Playing: "Tron"

Today, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.  
Reitz Union Auditorium  
Watch how the whole story started with the original "Tron." Disney's "Tron" stars Jeff Bridges as computer programmer Kevin Flynn, who becomes part of the very game that he's programming. This movie is free and open to the public.

## Gator Groan 2011

Today, 8 p.m.  
Reitz Union Rion Ballroom  
Theatre Strike Force presents: "Gator Groan 2011," a show all about what it really means to be a Gator. Come out Thursday to TSF's biggest sketch show of the semester. It's finally time to let the Gator groan.

## Student Global AIDS Campaign (UF) General Meeting

Today, 7:30 p.m.  
McCarty B, Room 1108  
Come learn about fundraising and volunteering opportunities with SGAC. The group is an AIDS education and awareness club that hosts fundraisers for global health organizations and serves the Gainesville community in diverse ways. This week, the group will discuss meeting Senator Marco Rubio. To learn more about how to participate, please attend the meeting or find the group on Facebook at Student Global AIDS Campaign (UF).

## FORECAST

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
 RAIN 78/52	 PARTLY CLOUDY 72/57	 PARTLY CLOUDY 78/59	 PARTLY CLOUDY 80/58	 PARTLY CLOUDY 82/53

## The Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil

Today, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Reitz Union Amphitheater  
A celebration and candlelight vigil remembering the lives of transgender people who were victims of violence. Speakers from the community will also be present at the event.

## HEAL's Fall Health Panel

Today, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Pugh Hall  
Get pre-health questions answered from students who have gone through the process and from those currently in professional schools. Students from the following schools will be present: medical, dental, pharmacy, nursing, physical therapy and physician assistant. The health panel is open to everyone. Refreshments will be served after.

## Theatre Strike Force @ Gator Nights

Friday, 9:30 p.m.  
Orange & Brew  
Come see Theatre Strike Force's final Gator Nights show of the semester. They'll be sharing "Whose Line is it

Anyway?"-style comedy Friday night in Orange & Brew.

## Alpha Zeta Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Applebee's Restaurant,  
1005 NW 13th St.  
Enjoy two pancakes, two sausage links, scrambled eggs and a tall glass of coffee, soda or orange juice for \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

## 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](mailto: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.

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](mailto:editor@alligator.org).

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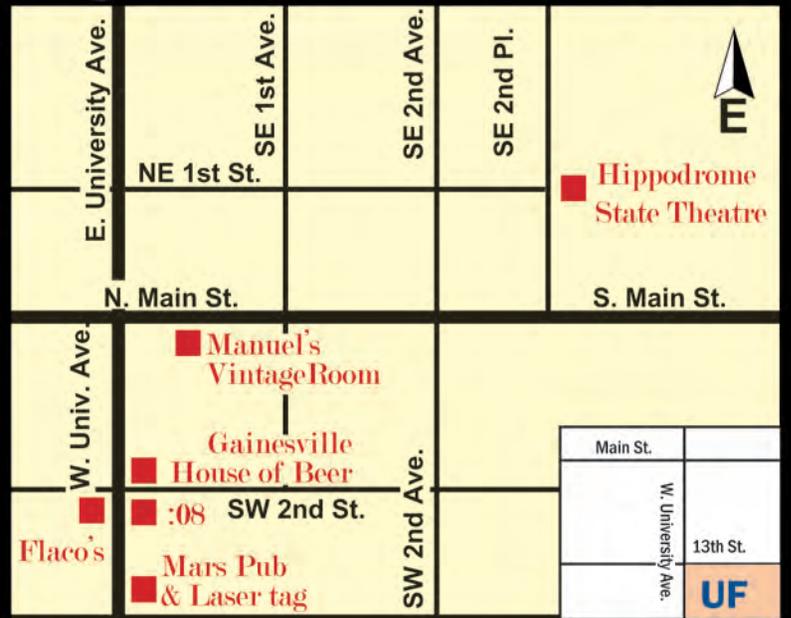
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# SG voting: An inside look at how it works at UF and other schools

**CLARE LENNON**

Alligator Writer

In September, about 8,000 UF students threaded their ways through fliers, stickers, party supporters and snaking lines to vote at the on-campus polls.

The Fall 2011 Student Government Senate elections were the first time SG implemented the new electronic voting system. Students were able to vote on computers at 11 on-campus polling locations.

However, results generated by electronic voting were thrown into question when 535 students voted on District E ballots, up from 65 in 2010's paper-ballot elections. Fall elections are location-based, and District E is the voting district for commuter students.

An investigation by the Election Commission determined that stu-

dents' addresses were not taken from information students are required to update each year. Students whose permanent, nonlocal addresses were put into the voting system would have been placed in District E. Some computers crashed, and students were turned away from polls.

The integrity of UF's paper-ballot system was called into question during the Spring 2011 executive and Senate elections. Three students said they had cast multiple ballots.

Former Senate President Micah Lewis, who took office in Spring, said fixing the weaknesses of the elections system was high-priority. He said that before he proposed the new system during the summer, he researched secure-location online voting.

Schools like Florida State University and the University of Central Florida, as well as the University

of Georgia, have held online voting elections for at least five years, student government officials at these schools said.

The University of South Florida adopted a similar system in Spring 2011. FSU, UCF, UGA and USF students can vote in their schools' unrestricted voting systems from any computer anywhere through the online university accounts.

Lewis said he did not look at other schools' voting systems but instead focused on the 2005 electronic voting attempt at UF and how to improve on it.

He said he still thinks secure-location electronic voting is the best way for UF to conduct elections.

UF Student Body Treasurer T.J. Villamil said allowing students to vote on any computer would open students up to pressure from other students and could present security problems. He said security was the biggest factor in SG choosing the current voting system.

Villamil said he was also on board with the switch to UF's secure-location electronic voting because it saved the school money.

He said the new electronic voting system is given a budget of \$25,000 each year. The paper ballots cost UF about \$50,000.

FSU Supervisor of Elections Juliet Kesilyas said she has a \$10,000 budget for advertising the elections and a \$1,000 budget for miscellaneous costs.

The Student Government Association at USF hires Votenet, an outside company, instead of relying on the university's information technology department as the other three schools do. It costs the school about \$7,000 each year.

UCF, FSU and UGA student government officials could not find any direct costs attached to holding unrestricted online voting.

Several UF SG officials have spoken out against implementing unrestricted online voting.

They say it would make it easier for students to pressure each other into voting for a specific candidate or SG political party.

Senate President Andy Mason said that while unrestricted online voting is the easiest method, polling stations protect the integrity of a student's vote from pressure by fellow students.

At UCF, student pressure to vote a certain way is an "issue of concern," said Student Government Association spokeswoman Ashley Tinstman. She said when UCF Senate candidates campaign, they can have laptops in their tents with them so students can vote there, but candidates can't direct students to vote a certain way.

The Election Commission at UCF also sets up a tent on campus where students can learn about the school's student government and elections from a neutral source.

Tinstman said student government cannot control what students do in their homes.

Candidates at USF police each other, said the school's supervisor of elections, James Bodden.

"They understand that any advantage another candidate gets could potentially hurt them," he said. USF does not have political parties.

*"Virtually every aspect of elections falls under our responsibility."*

**Wes Robinson**  
head of UGA Elections Committee

Concerns about student pressure were raised, and volunteers patrol the campus to deter infractions, he said.

UGA's student government has also taken a proactive role recently.

Attorney General and head of the Elections Committee Wes Robinson said that until changes began in the spring, the executive candidates on a ticket would assemble Senate candidates to support their platform.

Robinson said the Senate candidates were "just running off of whatever the executive ticket wanted." New rules at UGA prohibit that.

He said the Elections Committee has since become more involved in the elections.

The committee proposes changes to Senate, drives around campus to check that candidates are campaigning correctly and hears complaints.

"Virtually every aspect of elections falls under our responsibility," he said.

UF Supreme Court Chief Justice Matt Michel said the role of the Election Commission is defined in the SG Election Code. The Commission hears complaints and recommends to the Senate whether results should

be validated.

The Senate has the authority to vote on changes to the codes.

"They have pretty broad discretion as to what they want the Election Commission to do or not do," he said.

The commission heard the appeal from members of the Students Party on Sept. 30 and denied it.

After the decision, party members took the appeal to UF's Supreme Court. Court Justices heard the appeal and ordered the commission to investigate the procedures.

The court decided not to order new elections but asserted its right to do so and suggested the Senate make changes to the election codes.

Justice Tim Mason said at an Oct. 12 meeting that he did not want to see the same issues resurface before the court.

"I'm going to be less forgiving," he said.

Lewis said some codes should be addressed before spring elections, but he isn't convinced that unrestricted online voting could maintain privacy of student votes.

He said SG and its culture might set the school apart, and challenges at UF might not be issues at other universities.

"The excitement and intricacy that surrounds elections is much more pronounced [at UF]," he said.

Jeanna Mastrodicasa, assistant vice president for Student Affairs at UF, said she knows other schools successfully use unrestricted online voting, but administrators don't make changes to the voting system.

She said it's up to students and SG to decide on unrestricted or secure-location electronic voting.

"If that's what the students want to do, they can make it happen," she said.

At Tuesday night's Senate meeting, Mason announced 11 senators who will serve on the committee to revise elections rules. Sens. Matt Mountjoy and Katie Waldman will lead them.

Waldman said implementing a new system is a possibility. She plans to look at systems used at schools like Ohio State University, the University of South Carolina and the University of Alabama.

"I think we're going to look at the whole system from the top down," she said.



Emily Doyle / Alligator

Warren Burgher, 19, a mechanical engineering junior, votes in the Reitz Union computer lab on Sept. 27 for the SG elections.

 Type of Voting	Turnout	Political Parties	Cost/year
Unrestricted online	4,689	Yes, but not stable	Online is free
 Unrestricted online	2,873	Yes	Online is free, \$10,000 for ads, \$1,000 for misc.
 Electronic on designated on-campus computers	8,271	Yes	\$25,000
 Unrestricted online	2,347 (bigger in spring: 6,001)	No	\$7,000
 Unrestricted online	last raw number available is 7,306 in 2009 (estimated 3 percent less in 2011)	Small parties based on colleges	Online is free, planning advertising budget

# Majority of international students study science, engineering

## STUDENTS, from page 1

five years, the enrollment of Indian students decreased in the U.S.

This fall, the number of Chinese students studying at UF exceeded the number of Indian students, Anderson said.

The majority of international

students study engineering or other science fields.

In 2010, there were about 5,400 international students at UF, about 2,400 of whom were studying engineering.

The Open Doors report said the trends work both ways. About 10,000 more U.S. students

studied abroad last year than in the previous school year.

*"I'm keeping all my possibilities open."*

**Moonhee Cho**

*Ph.D. candidate in Mass Communications*

Kirsten Laufer, assistant di-

rector of study abroad services at UF, said she has seen a drastic increase in students' interest in programs in India and China.

UF ran six programs in China this summer, and about 100 students participated, said Laufer.

Laufer said the majority of students are interested in studying

the language — an increasingly valuable skill as economic ties with China continue to grow.

For Cho, studying in the U.S. has increased the number of options she has after grad school, she said.

"I'm keeping all my possibilities open," she said.



Amanda Cohen / Alligator

### Man's Best Friend

UF graduate Robbie Curry, 35, who has cerebral palsy, and his assistance dog, Alister, participated in the Disability Awareness Fair on Wednesday on the Reitz Union North Lawn to promote the organization Canine Companions for Independence. Read the story at [alligator.org](http://alligator.org).

## They want the Board of Trustees to hear the issue

### PROTEST from page 1

to voice his support for graduate assistants.

Professors can't teach classes and continue to do their research without the help of graduate assistants, and people forget that, he said.

Protesters marched to Tigert Hall, where they asked Board of Trustees liaison Jamal Sowell to put the issue of graduate assistant fees on the board's agenda for the December meeting.

Student fees, which are also paid by undergraduates, help pay for RecSports, student health care and legal services, counseling and other services graduate students use, UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said.

Graduate assistant fees also go toward GatorGradCare, a health insurance plan the assistants receive through employment at UF.

"If they're not paying the fees, someone has to," she said.



Sikes

In August, President Bernie Machen announced his desire to evaluate graduate programs and find ways to improve them.

His suggestions included increasing graduate assistant stipends.

He is expected to discuss the stipends at the December Board of Trustees meeting.

2011-12 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

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Editorial

## WTF?

### Student Government has no accountability

If ever there was a moment for the Student Government to turn to Article VII of its Constitution, dealing with impeachment of executive officers, the recent election debacle would be it.

Did SG make sure that someone was accountable for the screw up during the last election cycle?

Of course not. That would be ethical, legal and responsible.

On Tuesday night, SG voted not to impeach Supervisor of Elections Toni Megna.

To be clear, impeaching a member of SG does not mean that the person will be removed from office. Instead, it means that he or she will face a Student Senate trial on charges of "misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, abuse of power or conviction of a criminal offense while in office."

At issue in this case was "nonfeasance" on the part of Megna, which the impeachment agenda defined as "the nonperformance of some act which ought to be performed."

The resolution, drafted by members of the Students Party, included 13 elections codes they believed were not followed.

On Tuesday, the Senate went through each of the 13 code violations and voted on whether they were true. If Megna was found not to follow a code, then the Senate considered whether to impeach her.

The Senate voted, by a two-thirds majority, that eight of the 13 rules were not followed. Did they vote that any of these infractions warranted impeachment?

Of course not. That would be ethical, legal and responsible.

The members of SG that voted against the articles of impeachment have violated the honor code in Article I, Section 3 of their constitution, which states "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

The members of SG have shown that they do not care about just or fair processes and, instead, opt for convenience, cronyism and favoritism.

Sen. Katie Waldman excused Megna's lack of following the rules by saying that she was a student with other responsibilities.

Well she shouldn't have been supervisor of elections. It's not brain surgery. If you think there might be a problem with performing your duties and obligations when applying for a position, you probably shouldn't go for that position. Any and all mistakes made after the fact are on you, and you need to atone for them.

SG recognizes that rules were not followed and held no one accountable. Well, then, why have election rules in the first place?

Just change it up every semester. Obviously hardly anyone in SG cares that rules are followed.

For that matter, if you're not going to use your impeachment powers when they are needed, you might as well get rid of those, too.

### Reader response

**Today's question:** Would you vote in SG elections if you could do it online?

**Wednesday's question:** Do you think the SG supervisor of elections should have been impeached?

**28% YES**  
**72% NO**  
230 TOTAL VOTES

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

Elizabeth Behrman  
EDITOR

Joey Flechas  
MANAGING EDITOR

Justin Hayes  
OPINIONS EDITOR

**alligator**  
the independent florida

## SON of a GATOR

by Andre R. Frattino



### Guest column

## CHOICES is a program worth funding

CHOICES saved my life.

I've been reading all of the negative letters and commentary about CHOICES, the county's insurance for the working poor, and I realized that what is missing from the dialogue is the voices of the people that have benefited from the program.

I attended UF 22 years ago and moved west for journalism jobs. Two years ago, I moved back to the area and took a full-time job teaching high school.

One of the reasons I moved back to Gainesville was for the renowned medical research going on at UF.

In 2002, I was diagnosed with Graves' disease, which is a chronic thyroid immune malfunction. In my case, I started losing weight so rapidly that during a weekend I would drop up to 10 of my 120 pounds even though I ate three square meals a day.

I tried treatment with doses of a thyroid inhibitor, but it continued to triple in size, block my airway and accelerate my metabolism.

I didn't sleep for more than three or four hours a night for many years.

So I decided to take a part-time teaching job last year to give my body rest and, in doing so, qualified for CHOICES as my husband had been unemployed since we moved here, and our income was less than \$24,000.

I wiped out my retirement fund in these past two years to pay the bills.

I have worked a minimum of two jobs since I turned 16 and have never received public assistance before, not even unemployment benefits.

Through CHOICES, I received treatment from the nation's top endocrinologists and ear, nose and throat surgeons.

As nodules began forming on my thyroid and biopsies became a norm, I decided to have the gland completely removed to avoid the "big C."

As an indirect outcome of what CHOICES did for

**Suzette Cook**  
Speaking Out

me, my husband was able to attend Florida School of Massage and received his license to practice in April.

I have graduated from the CHOICES program and now receive my current medical benefits from UF's GatorGradCare program while working as a teaching assistant.

While CHOICES did not pay for my husband to go through his training program directly, it allowed me to pay the mortgage and living expenses while he could not find work.

Not having a health insurance bill each month transferred to his ability to be a full-time student for six months and receive job skills and training.

A very heartfelt "Thank you" goes to CHOICES.

And to the complaining taxpayers: Saving my life may not be worth the \$40 million sitting in the CHOICES account, but my friends, family and 1,500 former students disagree.

And remember that this Alachua County resident who has no children of her own gladly pays property taxes that help support local programs, including schools and the education of other people's children.

CHOICES does have its flaws and the program could be a success if the enrollment process were restructured and the outreach connected with recipients who don't seem to know how to take advantage of this gift.

Perhaps instead of gleaning revenue for CHOICES from general sales taxes, we could increase the tax on cigarettes to help fund it.

In this university town full of the world's greatest minds, I'm sure a solution to the CHOICES dilemma is just a brainstorm meeting away from discovery.

Suzette Cook is a graduate student in the College of Journalism and Communications, 1990 graduate of UF and former photo editor of the Alligator.

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

## Letter to the Editor

**Construction on campus needs to be scheduled better**

Has this happened to you?

You sit down, pencil sharpened, Gator1 in hand — ready for your exam. Time begins, and promptly, large crashing noises begin out of nowhere.

On campus construction has struck again.

This happened to me during my second exam in Vertebrate Zoology, a class that you need all your focus to complete a test in time. The construction did not start until our exam had started. It was silent prior to our start. The construction is several floors above our room; however, the cranes, lifts and dropping of materials can be clearly heard through an entire wall of windows.

While it is understandable that UF must keep up with the demands students and faculty place on its physical structures, it is absurd that the construction should happen during classes, especially exams.

Understandably, it will happen. But, the university should respect the challenges that students face in testing situations — even when it is silent.

I challenge UF to rectify this situation. Although it is a challenge with a student population so large and the immense number of classes that occur each class hour, the problem should be addressed in some form. Maybe even by something so simple as shifting lunch breaks to allow for quiet in a building with many classes.

Carolyn Huntley

Fourth year entomology major at UF

## UWire

**Flawed monetary policy caused economic collapse**

The financial collapse of late 2008 has left many in the U.S. scratching their heads. How did something like this happen? What are the origins of this mess? What exactly can we do to fix it?

The U.S. government and the Federal Reserve Board appeared to have the answers, claiming it was a failure of the market that caused the crisis. Sweeping into action, they bailed out the banks, piled on the regulations and began pumping new money into the market in order to jump-start the dying economy.

However, when utilizing the lens of the Austrian business cycle theory as developed by Ludwig von Mises, it is easy to see that the collapse was not a failure of the market: It was a failure of monetary policy.

A recession occurs when large sectors of the economy see drastically falling prices more or less at the same time. Money is the common connection between all prices; therefore, monetary policy is the place to search for the problem. The Federal Reserve, in particular, is the entity in charge of monetary policy and upon closer inspection is arguably the biggest part of the problem.

The Fed has the ability to raise and lower interest rates, which it does by decreasing or increasing the money supply, respectively. By doing so, the Fed sends signals to investors about the ratio between consumption and savings within the economy. By raising interest rates, the Fed tells investors that consumers are interested in purchasing goods in the present, thus sending the signal to invest in consumer goods.

By lowering interest rates, the Fed is saying that consumers are more interested in investing in the future; thus it is signaling that saving is up and to go ahead and invest in higher-order goods — things like houses. This is risky, however, because the Fed can change interest rates in ways that

**Logan Depover**  
UWire

come into conflict with the economy's actual consumption to savings ratio.

Trying to calculate what market interest rates really are is frankly impossible due to the complexity of the marketplace. This is where problems begin to arise.

Austrian business cycle theory explains that if the Fed artificially lowers interest rates below that of the actual market level, new money pours into the banks and is then used to make loans. Investors see all of the new money as increased savings on the part of the consumer, signaling them to invest in higher order goods.

The investments are made, and the money begins to trickle down to the consumer. When consumers receive all this new money, they go out and spend it at the actual consumption-to-savings ratio that is higher than the one the Fed signaled. Thus, the investments made in higher-order goods are unprofitable due to a lack of demand, making huge portions of the economy go under all at once. We now have a recession.

This same process is the cause of the recent recession and the reason more expansionary monetary policy will not be a cure. In response to the bursting of the dot-com bubble in the early 2000s, the Fed, under the direction of Chairman Alan Greenspan, slashed interest rates to as low as 1 percent between June 2003 to June 2004. This put into motion the disinvestment that led to the housing bubble that burst in 2007.

Investors believed that the time was right to invest in higher-order goods — in this case, housing. However, when it came time to pay for all of the new housing, there just wasn't enough real consumer demand, and prices began to fall drastically. The rest of the economy soon followed with the stock market crash in 2008. The crash in stocks was due to the fact that stocks are units of title to masses of capital

or higher-order goods and the artificially low interest rates fooled investors into thinking there would be adequate demand for such goods.

In response to the crisis, the Fed has called for two rounds of monetary expansion, labeled QE I and QE II, and has kept interest rates near 0 percent in an attempt to jump-start the economy. With real, U6, unemployment figures stagnating around 16 percent and few signs of economic improvement in the near future, this is clearly not working.

If the Federal Reserve and the U.S. government really want to end the recession and begin the recovery process, they must allow for the necessary liquidation of disinvestment and debt to occur. This was once the policy of the U.S. government toward recessions, and it worked. From 1920 to 1921, for example, the country was hit with recession. The government, with Warren G. Harding as president, stood aside, cut spending and slashed taxes while the Fed did nothing as far as monetary stimulation was concerned.

Recovery was painful but quick as the market recovered and found growth again in only one year.

Unfortunately, shortly after this, the Fed began tinkering with the monetary base in 1923, setting up the bubble of the Roaring '20s that would later burst into the Great Depression. Instead of following its predecessor, however, the Hoover administration encouraged and adopted inflationary monetary policies very similar to those currently in practice by the Ben Bernanke Fed and the Obama White House.

This must be changed, as these policies will only re-inflate the bubble, drag out the pain of recession and set up the economy and the American people for even bigger trouble down the road.

Logan Depover is a columnist for The Daily Iowan at the University of Iowa.

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Jessica is there for Tom's wife and kids.

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American Red Cross

## sweets

# Organic treats pack health benefits

**KIERA WRIGHT-RUIZ**  
Avenue Writer

As I took the first bite of my Mexican Chocolate ice cream, I knew I made the right decision. The cool sensation melted away the Florida heat. A rich flavor of chocolate and cinnamon coated my mouth. It took me back to Mexico, where the only thing I had to worry about was which hammock to lie in. It was not until I looked up at the chalkboard menu that I realized the ice cream was organic.

Karma Cream is an organic ice cream cafe located at 1025 W. University Ave. It serves more than 30 dairy and more than 25 vegan ice cream flavors.

Vegan Payal Patel and vegetarian Kyle Fick created the shop as an extension of their own personal beliefs. Since it opened in 2009, the cafe has only grown in popularity.

"We're not trying to make people lose weight here," Fick joked. "We are trying to get people to become more conscious about the source of their sweets."

Along with ice cream, the cafe also sells vegan candy bars; sandwiches; and baked vegan and organic items, such as cupcakes, cookies, brownies and cakes. The ice cream is shipped from California and Chicago due to the lack of space. However, Patel does all the baking.

Eating organic is very important for many reasons, Patel said. One advantage is that it is beneficial for personal health.

"You're not ingesting anything artificial," she said. "Let's say you ingest produce, you're not consuming pesticides, herbicides or any type of processed fertilizers. You're really avoiding the use of manufactured chemicals."

Vegan food is free of cholesterol because there are no animal products in it.

"If you have issues with high cholesterol or you are trying to watch your cholesterol, adopting a vegan diet is very beneficial to that," Patel said. "Vegan diets are good because generally it's a lifestyle choice rather

than just a dietary choice. It impacts the choices you make in a broader perspective regarding the foods you eat."

People can eat unhealthy on any diet, whether an omnivore or vegan. Balanced diets are important, she said.

Most people consider frozen yogurt to be a healthier alternative because sometimes it is lower in fat and without cream.

*"If you have issues with high cholesterol or you are trying to watch your cholesterol, adopting a vegan diet is very beneficial to that."*

**Payal Patel**  
creator of Karma Cream

"Things that people don't take into consideration are the other ingredients that go into making [frozen] yogurt, like the artificial ingredients, preservatives and fillers that are added," Patel said. "Our dairy ice cream is a full-fat ice cream. It is made with whole cream, milk, eggs and all-natural, organic cane sugar, but that's it. Nothing questionable goes into the ice cream, and I think that really comes out in the flavor when you taste it."

People can pronounce everything that is on the ingredient label. It is not 5 inches long, she said.

Karma Cream researches carefully to make sure it is getting the highest quality ingredients possible.

"Things advertise themselves as all-natural, which can mean almost anything," Patel said. "There's no regulation to the use of that term. Something can be derived from something else that came from a fruit."

She said that by the time the product reaches its end process, it has been synthesized. However, people are allowed to call it all-natural because of its sourcing.

"I like to use my dollar to affect the kind of change I want to see happen," Fick said. "Karma Cream, on a larger scale, is now a producer. I think we can make a bigger difference."



Payal Patel / Alligator

A scoop of organic, dairy-based cardamom ice cream at Karma Cream. The organic ice cream cafe offers a natural spin on favorite treats.

## He said, she said: How do you tackle the first sheets salsa?

### ◆ He Says...

You can date your new beau for weeks, discover all of his or her quirky turn ons and even go ALMOST all the way, but not even the friskiest of foreplay can ensure a blunder-less first screw. That's just the way it is. Awkward moments are inevitable when it's your first time in the sack with someone new.

The silver lining to first timing is that there are some ways to mitigate the damage.

Ensure your debut is a grand one by showing some confidence at your opening performance. It's a turnoff for ladies and fellas alike when that special time finally comes and his or her partner is floundering around like it's his or her ACTUAL first time. (And even if it is, pretend like it isn't. Fake it till you make it.) Recall all that porn you watched in — cough,

cough — high school, and come out of the gates poised like a pro.

Even though you're now oozing confidence, make sure to keep the sex simple. First sex may make you want to show off every weapon in your arsenal, but there's nothing more annoying than a partner who switches positions every 10 seconds.

Remember, this is just a test run — a chance to extinguish any physical qualms that may still exist between the two of you. It's an event just as emotional as it is physical. The goal is being comfortable with each other when all is said and done. If you can accomplish this, consider yourself lucky... and gear up for round two.

— JACOB ROMOSER



### ◆ She Says...

Losing your virginity — raise your hand if the memory mortifies you.

Performing "field research" for this week's column taught me a lesson: People do not enjoy conversing about the uncomfortable, embarrassing situations they find themselves in when they get it on with someone for the first time. Even the most vague respondents I met certainly did not want to give their names for print.

This got me thinking about virginity. It has always seemed like once we hit puberty, virginity all of sudden becomes bigger than a big deal. Some teens are in a race to lose it, while others hold on to their virginity as though it is a token of pureness. I remember reading a statistic that stated 50 percent of high school students graduate as virgins. Why the even divide?

What is going on with virginity, and if so many of us have had humiliating first-time experiences, why are we so reluctant to openly laugh about them? Better yet, why aren't most of us turned off from sex for good?

Personally, I fell into the category of a high school virgin. Sure, I had boyfriends throughout my teens, and many of my friends were hooking up left and right. But, when it came time for me to "do it," I totally wasn't ready. So, when I did lose my virginity as a college freshman (to my new, highly experienced 25-year-old boyfriend who didn't know I was a virgin... talk about nervousness!), you can only imagine my disappointment when it lasted MAYBE two minutes and ended when he orgasmed without me realizing he had had an orgasm.

Awesome.

The truth is, even if you aren't a virgin, having sex with someone for the first time brings about enormous pressures. We all want to be impressive, to rock someone's world in a way that has never happened before. But be real — hitting a home run the first time at bat almost never happens, even for a seasoned professional. I feel like anyone with a heart understands this; perhaps it's why we choose not to discuss bad sex but will give even the worst lay a second chance.

— KAY BEA



Already stressing out about next semester's load? Go online for tips on how to tackle UF's most difficult classes.

### Moves like Blogger

Click over to [alligator.org/blogs](http://alligator.org/blogs) for a review of a London-based designer's Top Shop line and the flick "J. Edgar" starring Leonardo DiCaprio and remembering the "thanks" in Thanksgiving.



### Twit Pick

@SethMacFarlane:

"Still have not had one sweet dream made of anything involving Annie Lennox."

# The Ultimate Series Showdown: Team Harry Potter or Twilight?

## Final Potter DVD on shelves for limited time

KATE FELDMAN

Avenue writer

Childhoods ended Friday.

The final Harry Potter movie, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows — Part 2," was released on DVD, marking the official end of J.K. Rowling's series ... for now, at least.

"I've been such a Harry Potter nerd since the first book came out, and my grade school teacher read it to our class," said Yuchun Lai, a 20-year-old marketing sophomore. "I've bought three Harry Potter film books because I love all of the behind-the-scenes stuff."

But much to the dismay of Harry Potter fans, Warner Bros. has spoken, and the DVD, along with the rest of the movies, will only be on shelves until Dec. 29. In other words, you have about six weeks to buy your copy.

Warner Bros. is following in the footsteps of Disney, who puts movies in the vault and releases them every few years as "special editions." In October 2009, the cycle began again with "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" being released on Blu-ray as a "Diamond Edition."



Radcliffe

Elizabeth Boone, an 18-year-old business administration and theater freshman, said, although she already owns all of the DVDs, this move is an outrage.

"Potential fans are getting cheated," she said.

"Though there are many ways of getting the movies regardless, it's still not cool."

Not all is lost, as Warner Bros. is only pulling the movies in the United States; the DVDs will stay on the shelves in the rest of the world.

At Walmart, the single DVD is priced at \$13.96, and a bundle of all eight DVDs, called "Harry Potter: Complete 8-Film Collection," can be purchased online for \$49.96. The Blu-ray version includes a conversation with Rowling and Daniel Radcliffe, a feature on the goblins and a look at the women in Harry Potter's world.

Representatives from Walmart, Target and Best Buy all refused to comment on presale orders of the DVD.

The film franchise has grossed about \$12.1 billion for Warner Bros. so far, including \$92.1 million the first day the final movie opened in theaters in the United States. Worldwide, "Deathly Hallows — Part 2" made over \$1.3 billion in the box office.

For those who plan on being too busy studying to buy the movie before Dec. 29, don't worry: Warner Bros. plans on re-releasing all the movies in late 2012, likely with additional features.

But even this is little comfort for the most avid Harry Potter fans.

Math sophomore Jeremy Sparks, 19, summed up the Warner Bros. actions simply: "Greedy bastards."

### Team Potter

"J.K. Rowling wrote a better love story in two chapters than Stephenie Meyer did in four books. I saw that on Twitter." — Garrett Cher, 21, English education senior at UF.

"[Harry Potter] created a believable world. Something you could believe in or at least imagine." — Taylor Maxfield, 21-year-old chemical engineering junior at UF.

"I grew up with [Harry Potter]. It was my childhood." — Melissa Del Burgo, 19-year old industrial engineering sophomore at UF.

### THE SHOWDOWN: TWILIGHT VS. HARRY POTTER

### Twihards

"I think people get stuck in the world, and it's like an escape. People start to think of [the movie] as a book or story and just can't wait to see what the characters do next." — Allison Karnbach, a 21-year-old dietetics junior at UF.

"'Twilight' is a classic love story. Most people are interested in the idea of fate and true love, and 'Twilight' portrays that very well. It doesn't hurt to have a cast that includes Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner, either." — Melissa Ramsey, a 22-year-old nutrition and food science senior at UF.

Shawn Janetzke / Alligator Staff

## Local theaters prep for 'Breaking Dawn: Pt. 1'

ARYANNA HARRELL, ERICA A. HERNANDEZ and DEVIN NUNEZ

avenue writers

Whether you side with Team Edward or Team Jacob, die-hard Twilight fans are unanimously excited for the upcoming release of "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn: Part 1."

"I'm definitely going to go see it," said Katherine Dunnigan, 21-year-old engineering junior at UF.

Dunnigan is one of many who will venture out to local theaters to see the new movie, which premieres Nov. 18. A few local theaters are already selling tickets for the film's midnight release.

"Tickets are currently on sale at our box office," said Rami Badawi, the general manager at Gator Cinemas, located at 6741 W. Newberry Road. "We're expecting to sell out."

The last midnight premiere of the previous film, "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," which was released June 30, 2010, sold out. The venue hosted a later 2 a.m. showing to accommodate customers, Badawi said. Gator Cinemas will most likely be having a 3 a.m. showing for this release.

The Regal Gainesville Cinema Stadium 14 will also be participating in "Breaking Dawn" midnight premieres. It has also been hosting "Twilight Saga Tuesdays" every Tuesday leading up to the premiere. It showed the saga's movies as well as cast interviews and sneak peeks from "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn: Part 1."



Pattinson

Bryant Rafferty, an assistant manager at the Regal Gainesville Cinema Stadium 14, said the premiere will be one of the busiest midnight premieres it has all year.

"Breaking Dawn" is the fourth movie of the saga based on the book series written by Stephenie Meyer. The series consists of four fantasy teen novels that follow the lives of a human, Bella Swan, played by Kristen Stewart; a vampire, Edward Cullen, played by Robert Pattinson; and a werewolf, Jacob Black, played by Taylor Lautner.

"'Twilight' is a classic love story," said Melissa Ramsey, a 22-year-old nutrition and food science senior at UF. "Most people are interested in the idea of fate and true love, and 'Twilight' portrays that very well. It doesn't hurt to have a cast that includes Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner, either."

Dunnigan said the books are better than the movies, but she still watches them to see how they compare.

"The movies are pretty good, but they're no 'Harry Potter,'" she said.

This story encompasses not only love but also a rivalry between Jacob and Edward. Fans are faced with the tough decision of choosing between the two, as Bella often is.

"I don't know if I could pick between Edward or Jacob," Ramsey said. "This movie gives you the choice to take sides and hope that your team wins. We like competition, so the rivalry is normally taken very seriously."

"I'm team Jacob," said Allison Karnbach, 21-year-old dietetics junior at UF.

Despite her loyalty to Team Jacob, she will be standing alongside Team Edward fans at the midnight premiere. Fans hoping to attend a midnight premiere of the film are encouraged to preorder tickets, because when the sun sets tonight, all fans of the series, regardless of team affiliations, will come out to watch more than just the usual break of dawn.

## dancing

# 'Just Dance 3' offers calorie-burning workout to popular tracks

AMANDA JAE FRETZ

Avenue Writer

He collapsed on the bed, his 6-foot-3 frame too long for the extra-long twin. His feet hung over the wooden bedposts. His chest heaved as he allowed his long arms to succumb to gravity and dangle over the mattress.

Dance music blared from the TV in the tiny dorm room. His right hand loosely clutched the white controller.

Bruno Sinibaldi, a lifelong runner, soccer player and all-around athlete, just got his ass whooped by a video game.

"Just Dance 3" had that effect on several that evening including

the aforementioned 19-year-old mechanical engineering sophomore.

Friends Nick Sholl, a 19-year-old mechanical and aerospace engineering freshman, and Brittany Willis, a 19-year-old nursing freshman, felt the burn the newly-released game has to offer as we gathered in my dorm room one Thursday evening.

And rightfully so.

Based on a study where a 20-year-old female weighing approximately 130 pounds wore a device called the bodybugg (which most-accurately measures caloric expenditure regarding motion, internal body temperature, skin conductivity and

changing skin temperature), 30 minutes of constant Just Dance use burnt 190 calories.

"I'm really freaking tired."

Bruno Sinibaldi

Just Dance 3 player

That is to say, weighing more than 130 pounds or being male would increase the calories burnt.

The average song on "Just Dance 3" is three-and-a-half minutes long.

"I'm really freaking tired," Sinibaldi said, hunched over and still breathing heavily as he chugged a glass of water. "I didn't give the game enough credit."

The latest edition to the Just Dance line features not only new songs but also new moves.

An avid Just Dance player, I've found that the third installment's choreography allows for much less cheating — a good move on Ubisoft's part, as they advertise "Just Dance 3" as a "good workout."

The game features a Just Sweat It Out mode in which you can accumulate sweat points and, well, sweat a lot. This installment also features brand new Mash-Ups, some of which feature a more workout-video style of dancing.

A favorite of that Thursday evening was the song "Barbra Streisand" by Duck Sauce (the

"ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh" song made popular by "Glee" in its second season that has since made anyone watching the Vitamin Water Revive commercial stop everything and dance), and it was during that song that a Sholl-Willis showdown occurred.

While Willis was the victor, it was the video taken on Sinibaldi's iPhone that proved Sholl the true winner for his effortless grace and style.

It may be roaming YouTube this very second. I can neither confirm nor deny.

Try "Just Dance 3," out for the Wii and Xbox 360 platforms, for \$39.99. The game was released Oct. 7.



Courtesy to the Alligator

Drake's sophomore album, "Take Care," dropped Tuesday.

## Drake's 'Take Care' album has strong debut despite early leak

AUDREYANNA LOGUERRE

Avenue Writer

Despite the album leak, Drake's sophomore album "Take Care" sat at the No. 1 spot on the iTunes album downloads list as of Wednesday night.

The release of "Take Care" has been highly anticipated, resulting in a week-early leak on the night of Nov. 6. The album sold in stores Tuesday with three tracks that weren't included on the version leaked on the Internet.

On Nov. 6, tracks from the album slowly appeared on YouTube one by one, eventually leading to the leak of practically the entire album, except for "The Ride," featuring The Weeknd, and two bonus tracks, "Hate Sleeping Alone" and "The Motto," featuring Lil Wayne.

The artist tweeted that night, "I am not sure if the album leaked. But if it did, thank god it doesn't happen a month early anymore."

He later added, "Listen, enjoy it, buy it if you like it ... and take care until next time."

The 20-track album features Billboard Hot 100 hit singles "Headlines" and "Make Me Proud," featuring Young Money labelmate

Nicki Minaj. The summer radio hit "Marvins Room" is included on the album as well.

The album features well-known artists such as Rihanna, Rick Ross, Andre 3000 and Stevie Wonder.

*"Listen, enjoy it, buy it if you like it ... and take care until next time."*

Drake  
rap artist

On the track "Over My Dead Body," Drake raps about his career success and the impact this album will have on the music industry. Lines from the first verse are:

"Are these people really discussing my career again?"

Asking if I'll be going platinum in a year again?"

Don't I got the sh\*t the world wanna hear again?"

Don't Michael Jordan still got his hoop earring in?"

Drake's career has indeed skyrocketed in the last year. Unlike his first album and numerous mixtapes, a different side of the Canadian rapper is revealed with each track. Heed Drake's advice: Listen, enjoy and "Take Care."

# The Guide to Dining Out

## Asian

### Ichiban Sushi

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## Frozen Treats

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# Becca Bakes: UF track athlete shines with sweets blog

**DANA BURKE**

Avenue Contributing Writer

Scents of cinnamon, nutmeg, brown sugar and baked apples escape from the oven, filling the kitchen with the warm aroma that is reminiscent of grandma's baking come holiday time.

Becca Goldring is testing a recipe for a

classic apple pie, the most recent baked good featured on her blog, becca-bakes.com, where she chronicles her scrumptious endeavors in the world of food.

Unlike grandma, Goldring spends her time out of the kitchen as a member of UF's track and field team.

"When I was in middle school, I wanted to try out for the track team, and they forced

you to try out for more than one event," Goldring said. "I thought I might as well try to do the high jump, and I ended up being randomly good at it."

Like with the high jump, Goldring stumbled into her baking company, Becca Bakes.

"I was just baking for fun, and I made a blog to keep track of all of my recipes," she said. "It progressed to a better site, and then I started selling, and now it has turned into a company."

Goldring produces all of her recipes herself, an art form she learned while interning at Yum Cupcakery, which has since moved to a downtown location and changed its name to Sarkara Sweets.

"I learned a lot about the science of ingredients and how ratios can affect the recipe," Goldring said. "Plus, I got paid in cupcakes. It was delicious."

Goldring's tasty edibles are available for purchase by request on her website.

The track team has even worked out a sweet deal with the sociology junior.

"Whenever the track team wins a championship, they get a cake," Goldring said. "I made a vanilla cake once, but I dyed the top layer orange and the bottom layer blue, so it was really festive when they cut it."

Birthdays are another celebratory occasion for Goldring because they provide an opportunity to test new recipes on her favorite guinea pigs — her friends.

"When I first started baking, I would use a birthday as a reason to try a new recipe," she said. "Actually, I still do that."

Lexi Muniz, Goldring's friend and teammate, is happy to eat any Becca Bakes treat.

"There are people on the team who will be talking about her cake before we even head back to Gainesville after a championship," Muniz said. "Everyone on the team enjoys hearing about her baking, and we are always willing to taste test."

As part of the track team, it is crucial that Goldring and her teammates have to stay in shape.

"For track, I can't be constantly eating baked goods, so my trick is to just give them away," Goldring said.

Muniz said that even though she's always baking, come training season, Goldring knows when to offer and when not to offer her teammates treats.

"As athletes we are pretty much always hungry, whether that's a good or bad thing," Muniz said. "Even if we're training, a treat from Becca's kitchen always hits the spot."

Some of Goldring's favorite recipes include pumpkin whoopie pies, hazelnut blondies, margarita sugar cookies and her never-fail devil's food cake.

"I try not to repeat recipes, but some things are just classics," Goldring said. "They're so good I just have to make them

a second time."

Creating recipes is relaxing for the 21-year-old who uses baking as a form of expression.

"When I'm creating a recipe, I have several different websites open and take elements from each," she said. "It's kind of like a Frankenstein."

Becca Bakes turned into a legitimate company after UF Hillel's program director attended one of her local markets and offered the track star a place to bake.

"I told him that if I ever wanted to do this legitimately I would have to bake in a certified kitchen," Goldring said. "He said if you make it kosher you can bake at Hillel, so I did."

Jeff Kaplan, program director at UF Hillel, loves having Goldring bake at Hillel.

"We are the Jewish Student Center, and as such, we need to be a resource for our students," Kaplan said. "Some students find this through coming to Jewish learning classes, others do this by doing social justice and community service work with us. Becca does it by baking in our kitchen."

Kaplan is a big fan of Goldring's baking, attending the markets and citing her "inception cookie," an Oreo cookie within a chocolate chip cookie, as his favorite sweet treat.

"She's multifaceted, multitalented and overall super cool," he said. "She is extremely passionate about the quality of her products and truly wants everyone to enjoy them."

Goldring has sold out at every market she's participated in. Her "Pumpkin-Palooza" event, which included baked goods solely with pumpkin flavors, sold out in less than an hour, she said.

"Meeting your customers face to face and having that kind of connection is great," Goldring said. "I like them saying 'I can't wait to eat this,' or 'This is really cool,' like the pumpkin pie on a stick that I had at my Pumpkin-Palooza."

Aside from track and baking, Goldring goes to school full time, writes a blog and works part time as a scooper at The Gelato Company.

"I'm just really good at time management," Goldring said. "It's all about flexibility and making it work and having realistic expectations on how long things take."

And she's starting to get recognition for her hard work.

"A couple girls came into Hillel and asked for Becca Bakes," Goldring said. "People in the farmers market circuit know who I am now, and I just kind of have made a name for myself among this little town, and I hope to grow with it."

Becca Goldring also writes a blog for the Alligator, Chomp and Chew.



Dana Burke / Alligator

Becca Goldring, 21-year-old UF student athlete on the Gators track and field team, holds up a peanut butter pie, a Becca Bakes treat she made for a friend's birthday.

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# 'A Christmas Carol' holds tradition

► THE HIPPODROME'S PRODUCTION OPENS NOV. 26 AND RUNS THROUGH DEC. 17.

## KIERA WRIGHT-RUIZ

Avenue Writer

When you walk down the third floor hallway of the Hippodrome Theatre, shoes greet you.

About 40 pairs are neatly lined up against the right side of the hallway, hiding the polished wooden floor. Brown boots to black flats ranging from kid to adult sizes are placed next to each other in rows because there is not enough room in the costume shop.

"You really know it's 'A Christmas Carol' when you go up on the third floor and the shoes are lining the hallway," said Sara Morsey, nine-year director of the play. "I'm always excited to see the shoes."

"A Christmas Carol" begins at the Hippodrome for the general public Nov. 26 at 2 p.m. and ends Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. The production, told through the eyes of Jacob Marley's ghost, runs about one hour and 10 minutes.

It has been performed annually since 1978. Rusty Salling has been in every production and has played Scrooge since 1990.

"Rusty is 'A Christmas Carol,'" Morsey said. "You don't think about doing it without him."

Salling first got involved with the play because it was a job opportunity.

"[Actors] live and breathe to get out on that stage and perform," he said. "It feels like it's something I was born to do. Some people pick up a musical instrument and can almost play it by themselves, and they love it instantly. That's sort of what acting is to me."

Scrooge allows Salling to go through every emotion onstage.

"He starts off being the worst person you'd ever want to meet in the world," he said, "and ends up being the most wonderful person you'll ever want to meet."

After 20 years, Salling does not have problems learning the lines or performing the role. He does get physically tired because Scrooge is in almost every scene. It is not easy, but it is very comfortable and exhilarating, he said.

He does not have to audition for the role anymore. Almost half of the 60-member cast, about 30 of which are children, have been in the show for years, he said. Some children have started out as Tiny Tim and have grown into adult parts.

The Hippodrome casts several children for each role to avoid too many school absentees for one child. This year there are four Tiny Tims.

"I never know who's going to come out on that crutch," Salling joked. "That keeps you on your toes."

Many families and children go see the play each year. It is great to perform for children because they believe, Salling said.

Morsey said "A Christmas Carol" is something people in Gainesville remember from when they were young. They bring their children to see it because they want the tradition to continue.

"You never know what's going to happen year to year," she said. "It's always brand new. Every time you do it, it has to be the very best time because someone's only going to get to see it once. You're going to make that memory happen."

For tickets and more information, visit the-hipp.org.



Michael Eaddy / Alligator

Tiny Tim (Whitney Humphrey) and Scrooge (Rusty Salling) starred in the 2009 production of "A Christmas Carol."

## fashion

# Critter hat trend prowls around campus, Oaks Mall stores



Aryanna Harrell / Alligator

Critter and character hats line the walls of Spencer's in the Oaks Mall.

## ARYANNA HARRELL

Avenue Writer

First spotted on the streets of New York and Los Angeles on celebrities such as Khloe Kardashian Odom, critter hats have scurried their way down to Gainesville. And with cold weather around the corner (fingers crossed), they'll have a warm welcome.

Critter hats feature animal and character faces with corresponding ears on top.

Some have long, flapped sides with slots featuring paw prints for your hands, and some are beanie-like with short, braided strands with pom-poms attached to the ends. Some even have matching mittens. Faces on the hats range from tigers and bears to turtles and raccoons.

The trend trickled down from the Northeast and West Coast and has quickly become a new fashion statement, especially among college students.

"I just love the hats," said Ian Aranca, a 19-year-old psychology junior. "Anyone can wear them, as long as they have no shame."

Aranca is sporting his second critter hat of the year, featuring one of his favorite Digimon characters, Terriermon. His first was a panda hat, similar to the one

singer Pink was seen wearing last winter.

Although they have largely been popular with college students, people from preteens to senior citizens are sporting the furry accessories this fall and winter.

"These hats are a new way for people to express themselves and stay young," said Shanna Swiers, the 25-year-old store manager at Spencer's in the Oaks Mall. "Everyone loves them."

*"Everyone has a favorite animal, and nine times out of 10, you can find it on one of the hats."*

Denisha Williams  
store manager of NYS Collection

Swiers said the store has seen a huge demand for the hats this fall. She estimates having sold about 100 this fall alone and expects to sell more once the weather gets colder.

A new kiosk in the Oaks Mall, NYS Collection, has a large variety of critter hats, said store manager, Denisha Williams, 27.

"The hats are going very quickly," Williams said.

The NYS Collection store came from Oklahoma, where the hats have been popular for quite some time, she said.

In the three weeks since the store's opening, she has sold hats mainly to people between the ages of 15 and 24.

"It's a way to be different," she said. "Everyone has a favorite animal, and nine times out of 10, you can find it on one of the hats."

Williams said she has even sold the hats to older men between the ages of 50 and 60.

One reason that these hats are becoming so popular is because of their versatility.

Because there are so many different styles and animals to choose from, anyone with a head on his or her shoulders can wear one.

"They're just really fun," said Deana Diaz, 27-year-old store manager at Zumiez in the Oaks Mall. "People with any style can wear them."

J.C. Penney, Walmart and Target are also selling these trendy critter hats. The hats are priced anywhere from \$10 to \$35, depending on the style.

No matter your age or budget, whether you want to prance around in a tiger hat or keep warm in a lion headdress, you can do so without being judged.

"We are all children at heart," Aranca said.

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## Wenger out for Furman game with ankle injury

TYLER JETT

Alligator Staff Writer

Offensive lineman Dan Wenger will not play Saturday against Furman because of an ankle injury, coach Will Muschamp said Wednesday.

Wenger, a sixth-year senior who played for offensive coordinator Charlie Weis and position coach Frank Verducci at Notre Dame, has brought a veteran presence to a young line this year. He has started every game, mostly at left guard. With inconsistency at center the week before, Wenger made his senior debut at the position against South Carolina.

Sophomore Jonotthan Harrison and junior Sam Robey are splitting time at center during practices this week, Muschamp said, and sophomore Kyle Koehne will play left guard.

The status of three other Gators remains up in the air. Offensive tackle Chaz Green (ankle) and defensive lineman Leon Orr (shoulder) are questionable while linebacker Lerentee McCray (shoulder) is "questionable at best," Muschamp said. McCray suffered the injury Oct. 29 against Georgia, and his shoulder has not responded well to rehab.

**Disciplining Dominique:** The coaching staff is using all available resources to preach pre-snap discipline to Florida defensive linemen. Coordinator Dan Quinn was asked Wednesday if working with fiery defensive tackle Dominique Easley presented a unique challenge.

When he is not dancing, Easley spends much of his time between plays jawing with whoever happens to be his opponent that week. Easley is also noted for his quick first step, which sometimes comes at a cost.

Easley has committed an offside  
**SEE NOTEBOOK, PAGE 18**



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Florida senior offensive lineman Dan Wenger (56) will not play Saturday against Furman after suffering an injury to his ankle during last week's loss.

### THE RALLY

## Is Walker UF's best option at point guard?

**Matt:** Despite a loss to Ohio State on Tuesday, it's clear this Florida basketball team is going to be very good this season.

It's entirely possible this year's squad is better than the team that went to the Elite Eight a season ago. But the Gators are being held back by one small problem: Erv Walker.

The diminutive point guard was "man-handled" and "physically beat up" by Buckeyes' point man Aaron Craft. And those are Billy Donovan's words, not mine.

Walker's aggressiveness has long been an issue, and last night it cost the Gators the game. He consistently missed passes to guys on the wing waiting for wide-open looks, instead choosing to drive wildly and force a shot.

That's been his modus operandi since Day 1, and it will continue to haunt Florida as long as he's in the lineup.



**Matt Watts**  
twitter: @wattmatts

**Greg Luca**  
twitter: @gregluca

**Greg:** I think you're blowing Erv's struggles a little bit out of proportion here.

I can't defend the plays when he drove into the lane without a plan and left his feet without any options, but at the end of the night he only had three turnovers. Flashbacks to last year aside, that's not a terrible number when compared to his four assists.

And, while his shooting was definitely off, he displayed a high level of basketball intelligence by only attempting six shots, at least four fewer than the other three players who logged 25 minutes or more. Plus he had Craft, a 2011 Big Ten All-Defensive Team selection, on him the entire game.

He's a leader, the only senior, and the best blend of scoring talent and point ability on the roster.

**SEE RALLY, PAGE 20**

## No. 7 Florida facing quick turnaround against UNF

JOHN BOOTHE

Alligator Staff Writer

Following Tuesday's loss to the Buckeyes, a rough patch of poor weather waylaid the Gators' chances of a timely return to Gainesville.

While the squad was able to catch a new flight the next morning, coach Billy Donovan is now trying to ensure Florida's preparation for a quick turnaround game tonight at 8 against North Florida won't also run late.

"This is a real high-level character game for us," Donovan said. "North Florida is a physical, hard-playing, competitive team. With our flight situation coming back, having today to get ready ... this is an opportunity to see what kind of resolve we have and what our character and makeup is."

### UF Basketball

The No. 7 Gators (1-1) came away from Columbus, Ohio, and their 81-74 defeat to the third-ranked Buckeyes with a couple of glaring issues — namely 16 turnovers and a 61.9 percent free-throw percentage — to correct in just one practice before hosting the Ospreys (1-1).

Donovan said even though his players had to battle their emotions while trying to claw back from a 16-point deficit in the second half Tuesday, there's no reason they won't be ready both physically and mentally Thursday.

"The hard part is when you get a one-day prep like this, there's a balance between how much prep work you do and how much you try to work on yourselves," Donovan said. "Then you also have to look at the minutes that certain guys logged during the course of the game (and) the travel."

Florida's leader in time on the court and scoring against Ohio State was freshman guard Brad Beal, who finished with 17 points in 34 minutes but was hampered by a 6-for-16 shooting performance.

In his first matchup against guards from a ranked team, Beal committed a game-high

**SEE HOOPS, PAGE 20**



Sophomore point guard Jaterra Bonds has struggled in the Gators' first two games, and the team is looking for more from her today against FSU. See story, page 19.

### Podcast Today

For a preview of Saturday's game against Furman, log on to alligatorSports.org or iTunes this afternoon for the newest version of our podcast in its new Thursday time slot.



### Quotable

"He'd talk trash to you if you came out there."

Omar Hunter  
UF defensive lineman  
(on Dominique Easley)

# Furman coach Fowler familiar with Florida

**TOM GREEN**  
Alligator Staff Writer

Bruce Fowler is no stranger to Florida's football team.

The Paladins' first-year coach served as the defensive coordinator and assistant head coach at Vanderbilt for nine seasons before taking the job in Greenville, S.C., in December.

"The key thing is obviously just trying to control their speed on offense," Fowler said Tuesday. "They get the ball on the perimeter. If you break down anywhere, they have a chance to turn a play that could be average into one that's a really long gain."

While he has experience gameplanning for running backs Chris Rainey and Jeff Demps — Rainey had 136 total yards and a touchdown against Fowler's Vanderbilt defense last year while Demps ran for 57 and a score in 2009 — Fowler's biggest concern is stopping the Gators' defensive line.

As the only FBS team on Furman's schedule this season, UF presents an unprecedented matchup problem for a Paladins offensive line that has allowed just 14 sacks in 10 games.

Although Fowler has been impressed by what he has seen across Florida's defensive front, he is also concerned about the matchup between senior right tackle Ryan Lee and Florida's Sharrif Floyd, who had a career day against Fowler's Vander-

bilt team last season with five tackles, including two and a half for a loss.

"Their front three guys and their whole front is very athletic," Fowler said. "They're big; they move exceptionally well; they pressure people well, but they're good in the run game."

Florida's athleticism could make for a long day for quarterback Chris Forcier.

Forcier leads the FCS with a 180.9 rating, completing 65.4 percent of his passes for 2,099 yards and 22 touchdowns.



Fowler

With his next touchdown pass, Forcier will pass former Furman quarterback Ingle Martin, who transferred

from UF after the 2003 season, for the school record for passing touchdowns in a season.

But to do that against a tough Florida defense and in front of the biggest crowd the Paladins have seen all season, Fowler knows his team will have to execute, something it couldn't do in a loss to Elon last week.

"The excitement around the game will obviously get our juices flowing," Fowler said. "We're still going to have to execute really well and do the things down after down that it takes to win games."

Contact Tom Green at [tgreen@alligator.org](mailto:tgreen@alligator.org).

# Lack of depth hurting defensive line

## NOTEBOOK, from page 17

penalty the last two weeks, including in a pivotal moment against South Carolina. Trailing by five with less than four minutes left Saturday, Easley jumped offside. Florida did not get the ball back for another three minutes.

"I'd say he listens to us," Quinn said. "Is he wanting to (jump offside)? No. Is it undisciplined football? Absolutely. And are we the ones responsible for that? Yeah. Between the two of us, we're going to get it right."

**D-line depth:** Quinn said Florida's thin defensive line has held the group back, and not just because the team has a smaller rotation than it wants.

The defensive linemen aren't able to practice as long as Quinn wants to because of a lack of depth. Also, there are not enough players fighting for playing time.

"That's an issue for us, in terms of the depth, just because you love that competition factor. From a depth standpoint, sometimes it allows you to play more players when they gain the experience and that kind of thing. But at this point, it is what it is."

Junior defensive tackle Omar Hunter said the group also isn't facing good enough competition in practice. The starting linemen on both sides of the ball don't face each other as much as they have in years past because both groups are so thin.

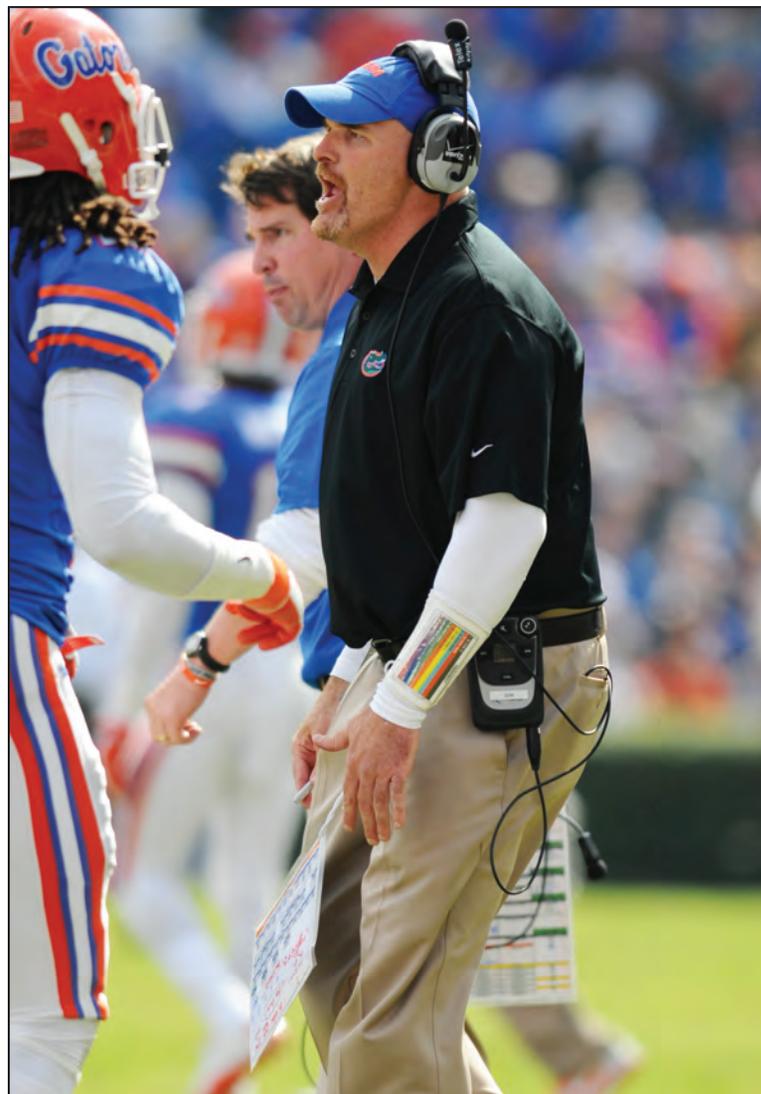
"As far as going against the scout team, going with the (starters) is better because they give you a better look," Hunter said. "It's more competition."

Story to redshirt: Muschamp ex-

pects at least four true freshmen to receive redshirts this season: wide receiver Ja'Juan Story, defensive back Valdez Showers, and offensive linemen Tommy Jordan and Trip Thurman.

Defensive ends Clay Burton and Tevin Westbrook are also candidates for medical redshirts, though they each played in games before Southeastern Conference play began.

Contact Tyler Jett at [tjett@alligator.org](mailto:tjett@alligator.org).



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Defensive coordinator Dan Quinn said Wednesday that a lack of depth is hurting UF's defensive line, especially in practice situations.



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The Alligator will not publish on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

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David Carr / Alligator

Florida guard Jaterra Bonds ranked second on the Gators with 9.9 points per game last season, but has struggled early on this year.

## Bonds struggling as UF preps for FSU

► THE SOPHOMORE COMMITTED SEVEN TURNOVERS AND SHOT A TEAM-WORST .111 IN THE GATORS' FIRST TWO GAMES.

**JOE MORGAN**

Alligator Writer

When Jaterra Bonds' shots fail to fall, the turnovers become more noticeable.

Bonds has seven giveaways — three more than any other Gator — to go along with a team-worst .111 shooting percentage in Florida's first two games this season.

In last season's opener against UCF, she turned the ball over seven times, but 15 points and a double-digit margin of victory made her blemishes easier to overlook.

"I've got to just stick to the basics with my shot," Bonds said. "I just go back and think about what I didn't do when I shot and if I rushed or if I forced it."

Bonds was named to the Southeastern Conference All-Freshman team last season after a breakout performance for the Gators.

She ranked second on UF with 9.9 points and 2.5 assists per game, playing an average of 27.1 minutes per contest.

Particularly promising was her offensive surge at the end of the 2010-11 campaign.

Bonds averaged 14.9 points per contest in Florida's final eight games, scoring a career-high 23 in the season-ending 81-77 overtime loss to Charlotte in the Women's National Invitation Tournament.

Unfortunately for the Gators, Bonds' hot streak did not carry into the season opener.

In Friday's loss to Michigan, she shot 2 of 15 from the field, including a 1-for-6 performance from

beyond the arc, with the lone make coming at the buzzer.

She also recorded just two assists and committed three turnovers in 31 minutes on the floor.

"She took a lot of shots that both of us agreed were not really good shots," coach Amanda Butler said.

"It's tough when you're a playmaker and a scorer ... to sometimes just try not to make plays if it's the best decision."

Bonds' performance against Stetson didn't fare much better.

Hampered by foul trouble, Bonds attempted a career-low three shots Monday, scoring only four points with one assist and four turnovers in 25 minutes.

According to senior guard Jordan Jones, Bonds

### UF Women's Basketball

has spent extra time watching film with Butler to pinpoint where she needs to improve offensively.

"She took some questionable shots that we saw and she just needs to let the game come to her," Jones said. "In practice, she's not struggling ... (her) shots are going to fall."

Despite stumbling out of the gate, Bonds' progression between her first two games has encouraged Butler.

Florida (1-1) hopes that progress will continue when it faces No. 21 Florida State (2-1) today at 5:30 p.m. in the O'Connell Center.

"One of the things I've really asked her to do is to not evaluate her success based on her scoring," Butler said.

"(She should) evaluate her success based on the way she's playing defense, the way she's leading our team and the decisions she's making."

## Jaeckel working on all-around game

### She leads team in kills

**BRYAN HOLT**

Alligator Writer

On most days, Kristy Jaeckel is one of Florida's most dominant and important offensive weapons.

The redshirt senior outside hitter has 88 more kills than anyone else on the Gators' volleyball team. She has also taken 210 more swings than any of her teammates.

But in her final season, Jaeckel is not satisfied with having the hardest swing on the court or just being the player setters constantly look for. She has turned her focus to being a more complete player.

"You love it when seniors are working that hard to improve that aspect of their game," coach Mary Wise said.

As Florida nears the conclusion of its regular season and the dawn of a final postseason for a five-deep senior class, Jaeckel's all-around play seems to be peaking.

Last weekend, she turned in two of the best defensive performances of her career. On Friday night against LSU, Jaeckel picked up a career-high 20 digs,

eclipsing her previous high of 16 that she registered earlier this season against Stanford.

"Can't say enough about Kristy Jaeckel," Wise said. "She never got on track really, offensively. She had some good looks. The ball just didn't fall for her. ... But she just battled with those 20 digs to help us win that [match] in four (sets)."

*"You love it when seniors are working that hard to improve that aspect of their game."*

**Mary Wise**  
UF coach

Two days later, Jaeckel clicked offensively and defensively. She led the team with 19 kills and 22.5 points, while also managing 10 digs and two blocks.

Her play has not only been polished on the defensive side of the ball; Jaeckel has also become a more versatile offensive player, increasing her serve efficiency and transitional passing game.

Jaeckel's serving has been crucial for the Gators during

the past month. Beginning with a career-high seven service aces against South Carolina on Oct. 19, she has been a vital piece when it comes to starting runs for the Southeastern Conference's most efficient offense.

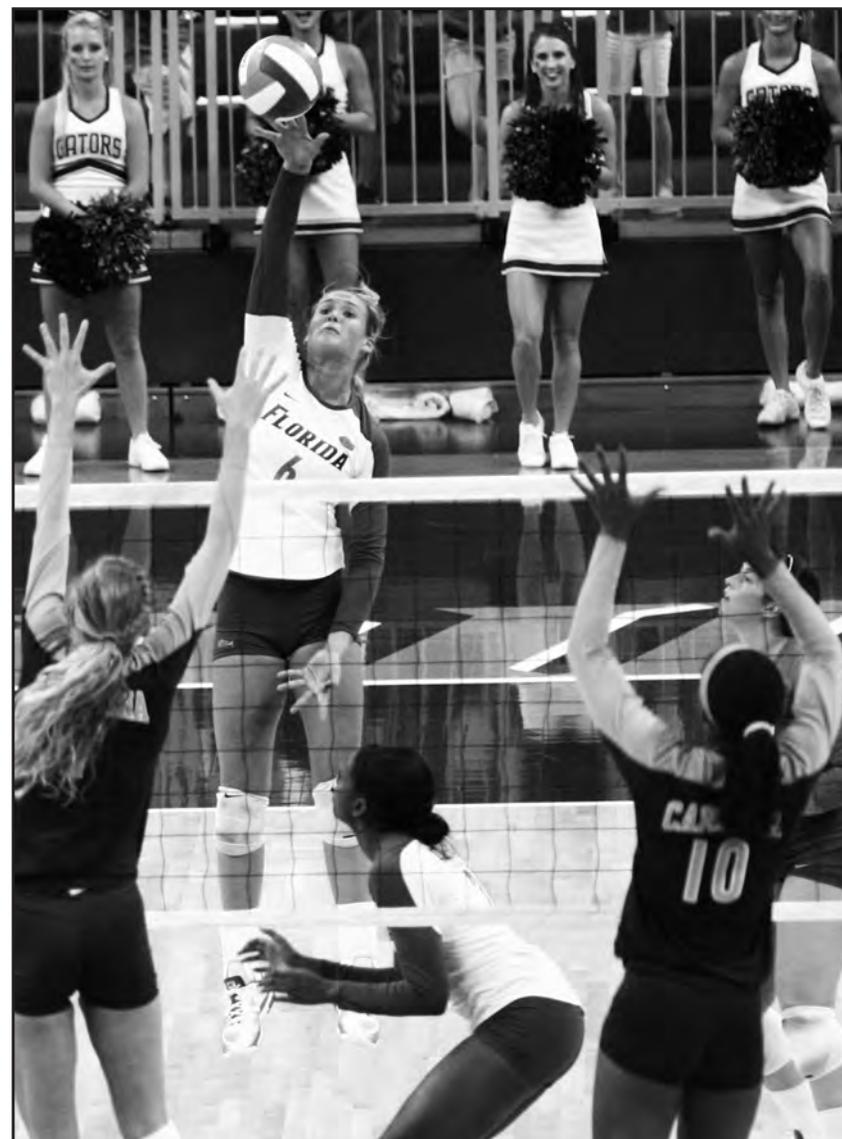
"Kristy has just been working on her toss, and now she's really getting into a rhythm," fellow senior outside hitter Stephanie Ferrell said. "It's always been there. She's always had a great serve, but I think she's just getting on a roll now."

Teammates have attributed part of the Gators' current stretch of 12 wins in 14 games to an increased emphasis on aggressive serving in practice, something Jaeckel has benefited from greatly.

Wise sees Jaeckel's contributions in an expanded number of areas as a sign of maturity for a player she said once would damage opportunities with errors and misfires.

"Kristy's playing like a fifth-year senior who has got a lot of volleyball ahead of her," she said.

"No doubt she'll be playing somewhere starting in January overseas and enjoying a different kind of lifestyle than a college student."



David Carr / Alligator

UF outside hitter Kristy Jaeckel has become a more complete player in her senior season. She had 30 digs and 24 kills in two games last weekend.

**RALLY**, from page 17

Besides, who are your other options?

**Matt:** Donovan talked Wednesday about one of UF's most pressing issues coming out of the loss to Ohio State: distributing the ball.

Patric Young, who ended with a double-double on 5-of-10 shooting, had just two attempts in the first half Tuesday because Walker wasn't looking his way. He also ignored a red-hot Erik Murphy in the early going after Murphy drained three straight threes.

"We've got to have a better offensive recognition of what's going on," Donovan said.

That's a direct reflection on Walker, and, yes, there are plenty of other options.

Walker played major roles the last two seasons because the Gators didn't have any other choice, but that has changed. Brad Beal and Kenny Boynton have the ability to average

four dishes per game, and they're much better scoring options and defenders than Walker.

Walker has shown that he's not a great point guard, and when there are players on the roster that can bring the same thing from the point, but much more in other areas, then why not play them?

**Greg:** Walker may not be a true point guard, but he's much, much closer than Beal or Boynton will ever be. Those two are certainly shoot-first players, as shown by their combined 26 shot attempts, two assists and eight turnovers against Ohio State.

Erv's height will keep him from ever being an elite defender, but he became a much better distributor as last season went on.

Through the end of December, his assist-to-turnover ratio was exactly 1-to-1, but in games after the New Year, he notched 87 assists to just 49 turnovers, a ratio of 1.8-to-1.

He's only getting better at this point, and

trying to introduce someone different now can only slow the development of chemistry between Florida's many talented pieces.

**Matt:** Florida doesn't have any chemistry developed yet. That's why it's time to experiment with different lineups that don't feature Walker in a prominent role.

Walker, just like Beal and Boynton, is a shoot-first guy. But unlike Walker, they should always be on the floor.

Walker plays merely because he's "Big Shot Erv," and he has a reputation and status in the program. But the truth is that even sophomore Scottie Wilbekin is a better option at the point.

UF looked best Tuesday when Wilbekin ran the show. The spin pass he made from the top of the key into Young was the best pass from a Gator since Nick Calathes left, and exactly the type Walker simply cannot make.

Florida has plenty of scoring, but what the team needs is someone who can see the floor

and distribute the ball — that's not Walker.

**Greg:** Forget experimentation. Florida already knows who its best option at the point is, and that's Walker.

All the Wilbekin love has gotten way out of hand. He was certainly solid last year, but he offers nothing as a scorer and his 16.4 assist rating — the percentage of teammate baskets he assisted on when he was on the floor — was 3.7 percentage points lower than Walker's.

The biggest thing, and you said it, Matt, is that he is "Big Shot Erv."

When the game is on the line, Walker is the guy who beats the press, draws the foul and seals the game. That is, when he's not draining 30-footers to send the game to overtime, like he did against Georgia last year.

Wilbekin, Beal and Boynton can't do that. That's why Walker is UF's man at the point.

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Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Florida freshman guard Brad Beal (left) struggled against Ohio State on Tuesday, making just six of his 16 attempts from the floor and turning the ball over five times in the 81-74 loss to the Buckeyes.

## Donovan: Beal's struggles a good learning experience

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five turnovers.

"For him as a freshman, going through this was a good experience," Donovan said. "He has a lot of growth to make just in terms of the physicality, the speed, the quickness of the game — just how competitive it is in that kind of environment."

*"We were caught off guard at times where we weren't guarding the ball well enough and they just really played better than our guards."*

Brad Beal  
UF guard

Ohio State sophomore point guard Aaron Craft, who scored 13 points and led both teams with three steals, harassed Beal all game.

Along with seven assists and three rebounds, Craft blocked Beal's first shot attempt and stripped the ball from the freshman as he was driving down the

lane late in the first half.

"He dominated all of us like coach Donovan said," Beal said. "Everybody from Craft to (William) Buford to Lenzelle Smith, all the guards off the bench, everybody contributed in some type of way. We were caught off guard at times where we weren't guarding the ball well enough and they just really played better than our guards."

Though the Gators are unlikely to see the same kind of pressure tonight, the Ospreys caused more turnovers than they committed in a 62-57 win against Savannah State and a 20-point road loss to Alabama.

"(Tuesday is) over," Donovan said.

"The biggest thing for me right now as a coach today is what did we learn? What needs to be learned? ... Try to understand that (it's a) different team, quick turnaround, what kind of mental approach are we going to have going into this?"

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