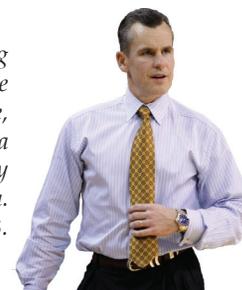


After challenging his team to improve its play on defense, Florida responded in a big way on Tuesday against Georgia. See story, page 13.



CRIME

Home invasion suspects in custody



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Maranda J. Martin, 22, walks out of the Gainesville Police Criminal Investigations Bureau at 211 NW First St. after her arrest on charges of attempted murder and home invasion robbery with a firearm. Martin turned herself in to GPD with her mother at about 10 a.m. Tuesday.

TYLER JETT
 Alligator Staff Writer

In Blues Creek, a north Gainesville neighborhood, four people stood in the front yard of Evelyn and Lecreth Baker's house Tuesday afternoon.

They talked about what happened three doors down the night before, because, really, there was nothing else to talk about.

Gainesville Police gave an account of what happened Monday night:

Late in the evening, Austin M. Jones, 22, and his cousin, Maranda J. Martin, 22, donned masks and broke into 78-year-old Paul D. Quandt's house at 4854 NW 75th Road. They came prepared with two rolls of tape, a stun gun and two pistols. Martin used to work for a health-care service that provided aid to Quandt, and she knew he had a safe in the house. The pair demanded the combination. When Quandt, a military veteran, refused, his hands were taped and he was shot with a stun gun.

Then he was beaten and stabbed.

Quandt was in critical condition Tuesday night, police said.

Quandt's status was unknown as of press time. The charges against Martin and Jones are listed as first-degree murder as of late Tuesday night, according to the Alachua County Jail website.

Neighbors were surprised at the brutality of the crime.

"Nothing like this happens in Blues Creek," Jack Alter said, who had gone on a walk Tuesday afternoon before stopping to talk about the case with some neighbors. "It's pretty quiet here."

"As close as we lived, we never heard a thing," Evelyn Baker said. "Not a thing."

Jones and Martin took the safe — with more than \$20,000 worth of gold, silver, firearms, currency and electronics in it — and put it in the trunk of Quandt's white Cadillac. Jones then drove off in the Cadillac, according to GPD spokeswoman Cpl.

SEE INVASION, PAGE 8

SG votes on revisions to election code

SAMANTHA SHAVELL
 Alligator Writer

UF Student Senate gave its preliminary approval to Student Government election code revisions at Tuesday night's meeting.

A majority of the senators voted to approve the changes, although several senators said the new rules need to be revised.

"I do have issues with it," said Unite Party spokeswoman Sen. Christina Bonarrigo. "But I do believe these need to be passed in a timely matter."

The election codes need to be passed six weeks before the spring elections for the changes to apply. Elections are scheduled for Feb. 21 and Feb. 22.

Some students who voted in the fall elections were listed with the wrong location-based district. Students whose home addresses rather than their school addresses were registered with the university were placed in the district for commuter students.

Under the changes proposed by the election codes revision committee, the supervisor of elections would no longer be required to provide a map listing at each polling location. Currently, he or she is required to make a sample ballot and a map

SEE SENATE, PAGE 8



Bonarrigo

Newspaper: Central Florida 'let down' by UF professor, state senator

Orlando Sentinel names Haridopolos in editorial

ERIN JESTER
 Alligator Staff Writer

One of the five people who let down Central Florida in 2011 is on UF's payroll.

In a Jan. 7 editorial, the Orlando Sentinel named five people who "squandered or misused their positions of power through

selfishness, mismanagement or corruption."

Florida Senate President Mike Haridopolos (R-Merritt Island) made the list.

Haridopolos teaches political science courses on campus during the Fall semester and instructs students who participate in a Tallahassee internship during the leg-

islative session in the spring.

UF pays him \$75,000 a year, according to records from the Office of Institutional Planning and Research.

In November, Haridopolos admitted he lied to a Miami Herald reporter in April 2010 when he denied knowing about a secret settlement agreement with former

Republican Party of Florida Chairman Jim Greer.

Also in 2010, Haridopolos was found guilty of an ethics violation for failing to properly complete his financial disclosure forms.

On Tuesday, the first day of the legislative session, the Miami Herald published Haridopolos' rebuttal to a Herald editorial that

decried his actions.

"I, too, regret these mistakes, but as you read through each one, I hope you see that each of these was just that a mistake," he wrote.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said Haridopolos' political behavior has no effect on his teaching status because UF evaluates its employees based on their work with students.

SEE SENATOR, PAGE 8

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Fifth-annual UF MLK celebration to kick off Monday
 The celebration will last through Jan. 31, pg 4.

Textbook website allows students to compare prices
 A UF alumnus launched site in December, pg 5.



Occupy protesters plan to continue in 2012
 Participating activist groups are planning Occupy the Courts for Jan. 20, pg. 4.



News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Mainstage: A Night of "Art"

Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.
The Constans Theatre Theatre Strike Force presents a show that will feature long- and short-form improv, sketch performances and No Southern Accent. The shows are free and will be different each night.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to emorrow@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.

NATIONAL

TSA defends confiscation of Mass. woman's cupcake

PEABODY, Mass. — The federal Transportation Security Administration is defending its decision to confiscate a frosted cupcake from a Massachusetts woman flying from Las Vegas.

The TSA says in a blog comment posted Monday the cupcake was packed in a jar filled with icing, which is considered a gel according to a policy designed to secure travelers from terrorists seeking to evade detection by using explosives made of plastics, liquids or gels.

Peabody (PEE'-buh-dee) resi-

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 RAIN 73/49	 PARTLY CLOUDY 74/47	 PARTLY CLOUDY 63/35	 SUNNY 62/36	 SUNNY 67/43

dent Rebecca Hains was barred from taking her cupcake onto a plane last month when a TSA agent said icing in the jar exceeded amounts of gels allowed in carry-on luggage. Hains has called that "terrible logic."

The TSA says travelers can take cakes, pies and cupcakes through security checkpoints but should expect they might get additional screening.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STATE

Cannon wants Fla. lawmakers to focus on higher ed

TALLAHASSEE — House Speaker Dean Cannon said Florida's higher education system is "racing toward mediocrity" and told lawmakers as the Legislature opened its annual session Tuesday that they need to work on fixing the problems with the state's colleges and universities.

Cannon chose to zero in on higher education in his opening statement as the annual session began two months earlier than usual due to redistricting. He said higher education is too critical to Florida's economy to be ignored. The address came amid political rallies and protests, as well as the traditional pomp and

ceremony surrounding Gov. Rick Scott's State of the State address.

He blamed lawmakers, including himself, for contributing to the problems by promoting parochial interests of their local schools at the expense of the entire system.

Senate President Mike Haridopolos stressed the importance of balancing the budget in his opening remarks. Lawmakers are facing a potential \$2 billion shortfall.

Scott, Haridopolos and Cannon agree the budget must be balanced without raising taxes and fees. The Republican governor, though, told lawmakers he "just cannot budget" on his recommendation to increase education spending by \$1 billion.

In his address, Scott mostly stuck to the familiar theme of cutting taxes and red tape for businesses in the belief that it will expand Florida's economy and create jobs in a state where 10 percent of workers remain unemployed, although that's 2 percentage points less than a year ago.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Gainesville protesters plan to continue advocacy in 2012

The Protester was named Time's Person of the Year

BENJAMIN S. BRASCH

Alligator Writer

After a year of international social movements, Time magazine chose The Protester as its Person of the Year.

Protesters in Gainesville, including members of Occupy Gainesville, Students for a Democratic Society and Fight Back Florida, hope to continue their momentum from last year and keep bringing attention to their causes.

"This isn't the first time the 99 percent has addressed consumption wealth in America. These issues protesters are involved with aren't new."

Kenzie Cooke
Occupy supporter

Occupy Gainesville is still using Bo Diddley Community Plaza as a headquarters for its occupation.

It is looking to focus on foreclosure issues in the community.

Students for a Democratic Society have not introduced its plans to continue advocacy for the upcoming year, but plans to do so in the coming week.

Fight Back Florida, a group

started in March in response to Gov. Rick Scott's budget cuts, is trying to repeal Scott's policies.

Kenzie Cooke, a 20-year-old Occupy Gainesville member, said she hopes Time magazine's

announcement, which was published Dec. 14, will inspire those on the fence about participating in the Occupy Movement to join.

"My main focus is to help student, activist and minority groups

come together through the Occupy Movement and beyond," Cooke said.

She said Occupy Gainesville will work on advocating for foreclosure reform.

"This isn't the first time the 99 percent has addressed consumption wealth in America," she said. "These issues protesters are involved with aren't new."

Skye Schmelzer, a 19-year-old UF psychology sophomore, said it meant a lot to her that the magazine deemed The Protester as the person who had the greatest impact during the year.

"It showed that Time magazine, a prime source of entertainment, believed in activists," said Schmelzer, a member of Students for a Democratic Society at UF.

Last year, the student organization started an anti-tuition hike movement, but it will be putting its efforts elsewhere this semester.

Schmelzer said she didn't know the organization's official plans at the moment.

Fight Back Florida plans to continue pushing against Scott's policies.

Dave Schneider, a 21-year-old recent UF graduate and statewide organizer of Fight Back Florida, said he is continuing his activism after graduating and is working to fight against Scott's budget cuts in Tallahassee now that the state legislative session has started.

"What we want is for working people to rule society again," he said.



Dana Burke / Alligator Staff

Occupy supporter Annette Gilley, 58, makes a poster on Bo Diddley Community Plaza on Tuesday for "Occupy the Courts," an event that will take place Jan. 20.

Fifth-annual UF MLK Celebration to kick off Monday

► **DANNY GLOVER WILL SPEAK AT THE PHILLIPS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS JAN. 25.**

CHRIS ALCANTARA

Alligator Contributing Writer

To commemorate the legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., a UF committee will spend the rest of January highlighting his core values.

The UF MLK Celebration Steering Committee, in collaboration with UF Multicultural & Diversity Affairs, will kick off its fifth-annual UF MLK Celebration on Monday.

The month will include a talk by Danny Glover, activist and actor. His talk, "A Night with Danny Glover," will be Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

About 40 student organizations and academic departments will be involved in this year's celebration, including the African American Studies Program, GatorNights! and the Office of the Provost, said Jarrod Cruz, chairman of the MLK Celebration Steering Committee.

The campuswide celebration will end Jan. 31.

All events are free and open to the public, with the exception of a trip to Atlanta.

"We want to give students the opportunity to see how they will be leaving their legacy at the university and see how they will be making the greatest impact," Cruz said.

Research may explain plant infertility

CLARE LENNON

Alligator Staff Writer

Results from a UF research project on young plants might help make the nation's agriculture more fertile.

A UF research team set out more than 10 years ago to study the chromosomes of a Northwest plant species. During the process, the team discovered its research may help reduce issues with plants that have a hard time reproducing.

Lead author and UF postdoctoral researcher Michael Chester said the research team studied the changing chromosomes in a plant species that formed in the last century — a veritable baby in plant terms.

He said the research team, led by the Florida Museum of Natural History's Pam Soltis, did not set out to impact agriculture research.

Chester and the research team studied polyploidy, which is a process during which chromosomes multiply. According to a UF news release, the researchers studied about 70 *Tragopogon miscellus* plants, which are flower variations.

Polyploidy can inhibit the plants' ability to reproduce, and it's common in many important agricultural crops in the U.S., including coffee, corn and apples, according to the news release.

The research might explain why some agricultural plant varieties are infertile, Chester said.

He said the research has not yet been applied to agriculture.

Research like this is what keeps UF faculty on top of the latest innovations, said Win Phillips, senior vice president and chief operating officer for UF's Office of Research.

If UF didn't emphasize research, he said, "then we would simply keep repeating the same stuff."



Courtesy to the Alligator

A flower head of the plant species that was studied by UF researchers, *Tragopogon miscellus*, sits in a field.

STUDENT LIFE

Textbook site compares prices

JULIA GLUM

Alligator Writer

For Dylan Fisher, buying textbooks becomes a treasure hunt.

When the UF exploratory freshman discovered he needed five textbooks for the spring semester, he set out to find the magic combination of new, used and rental books that would reduce the damage to his wallet.

"I'm going from Amazon to Neebo trying to strategize how to get the cheapest textbooks," said Fisher, 18.

His search is common for college students.

But comparing prices should not be that hard, said UF alumnus Steven Kennedy in an email.

That's why Kennedy, 26, started work on Textbooks.org, a website that compares textbook prices for free.

"I thought that there had to be a better way to do it, and I finally took the initiative to create a website that would help students save time and money," he said.

Kennedy said about 7,000 people have visited the site to compare prices on nearly 5,000 books since its launch in December.

The site compares prices for more than 30 online merchants, he said.

After a student types in a book's title or ISBN, the website compares its prices from textbook sellers such as Amazon, Half.com and Barnesandnoble.com.

It then displays a list of the lowest prices for new, used and rental textbooks, including e-books and international editions.

The results are sorted from the cheapest overall price — the cost of the book plus shipping — to the highest. Users can then click through to the vendors' websites to purchase their books.

In addition, the website has blog posts describing where to find cheap textbooks at various colleges. These entries give information about alternatives to university bookstores. For example, UF's post mentions Orange and Blue Textbooks and the Florida Book Store.

Students can also search to see how much each merchant would pay to buy back their used textbooks.

"I've heard from several students and teachers who are excited about how useful the site is," Kennedy said.

Fisher ended up spending about \$150 on books this semester, but he said he will definitely use Textbooks.org in the future.

"You're searching to find the most minuscule ways to save money," he said.

Harn Museum exhibit to highlight female artists

► GEORGIA O'KEEFFE'S 'AUSTRIAN COPPER ROSE IV' IS ONE OF THE 12 WORKS.

KELLY PRICE

Alligator Contributing Writer

While most UF students were home for winter break chomping on candy canes and scoring last-minute holiday deals, the Harn Museum of Art debuted a new exhibit highlighting female artists.

"Women of Art and Science" is a part of the works-on-paper section within the museum's modern collection, said Amelia Bell, a museum spokeswoman.

Georgia O'Keeffe's "Austrian Copper Rose IV" inspired museum curator Dulce Roman to acquire the other 11

works. She said she was drawn to the botanical subjects and flower prints. The exhibit's feminine focus was triggered by the large library of female artists famous for botanical paintings in history.

"Georgia O'Keeffe has always sat alone in galleries," she said. "So I thought this was an interesting approach to complement [the painting]."

The exhibit is scheduled to be on display until mid-June, Roman said. However, it might stay up until Summer B, depending on whether the museum's focus changes.

The pieces in "Women of Art and Science" are part of the larger works-on-paper modern art collection of about 300 pieces from between the Renaissance and 1850 acquired by the Harn Museum.

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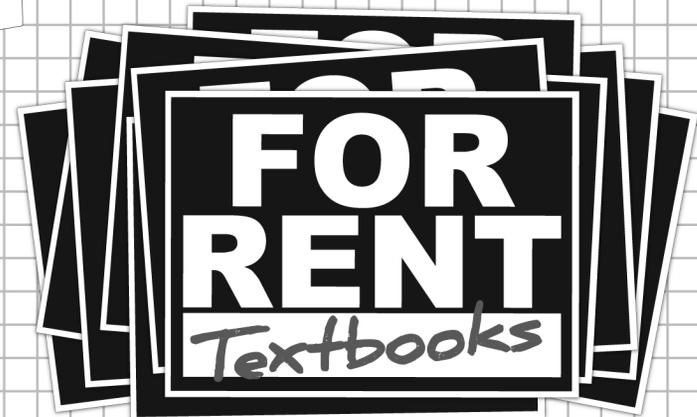
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Opinions

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Editorial

Chilling Effect College paper adviser didn't deserve firing

In college, students have many opportunities to practice a lot of the same things they would be doing in the real world.

For instance, students have the chance to work with budgets, plan meetings or promote their causes as board members in various student organizations. If they mess up in these positions, their careers are not finished and their lives are generally not ruined. The college setting provides them with the chance to learn from their mistakes.

This was not the case in a recent incident at East Carolina University.

Two months ago, the East Carolinian, an independent, student-run newspaper, ran uncensored photos of a stalker who was arrested at a football game on its front page.

Needless to say, this photo caused a lot of controversy around the community and received criticisms from university officials.

While we agree with the ECU administration's conclusion that running this photo on the front page might have been "in very poor taste," the administration's proceeding actions were inappropriate.

A few weeks after this photo ran, Student Media Adviser Paul Isom, who oversaw and advised the school's newspaper, radio station and other publications, was dismissed from this position.

Fortunately, the Alligator is completely independent from UF. But this also means we bear even more responsibility for our actions, a situation we wholeheartedly accept.

Student editors should not have to worry about facing negative repercussions from their respective institutions from either a practical or a legal perspective.

As we have said, students should be able to learn from their mistakes while they have the opportunity. Isom could have used this incident as a powerful teaching moment for the staff of the East Carolinian. Instead, the ECU administration may have created a chilling effect for current and future editors at that paper as well as for student editors across the country.

From a legal standpoint, advisers to student-run newspapers usually are not day-to-day players in what goes in the paper. Instead, they serve to offer suggestions and criticisms after the fact. It would not have been his job to okay a decision to run the nude photos in the first place.

Also, considering that ECU is a public institution, all of its publications should be subject to First Amendment protection.

The ECU administration said in a statement that its decision to fire Isom was a "personnel matter" and not a First Amendment issue. The only thing Isom was told was that it "wanted to move in a different direction."

The fact that the administration is hiding behind this nonsensical reason makes this situation even worse. It knows that if it admits that it is firing him because of the pictures, he will actually be able to bring up his First Amendment protections.

Reader response

Today's question: Do you think the Student Senate has done enough to improve the election process?

Friday's question: Do you donate blood regularly?

18% YES
82% NO

44 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

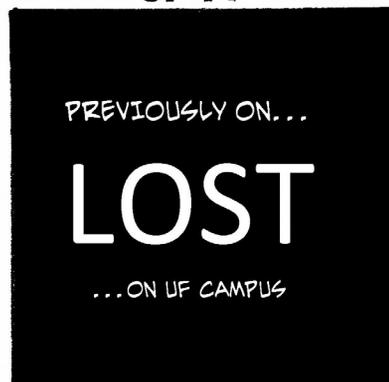
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Column

Students: Diversify your social lives

Before and during college, students are bombarded with advice from all directions by all people, some of it obvious, some intriguing but not fully clear and some brushed off like an insignificant fly. But there is one consistent piece of advice that is practiced at some point in every meaningful life. I've heard it from graduates of state schools and Ivy Leagues alike: Be open to new people and to different experiences.

The advice is clear, but sometimes the simplest advice is practiced incorrectly. The confused teenager with an eager heart, having heard during high school the defeated idea that college will be the best time of his or her life, with the impossible, barely perceptible fear of four years of solitude, rushes and joins a Greek organization.

Let me be clear: There is nothing inherently wrong with joining a Greek organization, nor do I argue against joining one. In fact, it's clear that fraternities and sororities have many benefits. They bring friends, opportunities and connections. But a step in the right direction — a step toward being open, meeting people and forming meaningful relationships — often leads to many steps toward antagonism, egoism and restrictiveness.

Students should avoid confining themselves to any single social organization, particularly a social fraternal organization. Greek life can consume a student's life and cause him or her to form an obsession with only one organization and its counterpart fraternities or sororities. Instead of diversifying their experiences and the types of people with they interact with, students consumed by Greek life feel antagonistic toward rival fraternities and sororities as well as other students. Relationships outside their confines can become insincere, short-lived and based on malevolent motives.

Both the individual and the university suffer when students center their lives on social fraternal organizations. Jokes about rival organizations and GDIs might seem to be in good humor, but they represent a more



Abdul Zalikha
letters@alligator.org

fundamental issue associated with the Greek lifestyle: the tendency to antagonize others, both Greek and non-Greek. This antagonism is anti-intellectual and not productive to higher education. We can see the effect of this antagonism on UF as a whole when considering the Greek system's attempt to monopolize UF politics through the Unite Party.

Though not always the case, I have too often witnessed the sad situation of students becoming engrossed with the Greek lifestyle, falling into a mindset that debilitates them once they receive their degree and they enter a new chapter of their lives. Without sounding like an anti-drug campaign, I have had friends, obsessed with Greek life, expelled from UF for low grades, a direct result of their time-draining obsession.

Finding a community during college is important for a healthy and happy mind, but so is remaining open to diverse experiences and people. Perhaps the most rewarding part of the university experience is the ability to connect with thousands of intelligent students, most of whom have very different beliefs, practices and ideas.

If a student joins a social fraternal organization and does not allow it and its members to become his or her life, then that student has benefited twofold. But when students finds their lives revolving around a Greek organization that hampers their ability to engage in new experiences and with people not so similar to themselves, they should consider what the organization actually stands for, if that lifestyle is in harmony with their ideas and if that obsession is the best way to dedicate their youthful, capable, brilliant years.

Abdul Zalikha is a biology and English junior at UF. His column appears on Wednesdays.

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

Letter to the Editor

UF shouldn't ignore growing vegan population

While we were gone for winter break, the percentage of Gators who support UF's smart, ethical and sustainable transition to a Meatless Monday in its two dining halls grew to 10 percent.

About 5,000 people, more than the entire population of the city of Newberry to our north, now support the growing trend to leave flesh off our plates on Mondays.

And it's not surprising.

The Philadelphia Inquirer released a report in October that found 12 percent of college students now identify as vegetarian or vegan.

Even in Gainesville, a city that birthed Sonny's BBQ and where the scents of pig manure mingle across the highway, our university was named the second most vegan-friendly university in the nation.

It's time for UF to realize that Gators, like the rest of the world, know that a reduced-meat diet lowers one's carbon footprint enormously, helps end the suffering of billions of animals every year and decreases one's risk of obesity, Type 2 diabetes, stroke, many forms of cancer and heart disease.

While there will always be a select few Gators who ardently

oppose a transition to a Meatless Monday — even if a switch to offering vegan jambalaya rather than baked chicken in two dining halls on campus will never affect them — 10 percent is a difficult number with which to argue.

It's time for UF and Gator Dining Services to realize that this is something a growing majority of students actually want, rather than a simple, disorganized fringe movement. It is something that's been endorsed by the UF Office of Sustainability, GatorWell Health Promotion Services, the Humane Society of the United States and the Earth Day Network.

And it's time for UF and Gator Dining Services to realize a transition to Meatless Mondays could even save money. Student leaders will be meeting with dining officials in the coming weeks to discuss the university's growing desire to support a Meatless Monday. In the meantime, I encourage everyone to join the Facebook group by searching for Meat-Free Monday at the University of Florida. Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves and become part of the 10 percent.

Jared Misner
Campaign director of
the Meatless Mondays
campaign at UF

Column

Libertarianism can't help conservatism

As the votes from the Iowa Republican caucus began to roll in a week ago, most of the nation's viewers were riveted by the small, fluctuating margin between Rick Santorum and the eventual winner, Mitt Romney. However, for conservatives such as myself, the battle had been won before the clock struck midnight.

Ron Paul, the hero of the chirping sect of libertarianism, had been vanquished with only 21 percent of the vote, a third-place finish that stifled his previous momentum. Years from now, may the average Iowa voter who stood staunchly against the ideological torrent from the Ron Paul camp strip his sleeve, show his scars and say, "This vote I cast on caucus day."

Now perhaps Ron Paul is not as monstrous as a Shakespearean villain. However, Paul is a follower of the poisonous ideology of libertarianism, a set of principles endorsing complete individual social and economic freedom. At first glance, this ideology seems compatible with conservatism, with its stance against centralized state power and corporate bailouts. But the marriage between conservatism and libertarianism is not a natural one and will eventually serve to rip the Republican Party asunder.

In order to understand this, one must ask, "What is conservatism?" It might be more appropriate to say what it is not. Conservatism is not an ideology as libertarianism is. Conservatism is not a vehicle toward the vague enlightenment notion of progress. In fact, the notion of progress is antithetical to conservatism, as conservatism is not a set of beliefs that serve as a drum roll toward a precise utopian ideal. Conservatism is a way of living, a disposition and attitude toward life. Conservatism is educated by traditional norms, not a set of 20th-century novels authored by a deranged Soviet expatriate. Conservatives believe individual freedom without communal purpose is meaningless; libertarians believe individual freedom is a purpose itself.

On paper, the average conservative and the av-



Luke Bailey
letters@alligator.org

erage libertarian want the same changes in Washington: less government and more economic freedom. However, a Ron Paul nomination would set a dangerous precedent, because libertarians do not pretend to care about social norms

— they say only that everyone has equal freedom, as though no freedoms were mutually exclusive. A libertarian victory would create a political environment in which a nominee's understanding of virtue and morality is irrelevant, much as it is in Europe. There is something unique about American voters. We care about what a candidate thinks about the moral tradition our ancestors set. It may be foolhardy to believe political careerists could ever hold any true moral fiber, but we care all the same.

Ron Paul's defeat in Iowa was a victory for conservatives. However, the momentum is still in favor of his progressive ideology. In colleges and universities around the country, including here at UF, Paul and his ilk have enormous support. I beseech you all to resist the honeyed words of libertarian dogma.

Be wary of any doctrine that promises to bring radical change on the right or the left. Libertarianism has become its own secular religion, which will color your understanding of every issue, be it economic or social. When attempting to understand the world around you, look not to the radical fringes of politics but to the ancestors who came before us.

They believed in small government not because it was virtuous in and of itself but because it allowed people to live virtuously. There is no virtue in libertarianism — only freedom for its own sake, and all the freedom in the world will not serve you if nothing exists to guide it.

Luke Bailey is a history junior at UF. His column appears on Wednesdays.

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Fri. 2/17	Baseball Preview (Wrap)
Fri. 3/2	Men's Basketball vs. Kentucky
Wed. 3/14*	Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament (Wrap) *if invited to NCAA tournament
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Commissioners name acting county manager

SHELBY WEBB

Alligator Contributing Writer

Alachua County commissioners officially named Rick Drummond the new acting county manager Tuesday.

Drummond is replacing former county manager Randall Reid, who had the job for 12 years. Reid is leaving to be the new county administrator of Sarasota County.

"[Drummond] was the best-qualified candidate that could jump right in with no learning curve," said Mark Sexton, county spokesman.

The assistant county manager since 2007, Drummond will be the acting manager until either a permanent replacement is found or until his contract expires at the end of July 2013.

Drummond moved to Gainesville in August 2000 to become the county growth management director and was later appointed assistant county manager. He'll receive a \$160,000 annual salary, according to the terms of the agreement.

The county manager super-

vises more than 800 employees working under the Board of County Commissioners, according to the county's website. The job responsibilities include working with staff to develop recommendations on issues that come before the commission.

"[Drummond] was the best-qualified candidate that could jump right in with no learning curve."

Mark Sexton

county spokesman

Drummond said he plans to retire in a year and a half.

"I feel like it's the capping of my career," he said.

One of the stipulations for candidates applying for the job was that they wouldn't apply for the permanent position.

The County Commission will begin the search for a permanent manager after fall elections.

Drummond said he is excited to take on the new position.

"It's a challenging time," Drummond said, "but I'm really looking forward to what this chance will bring."

Victim suffered multiple head injuries

INVASION, from page 1

Angelina Valuri. Martin drove away in the same 2011 Dodge Caliber they drove to Quandt's house.

Quandt was left for dead, and police said after the assailants left he somehow used cooking oil to loosen the tape on his hands and then crawled to his motorized scooter to get help from a neighbor, who called 911. He managed to give the neighbor a description of the suspects and say his safe was stolen, police said.

Soon after, he slipped into a coma. He was taken to Shands at UF, where he underwent surgery to relieve pressure on his brain. He suffered multiple head injuries and numerous broken bones in his face.

Shortly after the robbery, GPD Sgt. Steve Girard spotted Quandt's white Cadillac, outfitted with a platform for a scooter, heading out of a nearby neighborhood. Girard chased. Jones

led cops on a pursuit that at times exceeded 100 mph, but ended shortly after midnight Tuesday when Jones rear-ended a blue Buick Century and clipped the right rear bumper of a black BMW 3 Series at Southwest 13th Street and Southwest Fifth Avenue.



Jones

Martin was identified as a suspect early Tuesday morning and turned herself in after being contacted by GPD. She admitted to planning the crime and helping Jones ransack the house, according to police. She said Jones beat Quandt.

According to GPD detective Randy Roberts, Martin last worked with

Quandt "a couple months ago."

Jones and Martin have both been charged with first-degree murder and home invasion robbery with a firearm, according to the Alachua County Jail website.

According to records from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Jones was charged with dealing in stolen property in October. He served about 70 days in jail.

Back in Blues Creek, Quandt's neighbors talked Tuesday about how he frequently drove his scooter down the street with his Chihuahua, Lilly, sitting by his feet. But they said he hasn't been outside much lately. They usually see him when the weather warms up.

Still, neighbors were surprised to find Quandt is 78.

"He doesn't look that old," said LeCreth Baker. "He was up to date. If there was a new gadget, he had it: iPhone, iPod, whatever. He certainly hadn't lost it yet [mentally]."

Haridopolos coordinates internships

SENATOR, from page 1

Sikes said Haridopolos has helped expand the student internship program in Tallahassee, and students say they gained valuable experience from him.

"In this case, it depends on the value to the students," she said.

Justin Fisch, 21, took the Tallahassee internship during Spring 2010, when he was a sophomore. Twice a week, he and the 13 other interns gathered at 7:30 a.m. to meet with and receive guidance from Harido-

polos before he went to work on the Senate floor.



Haridopolos

of us."

Now a senior pursuing a triple major in political science, geography and sustainability studies, Fisch said the senator's instruction was a worthwhile component of the experience.

"He was a wonderful coordinator for the program right from the beginning," Fisch said. "It was a very constructive experience for all

Senators will make final votes on election changes Tuesday



Alex Catalano / Alligator Staff

Student Senators Matt Mountjoy and Katie Waldman present revisions to UF's Student Government elections codes. Mountjoy and Waldman co-chaired a committee that formed to examine and modify the rules.

SENATE, from page 1

available upon request at polling locations and the SG office.

The supervisor of elections would also no longer be required to post a list of polling locations inside residence halls. The changes would require he or she post the poll locations through three unspecified forms of notification.

Students Party Sen. Carly Wilson, who is not a member of the committee, objected to the revision that would allow the Supervisor of Elections to add or change a polling location as long as it is "properly noticed."

"It's an improper delegation of power," she said.

To avoid a repeat of last semester's address confusion, committee co-chair Katie Waldman said she contacted Dean of Students Jen Day Shaw. The dean's office was already working on a way to update students' directory profiles, she said.

Waldman said after the meeting that the office was updating students' addresses for emergency purposes. The office discussed having students update their school contact information once a year, and the committee's idea was similar, Waldman said.

Waldman is waiting to hear back from the dean's office for a final agreement.

Senators will make their final votes on the election code revisions at Tuesday's meeting. Any amendments to the bill must be submitted to the committee Friday and will be discussed at the committee meeting Sunday.

Wilson said she plans to attend the meeting and wants to make sure that the amendments represent all UF's students.

"I was not happy with how the codes ended up," Wilson said.

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Avail Aug 1st. 4BR/2BA large house w/ big bedrooms & living room, extra game room. Fenced. Pets ok. W/D provided. 352-335-2342 or text 2100 NW 8th Court. \$1400/mo or go to gainesvillequalityrentalhouses.com 1-13-12-3-2

3 Subleases

Don't get stuck with an extra rent payment. Advertise your subleases in the Alligator Classifieds and save yourself some cash. Call 373-FIND.

December FREE! Move in NOW for Spring Semester. Cabana Beach--2 bdrm/2 bath, furnished plus W/D. \$509/per person. (352) 552 1757. 1-13-11-10-3

\$450-1BR/1BA unfurnished in a 2BR/2BA Townhome Style Apt. Avail. NOW, Jan. RENT FREE!!Pets OK. Roommate is Grad. student at UF. Located in the Laurels. Call or text (813) 404-3135 if interested. 1-13-12-5-3

1/1 in 2/2 BR + util \$470/mo 2 pools + club houses, gym 24/7 Near Oaks Mall, UF + SFC Internet, W/D, on bus route Please call 352-871-6065 1-17-12-6-3

FREE JAN RENT ns male 1 br/bath in 3/3 Lex Crossing Incl all utils, cable, internet \$415/mo Sublet Jan 1-Aug 4 Furn Call 352-870-2945 1-17-5-3

2 BR HOUSE three miles from campus 576 sf, large fenced yard, w/d hookups Avail through July or longer Pets welcome. 4119 NW 7th St. \$599 Call owner at 352-328-7474 1-17-12-5-3

3 Subleases

6 Month Sublease. January Rent FREE + \$100 SIGNING BONUS. Bell Air Apts. 1/1 \$529 NO MOVE IN FEES 352-278-0411 1-11-2-3

Luxury apartment at the Palms Downtown 2BR/2BASUBLEASE Jan-June 2011. 2 parking spaces, Stainless steel, granite, washer/dryer, HUGE closets right downtown, safe, exclusive luxury building. Just \$1100/month (\$200 off normal rates) Email me for details: andrewufl@gmail.com 1-20-7-3

4 Roommates

I'VE HAD IT WITH YOUR LOUD MUSIC! Is your roommate driving you crazy? Find a replacement in the Alligator Classifieds!

Roommate Matching HERE Oxford Manor 377-2777 The Landings 336-3838 The Laurels 335-4455 Greenwich Green 372-8100 Hidden Lake 374-3866 4-25-72-4

Female roommate needed in furnished condo, 1.5 miles from UF \$369/MO cable, internet, utilities, pool+ more beautifully renovated, on bus route, Call 352 262-2871, Available 1/1/12 1-24-12-24-4

4/2 2 blocks from Campus. \$350 including internet and cable. 814-440-3325 jfidorra@hotmail.com 2-13-11-30-4

SPACIOUS 2BR/2BA APT. Convenient location to Shands, UF & Butler Plaza. Asking \$700/OBO. Please call Ketty 305-332-6566. yttek@hotmail.com 1-17-12-11-4

Roommates needed. House 2 blks to UF/ Sorority Row, near Shands, Tigert, Mid/ Downtown. 4 lg BR/2BA. Students preferred! Huge, very clean home. Cent AC/H, FP, W/D, new wd firs, DW, 5 extra closets, fenced yard, plenty of parking, on quiet street. Only \$398/ mo/room. Call/text Jordan 305-896-9066 1-31-19-4

Student roommate needed for furnished bedroom w/own bath in 4/4 Countryside condo. Rent by the semester. Easy commute UF/ SFC, 2 bus rts, W/D. \$300 includes cable & Internet. 352 239 2422. 1-13-12-5-4

5 Real Estate

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

NEW CONDOS-WALK TO UF For info on ALL Condos for Sale, Visit www.UFCONDOS.COM or **Matt Price, University Realty, 352-281-3551** 4-25-72-5



Office Space and Penthouse Available Call David Holbrook - (352) 213-8161 1-30-12-15-5

6 Furnishings

Got a new couch?. Sell your old one in the Alligator Classifieds. Call 373-FIND (3463) to place your ad today.

6 Furnishings

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 4-25-12-72-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-25-12-72-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400 Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 4-25-12-72-6

BED - KING - \$200 PILLOWTOP mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Call 352-372-8588. Can deliver. 4-25-72-6

BEDROOM SET. 7pc Cherry, Queen/ king bed, dresser w/mirror, 2 nightstands, chests avail. Dovetail const. New, in boxes. Can deliver. Retail \$4500, must sell, sacrifice \$850 (352) 372-7490 4-25-72-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather. Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 4-25-72-6

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

DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box. Never used. 352-377-9846 4-25-72-6

BEDS - ALL BRAND NEW
Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200 Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 4-25-72-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 4-25-72-6

6 Furnishings

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 4-25-12-72-6

7 Computers

Selling computers, parts, or repair services or just looking for that new rig. Look in the Alligator Classifieds. Call 373-FIND for more information.

8 Electronics

Sell your old stereo, cell phone, and more in the Electronics Section of the Alligator Classifieds. 373-FIND

WE PAY TOP DOLLAR FOR CELL PHONES! REGARDLESS OF AGE OR CONDITION EVEN IF BROKEN! TECHMOD0 6450 SW ARCHER RD 352-872-5881. OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK! 1-31-15-8

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 msg. 4-25-12-72-10

●Uf Surplus Equipment Auctions● are underway...bikes, computers, printers, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: surplus.ufl.edu 392-0370 4-25-12-72-10

GOATS FOR SALE Charlie - 352-278-1925 4-25-73-10

SCRABBLE BRAND [G₂] [R₁] [A₁] [M₃] [S₁]

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								Triple Word Score	
A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	W ₄	V ₄	S ₁	D ₂			RACK 1
A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	U ₁	C ₃	V ₄	B ₃		1st Letter Double	
									RACK 2
I ₁	O ₁	O ₁	G ₂	T ₁	H ₄	D ₂			RACK 3
A ₁	I ₁	U ₁	D ₂	L ₁	Q ₁₀	S ₁			RACK 4

PAR SCORE 155-165
BEST SCORE 237

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

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

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

01-11

10 For Sale

Guitars and Musical Instruments
New, Used and Factory Refurbished
Check Us Out Before You Buy!!
Leonardo's Music, Micanopy, FL
352-450-0928 Leonardos302.com
4-25-11-99-10

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

Alligator Classifieds is the way to get your 2 wheels on the road. Show off your bikes, scooters, and repair services. Call 373-FIND to get your classified in.

★★★★WWW.RPMMOTORCYCLES.COM★★★
FULL SERVICE MOTORCYCLE - SCOOTER REPAIR. 12TH YEAR IN GVILLE. OEM & AFTERMARKET PARTS. BEST TIRE PRICES IN TOWN. 352-377-6974 4-25-73-11



4-25-12-72-11

★★★★NEW SCOOTERS 4 LESS★★★★
Now carrying Vespa Scooters!
Great Scooters, Service & Prices!
118 NW 14th Ave, Ste D, 336-1271
www.NS4L.com

4-25-12-72-11

★★SCOOTER REPAIR★★
New Scooters 4 Less has LOW repair rates!
Will repair any make/model. Close to UF!
Pick-ups avail. Cheap oil changes!! 336-1271
4-25-12-72-11

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

★★★Road Rat Motors★★★
Largest Scooter Store in Town! Run by Gator Grads! New scooters starting at \$899. 1yr Parts AND labor warranties included. 376-6275 RoadRatMotors.com 4-25-12-72-11

Road Rat Motors is Gville's #1 service facility. We repair ALL brands of scooters. Pickups available. Lowest labor rates around. Quickest turnaround time. Run by Gator Grads so we know how to treat our customers! 376-6275 4-25-12-72-11

★★SCOOTER RENTALS★★
Rent for a day, week, month or semester. Students can rent to own! 352-336-1271 www.gainesvillescooterrentals.com 4-25-12-72-11

Campus Scooters Mobile Sales and Scooter Service. We offer free estimates on all repairs and we come to you. We also have new scooters starting at \$799.00 Call us today at 352-263-0425 2-27-35-11

12 Autos

Unload your lot. Sell your cars through Alligator Advertising for cheap. 373-FIND or place your ad online at www.alligator.org/classifieds

CARS - CARS Buy●Sell●Trade
Clean BMW, Volvo, Mercedes
Toyota, Honda, Nissan cars
3432 N Main St. www.carrsmith.com
CARRSMITH AUTO SALES 373-1150
4-25-72-12

12 Autos

WE BUY JUNK CARS
Titles Only. Call KT
352-281-9980 or 352-215-3151 4-25-12-72-12

I BUY JUNK CARS & SCRAP TOP PRICES PAID!
Call Anytime 352-443-1100
1-31-11-65-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
BACK TO SCHOOL SALE!
PRICES SLASHED!!!!
NO CREDIT CHECKS!!!!
352-338-1999 4-25-72-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
ALL VEHICLES \$0 DOWN!
NO CREDIT CHECKS
CASH VEHICLES \$999 & UP!
352-338-1999 4-25-72-12

92 EAGLE TALON \$999
89 FORD BRONCO \$999
94 FORD TAURUS \$999
96 HONDA ACCORD \$1499
352-338-1999 4-25-72-12

96 CADILLAC DEVILLE \$1999
95 NISSAN 200SX \$1999
98 FORD F250 \$2500
02 CHEVY BLAZER \$4999
352-338-1999 4-25-72-12

96 TOYOTA CAMRY \$1999
98 PONTIAC GRAND AM \$1999
01 DODGE NEON \$1999
00 OLDS ALERO \$2500
352-338-1999 4-25-72-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES
CERTIFIED USED VEHICLES
NO CREDIT CHECK
MOVE VEHICLES \$500 & UP!
352-375-9090 4-25-72-12

12 Autos

SUNRISE AUTO SALES
BACK TO SCHOOL SALE!
PRICES SLASHED!!!!
NO CREDIT CHECK!
352-375-9090 4-25-72-12

03 HONDA CIVIC \$8900
04 HONDA ACCORD \$8999
03 MITS ECLIPSE \$7999
05 TOYOTA CAMRY \$10999
352-375-9090 4-25-72-12

02 NISSAN XTERRA \$8999
07 SUZUKI VITARA \$12999
04 HONDA ODYSSEY \$9999
05 SUZUKI XLT \$9999
352-375-9090 4-25-72-12

14 Help Wanted

BARTENDING
\$300 A DAY POTENTIAL
No experience necessary, training provided.
800-965-6520 ext 138 4-25-12-72-14

Students in Accounting, Aviation, Business/Sales and computer science needed for various positions. Flexible schedules and competitive pay. Join our team! Learn more at www.gleim.com/employment 4-25-12-72-14

STUDENTPAYOUTS.COM
Paid survey takers needed. Gainesville. 100% FREE to join. Click on Surveys 4-25-12-72-14

VIDEO TECH
ACCOUNTING EDITOR
AVIATION EDITOR
PROOFREADER
LINUX ADMIN
ACT COORDINATOR
GRAPHICS DESIGNER
AVIATION SALES
SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

Career and non-career positions available. Please apply online at www.gleim.com/employment 1-24-27-14

13 Wanted

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

LOCAL ARTIST NEEDS:
★ Gold ★ Diamonds ★ Gems ★ Class Rings
★ ETC ★ Top Cash \$\$\$ or Trade ★
OZZIE'S FINE JEWELRY 352-318-4009.
4-25-72-13

UF GRAD PAYS MORE
for gold jewelry, scrap gold, Rolex, diamonds, guitars, etc. Top \$\$\$ Get my offer before you sell! Call Jim 376-8090 or 222-8090
4-25-72-13

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
1-9-11-72-13



St. Francis House, Inc.
HOMELESS SHELTER AND SOUP KITCHEN
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 Beval at (352) 378-9079 or by e-mail at sfhcoor@stfrancis.cfcoxmail.com

Volunteer Needed:
HOPE - Horses Helping People, Inc. is seeking volunteers for our winter/spring semester sessions. Please email us at ridingtherapy@gmail.com to become a part of our team. www.horseshelpingpeople.org 1-13-5-13

14 Help Wanted

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



NOW HIRING
Outstanding Notetakers and Editors
SPRING 2012
ADV3008 ENT3003 MAR3023
BSC2010 ENY1001 MUH4016
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BUL4310 GEB3373 RTV3405
ECO2013 MAN3025 STA2023
ECO2023 MAN4504 ... and more!

Apply online at www.SmokinNotes.com
1-23-11-15-14

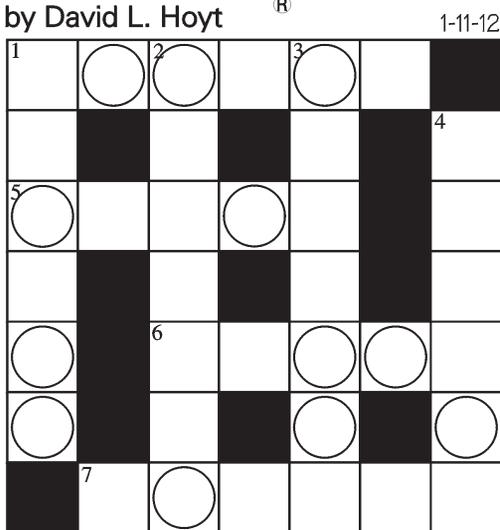
WEB DEVELOPERS - Multiple Openings
Internet company in downtown Gainesville seeks talented full-time site builders. Front end and/or back end. HTML, CSS, PHP, MySQL. High pay, fun environment! Send resume to hr@digitalbrands.com. 1-12-11-10-14

TUTORS FOR SPRING 1-on-1 tutoring at-risk K-12th grade students. \$10/hr. 1-4 afternoons/wk. 15-20 min drive from campus. UF Fed Wk Study Permit req for emp. Volunteers welcome. Contact Sally at st23@cox.net 1-31-12-15-14

Interpreter/Translator - PT - 10 hrs/wk - Law Office needs Spanish-English interpreter. Resume to: robjac@myimmigrationlaw.com. 1-17-12-7-14

A awesome summer job in Maine! If you're looking to spend this summer outdoors, have fun while you work, and make lifelong friends, then look no further. Camp Mataponi, a children's summer camp, has positions available in Land Sports (lacrosse, soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, field hockey), Waterfront (sailing, canoeing, waterskiing, life guarding, WSI, boat drivers), Ropes Course, Tennis, H.B. Riding, Arts & Crafts, Theater, Dance, Gymnastics, Video, Photography, Nurses, Maintenance, Cooking and more. Top salaries plus room/board & travel provided. Call us today, 561-748-3684 or apply online at www.campmataponi.com. 2-21-12-31-14

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™
by David L. Hoyt 1-11-12



ACROSS

CLUE ANSWER

1. Hate LEHAOT
5. Respond CREAT
6. Earth's position RIHDT
7. Slowly DGIAAO

DOWN

CLUE ANSWER

1. Home to vocal cords AXYRNL
2. Long- WITADAE
3. Batting TIHITNG
4. Artist's work area USITDO

BONUS CLUE: This man served as the 36th U.S. vice president, from 1953 to 1961.



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

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Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, Ill. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.



1. ENTERTAINERS: Which actor's birth name was Ramon Estevez?
2. MUSIC: What was the name of Smokey Robinson's group?
3. INVENTIONS: Who is credited with inventing bifocal lenses?
4. PSYCHOLOGY: What irrational fear is manifested in peniaphobia?
5. LITERATURE: In which of Shakespeare's plays does the character Shylock appear?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: During which war did Harry Truman fire Gen. Douglas MacArthur?
7. HISTORY: When did Austria become a commonwealth nation, largely gaining independence from Britain?
8. ANATOMY: About how long are the intestines in an adult male?
9. FAMOUS QUOTES: What American psychologist/philosopher once said: "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."
10. MEASUREMENTS: Which month is named for the Roman festival of ritual purification?

Answers

1. Martin Sheen
2. The Miracles
3. Ben Franklin
4. A fear of poverty
5. "The Merchant of Venice"
6. Korean
7. 1901
8. About 28 feet
9. William James
10. February (Februa)
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14 Help Wanted

Summer Jobs
 ● \$2400
 ● Co-ed camp
 ● Room and Board included

Get Paid to Play!
 The Florida Elks Youth Camp (FEYC) needs college students for summer camp counselors ages 18 and up. FEYC is an over-night camp located in Umatilla, FL. The camp runs June 11 – Aug 4. Please contact Krysl Ragland at 1-800-523-1673 Ext. 251 or 352 455-4267. www.floridaelks.org/feyc/index.aspx 4-25-12-72-14

Data entry/clerical position FT ECG Department. Please apply in person. Institute of Veterinary Spec 3603 NW 98th St. Suite A. 1-13-5-14

Homework Coach Wanted- 1 on 1 help needed for bright 6th grade student with ADD. \$10/hr, afternoons Sunday - Thursday. 15 minute drive from campus. email resume and references to Tina @ t.anzivino@aol.com 1-13-5-14

Sports Director for i9 Sports. Flexible hrs w/ 20-25 hrs a week required. Must love kids, sports, and have a self motivating attitude. Great experience for Sports Mgmt students. Send resume to jhettel@i9sports.com. 1-20-9-14

Online video internet marketing company wants you!! easy,fun and exciting. earn big commissions plus bonuses. part time hours equals full time pay!! we will be in the gainesville area on sunday 1/15/12 showing "the opportunity of a lifetime". seating is limited and filling up fast so please rsvp by texting 386-931-3477 for time and location 1-13-12-5-14

NANNY NEEDED for 2: ages 2 & 4yrs must be able to travel: starts Jan 9; 2wks/mon/min; 40hrs/wk @\$12/hr. Noah's Ark Nanny: email res., pix & sched to: info@noahsarknanny.com 1-13-5-14

FT NANNIES NEEDED NOW: 18 mon/ triplets; M-F 8-5; prev. exp; LONG TERM COMMIT ONLY! Noah's Ark Nanny e-mail resume, pix, & schedule to info@noahsarknanny.com 1-13-5-14

Bookkeeper-Receptionist for immigration law firm. Must know MS Office & Quickbooks. Spanish a plus. Full or Part time. Resume to robjac@myimmigrationlaw.com. 1-13-12-5-14

Needed-tutor for my ADHD 14 year old son in ninth grade.He needs help with reading and math. The position pays \$15/hr three nights a week. Please contact me at youngc97@gmail.com 1-11-12-3-14

NANNY AGENCY NEEDS NANNIES! Must have experience, be able to pass a drug test, background check, driving record check, and have child care references. We hire only the best. kristy@twinkletoesnanny.com 1-13-12-5-14

1-800-GOT-JUNK?

1800GOTJUNK is hiring outgoing gals/guys to cover spring part-time. Truck Team shifts. Student or recent graduate preferred. +21 age req'd for insurance. \$8.50-\$11/hr. Email cover letter & resume to clantax@gmail.com 1-13-12-4-14

Furniture Kingdom-Delivery Driver Flexible hours for students. \$10/hr plus tips. Must be drug free with clean driving record. See John or Jayson 1420 NW 23rd Ave. 1-17-11-5-14

P/T babysitter needed, various afternoon and morning hours needed. 4 children ages 2 to 9 (not all home at all times). Experience required. \$12/hr. Email resume and references to nannyforfam@gmail.com. 1-17-12-5-14

14 Help Wanted

Inactive adults (50+) are needed to participate in a study conducted by the UF GetUpAndGo initiative assessing the accuracy of an advanced pedometer. Compensation provided. Call 336-406-3706 or email FitBit10000@gmail.com 1-13-4-14

Quality child caring center is looking for dedicated people who love working with children. FT/PT, exp. required and a CDA, AA or BA in education. Benefits available with FT. Call 377-2290 or 373-1481 1-24-12-10-14

One serious hardworking and trustworthy UF student. Gen or const labor, exp w/electrical & plumbing, carpentry, chainsaw & heavy lifting. PT flex hrs. \$7.50/hr. 327-2931 or 376-6183 1-13-12-3-14

Babysitting position available for 2 children ages 8 and 9. Hours include Saturday mornings, Thursday afternoons and possibly one additional afternoon. Must have car. If interested please e-mail and include your resume and/or your babysitting experience. Thanks! jcmvet36@gmail.com 1-17-12-4-14

WAITPERSONS Experienced & friendly. Evenings. Apply in person between 3 & 5pm. NAPOLATANO'S, 616 NW 75th St 1-18-12-5-14

Marketing Assistant Heat Pipe Technology Inc, a local manufacturer is looking for a part time marketing assistant: 10-20 hours per week at \$10/hour. Flexible schedule. Please respond to: sales@heatpipe.com 1-25-12-10-14

15 Services

Do you have a business that provides a service? Place your ad in the Services Section of the Alligator Classifieds. 373-FIND

IMPORT AUTO REPAIR. BMW, Mercedes, Porsche, Volvo, VW, Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Mazda. Quality craftsmanship, reasonable prices, near UF, AAA approved 378-7830 www.carrsmith.com 4-25-72-15

Want to be a CNA, phlebotomist or pharm tech? Express Training offers courses, days, eve, weekend. All classes live, no videos. Call 352-338-1193 or expresstraining.com 4-25-12-72-15

PERSONAL TRAINING 300 Personal and Group Training Flexible Scheduling Exclusive Facility Call for a free workout 339-2199 4-25-72-15

www.UFMoverGuys.com Licensed & Insured ● Last Minute Specials Loading & Unloading ● Full-Service Mover. 352-222-0211. FL Movers Reg No IM1847 4-25-12-72-15

NEED A LAWYER? SiddiquiOnline.com Private Experienced Affordable 4-25-74 15

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION

D ₂	I ₁	S ₁	A ₁	V ₄	O ₁	W ₄	RACK 1 =	92
B ₃	I ₁	V ₄	O ₁	U ₁	A ₁	C ₃	RACK 2 =	67
H ₄	O ₁	T ₁	D ₂	O ₁	G ₂		RACK 3 =	11
S ₁	Q ₁₀	U ₁	A ₁	L ₁	I ₁	D ₂	RACK 4 =	67
PAR SCORE 155-165							TOTAL	237

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15 Services

Epic Photographer for Hire Email suzettecook@onebox.com Gator Alum, hrly chg. You keep the digital files www.mizdigital.com 352-260-2511 4-25-12-72-15

HORSE BOARDING: \$350/mo. From GV/ UofF 10 minutes. Dressage, stadium, x-country, daytime stall, nighttime turnout. Rider housing available. Barn Family Program to mitigate board and rent. Lessons, schooling opportunities. For further information, contact Dibble at Gator Slide Farm, 352-466-3538 or gtrslfrm@aol.com. Visitors always welcome. 2-29-11-5-15

16 Health Services

HIV ANTIBODY TESTING Alachua County Health Dept. Call 334-7960 for app't (optional \$20 fee)

All Women's Health Center ABORTION Free Pregnancy Test RU-486 Available 378-9191 www.abortiongainesville.com 4-25-72-16

THE TRUE YOU! Lose 8-15 pounds in 4 weeks Only \$119! Gain muscle while you lose fat Groups forming now. 339-2199 4-25-72-16

18 Personals

GET FIT W/ GARY! Over 15yr exp. CPT available for you now! Trained Ms. Florida; US Military; and various gyms. Best rates in GV area ever! \$20 - student, \$30 - median wage earners \$40 - professionals. Call for more info: 386-867-0000 1-13-12-5-16

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18 Personals

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23 Rides

Trying to get to and from somewhere? Want to cut back on that gas bill? Place an ad in the classifieds to find trip arrangements or show off your bus and shuttle service. 373-FIND

24 Pets

Furry, feathery, scaly...no, not your roommate...pets. Find or advertise your pets or pet products here in the Pets section of the Alligator.

25 Lost & Found

Finders Keepers? If you find something, you can place a FREE FOUND AD in our lost & found section. Be kind to someone who's lost what you've found. Call 373-FIND.

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

ACROSS

1 Seller's caveat	6 Farm song refrain	39 Bigwig	54 First day of spring, to Vietnamese
5 Whistle blower	7 Sell for	44 Heat again, as water for tea	55 Miles away
8 Fight	8 Hatch on the Hill	45 Like most streets	56 Total blast
14 Congeniality	9 Boglike	47 Lion-colored	57 Au, on a Spanish periodic table
16 Edit	10 Adobe file format	48 French-speaking republic	58 Tokyo, once
17 Online data movement	11 Bungler	49 CPR expert	59 Bigwig on the Hill: Abbr.
19 Extinguish	12 Lab subj.	50 Was sore	60 Post-WWII pres.
20 Clinch a deal, in slang	13 And so forth: Abbr.	51 Smidgens	
21 Thing to do on the cautious side?	15 Valuable rock		
22 "Man in Black" singer	18 Top rating		
27 Tempt with, as a carrot	22 Yoda, notably		
30 "Typee" sequel	23 Venomous snakes		
31 Highfalutin	24 Wild way to run		
35 Steak order	25 Numbered Chan relative		
36 Symphony or sonata	26 Groundbreaking tool		
38 High-tech party notice	28 Protein in wheat products		
40 Jungle queen	29 Zap		
41 Enjoy a 10-course Chinese meal	32 Suffix with tact		
42 Categorize	33 Code word		
46 Pending	34 Draft choice		
52 VCR button	35 A whole bunch		
53 Big name in transmission repair	36 Former iPod model		
54 Cardio-boxing workout regimen	37 Sport		
56 Conforms, or what each last word of 17-, 22-, 36- and 46-Across literally does	38 Academic Web letters		
61 Intensely devoted			
62 Shanghai setting			
63 Woody's wife			
64 Mar.-to-Nov. setting			
65 Count (on)			

DOWN

1 Put up with	47	48	49	50	51	52
2 Arizona neighbor	53	54	55			
3 How board game players play	56	57	58	59	60	
4 Ladies	61	62				
5 First pres. to visit China while in office	63	64	65			

By Donagliardo and C.C. Burnikel (c)2012 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 01/11/12

TELLING YOU WATTS UP

What to expect from us this semester

Welcome back to yet another glorious semester in Gainesville.

Just like your favorite football team, the alligatorSports Brand is experiencing some turnover at the top. My name is Matt Watts, and I'll be your sports editor this semester.



Matt Watts
twitter: @wattmatts

I say 'your' because this paper is all about you: the readers.

We want to hear from you. We want to know what you think. We want to know what you want to see in our section.

Anything you have something to say, please, let your voice be heard by emailing us at sports@alligator.org or by using that newfangled social media site, Twitter. We can be found here: @alligatorSports.

Twitter will be a large part of what we do this semester, and it's all in an effort to better reach you, the reader. But an increased online presence is just the beginning of what you can expect from us this semester.

Here's what we're planning:

The Return of the alligatorSports Video Show

Yes, ittttt's baaaaaack.

The video show was the brainchild of our very own Adam Berry, former editor and superstar reporter who has moved on to work full-time at MLB.com, and it's my honor to bring it back after a layoff during Fall.

You can expect at least one show per week where we will delve into all things Gators, bringing you with us into press conferences with your favorite athletes and coaches and giving you an inside peek into the world of Florida sports you can't find anywhere else.

SEE WATTS, PAGE 14

Pease to be named new offensive coordinator

► FORMER BOISE STATE COACH TO JOIN FLORIDA'S STAFF.

GREG LUCA and MATT WATTS
Alligator Staff Writers

Brent Pease will be announced as Florida's next offensive coordinator today, ac-

ording to a source close to the team.

Pease had been at Boise State for the last six years and served as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach during the 2011 season.

According to a report earlier in the week by the Idaho Statesman, Pease was weighing offers from Florida and Alabama.

His arrival fills the void cre-

ated by the departure of Charlie Weis, who left UF in December to become the head coach at Kansas.

Boise State's offense ranked No. 9 nationally with 481.3 yards per game last season on the strength of quarterback Kellen Moore, who threw for 3,800 yards, 43 touchdowns and 9 interceptions.

Florida finished No. 105 with

328.7 yards per game.

Pease has been a coach for 15 years, spending 10 of those years as an offensive coordinator. During that span, he called plays for Montana, Northern Arizona, Kentucky and Baylor before moving to Boise State in 2006. He was the Broncos' wide receivers coach from 2006-10 and was assistant head coach under Chris Petersen from 2007-10.

Inspired defense helps Gators rout 'Dawgs

MATT WATTS
Alligator Staff Writer

Georgia guard Gerald Robinson spun 360 degrees in the lane, blowing by Erving Walker with his sights set on the rim. But Robinson didn't see a trailing Patric Young, who swatted the layup attempt into the sixth row.

Minutes later, Young closed out on a 3-point look from UGA's Dustin Ware, projecting his nearly 7-foot frame into Ware's face and forcing the shot to bounce off iron.

"(Robinson) was trying to make the highlight reel for ESPN SportsCenter right there," Young said. "But maybe I made the top 10 on making a block on him trying to get a little fancy."

The two standout plays from Young highlighted a renewed emphasis on defense headed up by coach Billy Donovan after a lackluster effort in a road loss to Tennessee on Saturday.

"I was much more pleased with our effort on that end of the floor, our level of awareness, being alert, sharp, focused."

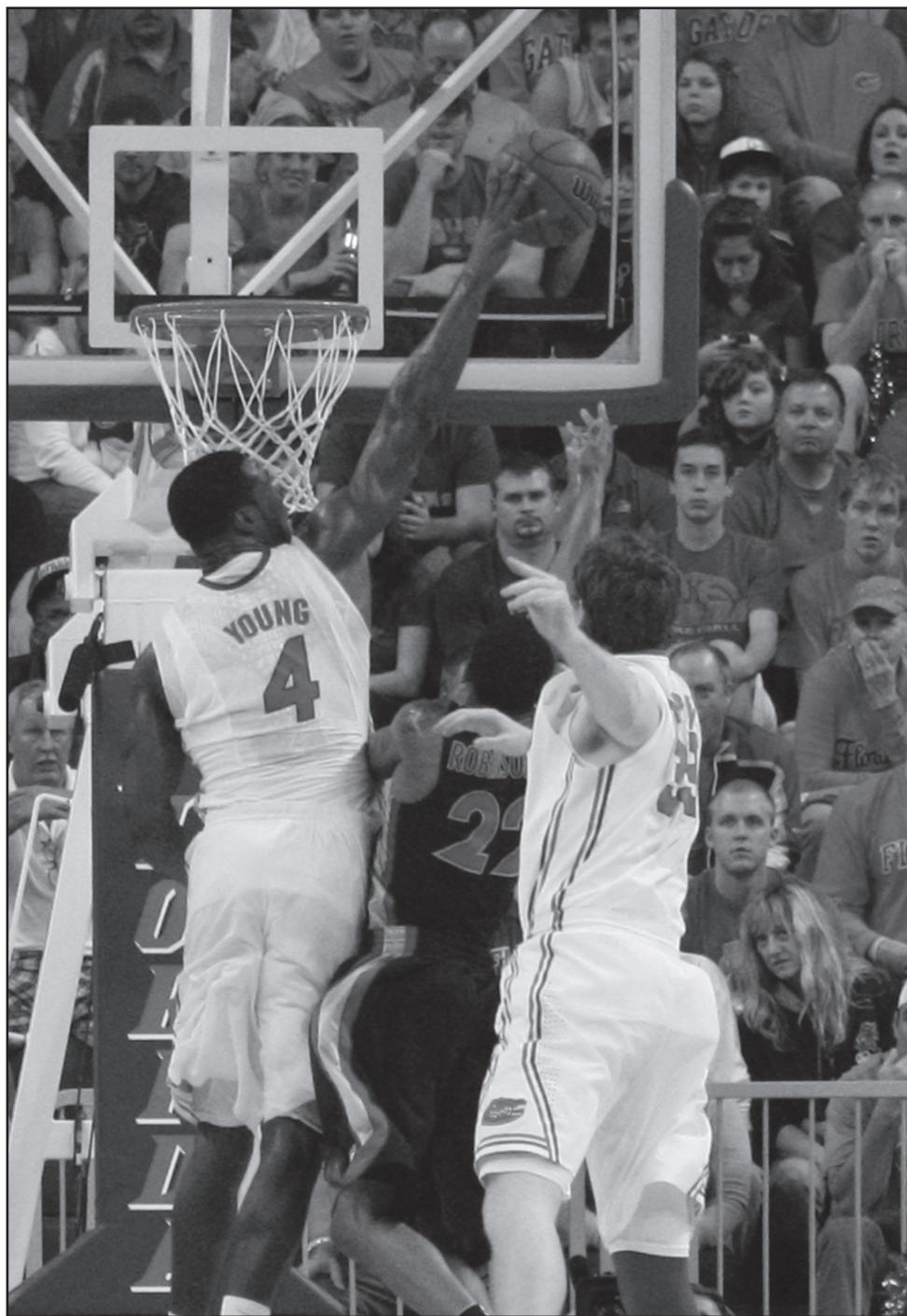
Billy Donovan
UF coach

Florida allowed Tennessee to shoot 51 percent from the floor and 50 percent from beyond the arc in a disappointing 67-56 loss in Knoxville, Tenn., last weekend, and Donovan challenged the Gators in practice during the weekend.

Florida (13-4, 1-1 Southeastern Conference) responded Tuesday night with a 70-48 victory against rival Georgia (9-7, 0-2 SEC) in the O'Connell Center.

"I was much more pleased with our effort on that end of the floor, our level of awareness, being alert, sharp, focused," Donovan said. "I thought we defended them very, very well. Obviously, we held them to 48 points. Any time you hold a team to 48 points, you've done a pretty good job defensively."

Donovan made a concerted effort to emphasize defensive intensity in practice leading up to the game, and what better opportunity for a turnaround then to have Georgia, with the lowest scoring average (62.9 ppg) and the second-worst field goal percentage



David Carr / Alligator

Florida sophomore center Patric Young (4) blocks Georgia guard Gerald Robinson's shot attempt in the second half of the Gators' 70-48 win on Tuesday in the O'Dome.

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 14



Florida's women's basketball team has gotten a boost from forward Jennifer George, who has run off a streak of eight straight double-doubles. See story, page 15.

alligatorSports Podcast

The podcast makes its return today with host Greg Luca, basketball writer John Boothe and editor Matt Watts discussing UF's victory against UGA last night and much more. Find it on iTunes or at alligatorSports.org.

We're Hiring Writers; Come See Us Friday

If you want to work for us covering Gators sports, now is your chance. Come out to 1105 W. University Ave on Friday from noon to 3 p.m.

Beal finds stroke, leads team in scoring

JOHN BOOTHE
Alligator Staff Writer

Kenny Boynton knew Brad Beal's shooting woes wouldn't last long.

After watching Beal, a freshman guard, slip deeper into a four-game, 14-of-47 shooting funk Saturday at Tennessee, Boynton said he didn't know exactly when or where, but an offensive breakthrough would soon happen for his teammate.

As it turned out, Boynton needed just one game for his prediction to pan out.

Along with 10 rebounds, Beal scored 17 points and went 4 of 8 from the field, including 4 for 6 on 3-pointers, to lead No. 13 Florida past Georgia 70-48 on Tuesday night.

"It was great; I'm happy for him," said Boynton, a junior guard. "I said last game there was going to be a [time] when he came out and played good. And I think he needed a game like this, definitely in the SEC, this gives him a lot of confidence."

Though coach Billy Donovan did not want to characterize Beal's play before Tuesday as a slump, he said the freshman starter was struggling recently with his comfort level within the Gators' offense.

Beal turned the ball over 14 times in his previous four games, including five against Tennessee. Donovan credited the rise in giveaways to Beal's eagerness to defer to his teammates.

"I really felt like the last couple days in practice he was starting to figure some things out, offensively," Donovan said. "When he should be looking to shoot, when he should be looking to pass. And I think that's been something that's bogged him down a little bit, because he's so unselfish."

While reaching double figures for the first time in two games certainly helped Beal's confidence, his decision-making in his second SEC game was also drastically improved.

Beal had just one turnover against the Bulldogs, despite doing most of his damage in the second

half on aggressive drives to the basket. He went 5 of 6 from the free-throw line on three fouls once he got inside the paint.

"Coach Donovan helped me realize, as well as Kenny and the rest of the players — they told me just relax," Beal said. "They said it's going to come. Kenny told me he went through the same thing his freshman year."

In the first half, Beal kept Florida's outside shooting afloat as he hit three straight 3-pointers in the final 5:40 of the first half to help stretch UF's lead to 20 points. Four

other Gators, including Boynton, who scored 17 points, would go a combined 3 of 15 from three.

Beal's re-emergence from three comes after hitting only two treys in his last four outings.

"Everybody has bad games and stuff like that, but I don't really get too involved in getting down on myself," Beal said. "My teammates always have faith in me and my coaches as well. And I really just try to focus and concentrate on the team concepts."

Contact John Boothe at jboothe@alligator.org.



David Carr / Alligator

Florida freshman guard Brad Beal scored 17 points on a 4-of-6 shooting performance from three in Tuesday's win against UGA.

UF holds UGA to season-low in points

HOOPS, from page 13

(.409) in the SEC, come into Gainesville for a home game.

The Gators took full advantage, limiting the Bulldogs to a 20-for-55 shooting performance (36.4 percent) and setting a season low in points allowed (48).

"We could have done even better than we did," Young said. "We gave up too many 3-point shots. We had a lot of breakdowns. They offensive rebounded on us a lot. I feel that even though we had a season low, we could have done even better than we did tonight."

Young finished with eight points, 10 boards and one of six UF blocks on the evening. The Gators also created five steals and turned the Bulldogs

over 10 times.

Still, Georgia held a 14-6 advantage on the offensive glass and made 7 of the 18 threes it attempted, momentarily allowing the Bulldogs to pull within 13 points late in the second half.

But for the majority of the game, Florida pursued aggressively each loose ball and rebound, something it failed to do in the road loss to Tennessee.

Against the Volunteers, Donovan said the Gators gave up too many easy shots and didn't maintain focus on defense. That wasn't a problem Tuesday, as Florida contested nearly every shot Georgia put up until the game was out of reach.

"We played a lot harder," guard Brad Beal said of how UF was able to architect the quick turnaround on defense. "UAB and Tennessee, we gave up too many points in transition. We were too lackadaisical on defense, and tonight I feel we did a pretty good job."

On the other end of the floor, Beal broke out of a miniature freshman slump, tying Kenny Boynton for the game-high in points with 17. Beal, the Gators' leader in minutes and rebounds and the team's second-leading scorer, had not broken double digits in Florida's last two games.

"He had a much, much better feel and flow today offensively than he's had in a few games," Donovan said.

Contact Matt Watts at mwatts@alligator.org.

WATTS, from page 13

The show will be available online at alligatorSports.org/videoshow. Be on the lookout for the first episode coming soon.

The alligatorSports Podcast

Our dedicated listeners (we're looking at you, Paul Futch and Marshall Spevak) will be glad to learn that the podcast is back again with host Greg Luca. Luca is an experienced MC now, and is ready to bring the ruckus to a speaker or iPod near you.

The podcast is a great listen, where our columnists and staff writers analyze and discuss Gators sports. Subscribe on iTunes or find it online at our site: alligatorSports.org.

Twitter

In an effort to bring you quick-hitting, extensive coverage and analysis of Gators sports, all of our beat writers will be hitting Twitter with a passion this semester.

We'll be live Tweeting from press conferences, games and even our couch from time to time. Check out the graphic below to pick up all of our handles and learn which writer is cover-

ing your favorite beat.

The Rally

One of the features we really want to start hearing from you guys, the readers, about is The Rally. (On pg. 15 today.)

It's a back-and-forth debate between two of our columnists that has become one of our favorite things to write. Hopefully you find as much entertainment and enjoyment in reading it as we do writing it.

Therefore, we want to hear what you want us to debate. Send all topic ideas to us through email or on Twitter and we'll get it going. Also, be sure to go to the online version of the story, where you can vote for the winner of each edition of the column.

Open House

Lastly, if you're a journalism major, or have experience writing, and want to join our staff, come on out to our Open House on Friday from noon to 3 p.m. We're looking for writers, and maybe a copy editor or two. Worst case scenario, you get some free pizza. So come on out, we're excited to meet you.

Contact Matt Watts at mwatts@alligator.org.



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Shawn Janetzke / Alligator Staff



Aundre Larrow / Alligator Staff

Gators junior forward Jennifer George has recorded eight straight double-doubles, which is five shy of tying the school record.

Improved George dominating in post

Junior averaging double-double

JOE MORGAN
Alligator Staff Writer

Junior forward Jennifer George does not worry about double-doubles.

Her streak of eight consecutive games with double-digit points and rebounds does not cross her mind.

Neither does the school record of 13 straight double-doubles, a mark set by former All-American and current UF assistant coach Murriel Page.

"I just try to be consistent," George said. "Coach Page and I don't talk about it that much. We just try to get better every day at practice."

Even though they do not discuss the streak, Page is well aware of the steps George has taken to reach her current level of play.

The 2010-11 campaign was disappointing not only for Florida, but also for George.

She averaged 6.8 points and 5.6 rebounds per game in a trying season that ended with the Gators failing to reach the NCAA Tournament.

"She knew she could do better," Page said. "She just took it upon herself this summer to go and get in the gym and work hard every day."

George's diligence has paid off so far this season as she leads the Gators with 14 points and 10.1 rebounds per game.

Page credits George's improvement to her "relentless" work ethic and improved communication with her teammates.

"One thing she didn't do last year was demand the ball," Page said. "This year, if the girls miss her, she'll go up to them and say, 'I was open. Get me the ball.'"

George's statistical outburst has been a long time coming according to redshirt senior guard Jordan Jones.

"She's a beast, she's the strongest player on the team, she's able to dominate like this, and it's always been inside of her."

Jordan Jones
redshirt senior guard

Jones labeled George as a "double-double player" during the pre-season, and she said the team has expected George to play like this all along.

"She's a beast, she's the strongest player on the team, she's able to dominate like this, and it's always been inside of her," Jones said. "It gives us confidence to put shots up there and know that George — more times than not — if we miss, she's going to get the rebound and put it in."

Although George's double-double streak has continued into Southeastern Conference play, her skills have been somewhat under-

utilized. In the last five minutes of last Sunday's loss to South Carolina, George only attempted one shot — a layup off an offensive rebound.

"It's on us and it's on her," Jones said. "We need her to demand the ball more and we need to be more aware that she's not getting touches and she's dominating."

According to Page, George understands that she needs to continue calling for the ball in order to establish an offensive presence in the paint.

However, George prioritizes her role on the team and what she can do to help Florida win games and contend for the SEC Championship.

"She's not thinking about what she's doing for herself," Page said. "She's just trying to improve every day and get out there and get rebounds and score for her team."

Page said that during her playing days at Florida, she aimed to leave her mark by adding her name to the record books.

However, she acknowledges that she enjoys watching players like George compete and even best the numbers she put up during her time in Gainesville.

"To hold a double-double (record), that's something that not too many players do," Page said.

"That's (George's) way of leaving her legacy and also challenging post players that come here after her."

Contact Joe Morgan at joemorgan@alligator.org.

THE RALLY

Can SEC sustain dominance after sixth straight BCS title?

Greg: Alabama's 21-0 win against LSU in the BCS title game may not have been the most entertaining to watch, but it reaffirmed one thing many of us already knew: The SEC is king.

As one self-gratifying, not-totally-in-your-face-but-still-pretty-clear commercial not-so-subtly explained, the Southeastern Conference claimed its sixth straight national title Monday.

Fans of the SEC — a.k.a supporters of the school's cellar dwellers who need excuses for why their teams are consistently thrashed — need to enjoy it while they can, because there's no way this streak lasts.

First off, it's difficult to believe these 12 (now 14) schools have some super system that allows them to consistently win the crapshoot that is recruiting.

And even if the SEC could somehow assemble the NCAA's most dominant rosters every year, it's nearly impossible to predict which teams will successfully navigate a 12-game minefield where one loss could mean an end to title contention.

Tom: You couldn't be more wrong here. The SEC's reign of terror isn't coming to an end — it's just hitting its stride.

The SEC had every right to troll the rest of America with that awesome, in-your-face, we're-better-than-you commercial Monday night, because an SEC team is very likely to win it all again next season.

To paraphrase our good friend from the

Bayou, Mr. Aurelius Faux Pas III, the SEC has the best, and fastest, athletes in the land. With the conference touting six consecutive BCS champions, where do you think a lot of the nation's top high school players are going to want to go play college ball? That's right, the SEC.

They say power in college football is cyclical, and I agree — from team to team. But the SEC is playing chess out there while the rest of these conferences are playing checkers, and as long as that's the case, the SEC will reign supreme in college football.

Greg: The problem there is you're assuming recruits make decisions rationally. The amount of flip-flopping that goes on in the recruiting process is absurd, and kids committed to Florida can just as easily end up at Utah, as Visesio Salt proved this week. Plus, it's pretty clear that recruiting stars don't guarantee anything on Saturdays.

Even if they did, recruits are attracted to coaches, not programs. The fact that only three current SEC coaches (Les Miles at LSU, Steve Spurrier at South Carolina, and Mark Richt at Georgia) have had their current job for the duration of the six-year streak shows just how volatile the coaching world is, making greatness extremely difficult to sustain.



Greg Luca
twitter: @gregluca



Tom Green
twitter: @tomas_verde

The Southeast may have the most high school talent, but there's no reason to believe those athletes will stay there. With Twitter and Facebook and the Internet and TV and texting and bribes, every coach has a national reach. Nothing prevents Florida's best athletes from going to play for Urban Meyer at Ohio State, even though he won two of the "SEC's" six championships.

Tom: Sure, but this whole debate begins and ends with one question: Will the SEC's streak come to a close soon? The answer is no.

Of those three coaches who have been around since the start of the streak, Miles has won a title and had LSU a game away from another one, Richt has brought in top talent (a No. 5 class last year and another highly touted class set for next month) that will make Georgia a contender next season, and Spurrier has turned South Carolina around since taking over.

Oh, and the SEC still has the best coach in the world: Nick Saban — and there's no chance he leaves Alabama any time soon, at least not before he takes home a couple more crystal footballs.

And as long as those coaches are around, that talent will keep flocking to those schools, and those coaches will flip that talent into ti-

bles. Like the Heat's LeBron James said when he was celebrating signing with Miami in July 2010, "Not six, not seven, not eight..."

Greg: How'd that work out for LeBron? Yeah, that's what I thought.

Your point is right on, Nick Saban and Les Miles will always be in the national title conversation. I'm not saying the SEC is going to fall off entirely, because that's just not true.

But there's just no way the SEC coaches are head and shoulders above Meyer, Bob Stoops, Lane Kiffin, Chris Peterson, Chip Kelly, Frank Beamer and all the other great coaches playing the same game they are.

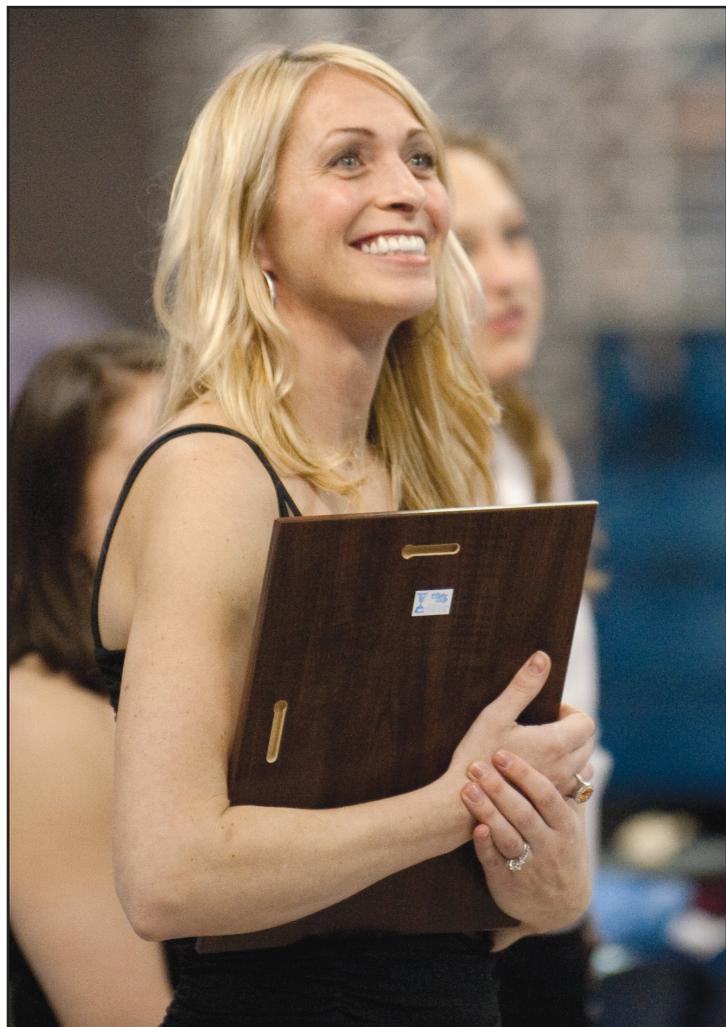
All you can really guarantee is that Alabama and LSU will continue to contend. Not dominate.

Tom: Alabama and LSU will continue to contend. So will Georgia. And Arkansas. And even Florida again in a few seasons.

The Kiffins and Petersons and Stoopses of the world are all great coaches, too. But even at 4-foot-9, Saban is still head and shoulders above them.

Besides, we've seen what happens when other conferences try the SEC in the BCS title game, as evidenced by the SEC's 5-0 record in those games. The conference proved Monday that only one thing can stand in the way of an SEC team winning it all these days: the SEC.

Contact Greg Luca at gluca@alligator.org and Tom Green at tgreen@alligator.org.



Alligator File Photo

Florida coach Rhonda Faehn (above) was impressed by Kytra Hunter's debut last week, which netted the freshman an all-around title.

GYMNASTICS

Freshman Hunter makes early impact

LONDON WATNICK

Alligator Writer

Coach Rhonda Faehn may have found herself another dynamic freshman.

Kytra Hunter made a huge statement as an all-around competitor in No. 3 Florida's 196.025-194.675 road win against North Carolina State on Friday.

In her collegiate debut, Hunter finished with 39.3 points to win the all-around title, scoring a 9.85 on vault, a 9.775 on uneven parallel bars, a 9.775 on balance beam and a meet-high 9.9 on the floor exercise.

Hunter is the fourth Gator in 25 years to claim an all-around title in a season opener.

"We know she's extremely talented and a phenomenal athlete," Faehn said.

"That was fun to be able to see her get out there and do a great job right from the start."

Hunter, who hails from Frederick, Md., was a member of the 2009-10 and 2010-11 U.S. Senior National Teams and has competed in the 2009 European Tour and the Visa Championships, among other events.

Hunter said competing with the U.S. National Team helped her learn to calm her nerves in front of large audiences.

So when Hunter debuted her floor routine in front of a crowd of 2,512 at the Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh, N.C., last Friday, everything went smoothly.

"We know she's extremely talented and a phenomenal athlete. That was fun to be able to see her get out there and do a great job right from the start."

Rhonda Faehn

UF gymnastics coach

"It felt great," she said. "I mean, as a freshman, I got to get my feet wet."

Hunter's all-around efforts add to a formidable core that includes junior All-Americans Ashanee Dickerson and Marissa King.

For the Gators, Hunter's breakout debut has to feel like déjà vu. In last year's opener against Nebraska, then-freshman Alaina Johnson scored a 39.425 as an all-around competitor. Like Hunter, Johnson recorded a 9.9 on floor.

Johnson, the 2011 Southeastern

Conference Freshman of the Year, followed up her debut with even stronger scores in her second meet: a 9.95 in vault, a 9.925 in bars and a 9.85 in floor.

Hunter said she hopes she can continue the trend when Florida hosts Illinois-Chicago on Friday night at 7 in the Gators' home opener. She added that during this week's practices she has been working on her landings, as well as handstands on bars.

"I'm really confident," Hunter said. "I did make mistakes (against North Carolina State), and going out as a freshman my first meet, I wasn't going to be perfect. But I'd rather have mistakes that I can go in and fix than be perfect and have nothing to fix."

While Hunter remains self-assured, her coach might be even more confident in the freshman's abilities.

"She has that star quality," Faehn said.

"I say that she's all business because she gets through everything so quickly. But just her sheer power, her vault and her tumbling, is just phenomenal. I would say the best in the country."

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IN HONOR OF THE MAN AND HIS DREAM

The Alligator will not be publishing on Monday, January 16th due to the Martin L. King, Jr. holiday.

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