

Florida used a second-half surge to pull away from Auburn on Tuesday night at home. See story, page 17.



Haley Stratcher / Alligator Staff

Party Animals

Unite Party dog, Jackson, 14 months, plays with Students Party dog, Sammy, 18 months, on Turlington Plaza on Tuesday afternoon. Unite Party campaigners said Jackson was born a Unite dog. Students Party campaigners said they were the first to have a party dog and that imitation is the highest form of flattery.

Billy Joel to perform at Phillips Center

EMILY MILLER
 Alligator Contributing Writer

Tickets to see Billy Joel are available today.

Joel will answer questions and perform March 1 at 8 p.m. at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

Tickets for the event, which are free to UF students with a Gator 1 Card, will be distributed at the University Box Office today from noon to 5 p.m. University Box Office rules prohibit students from lining up

before 7 a.m.



Joel

About 1,800 tickets will be available. One ticket is permitted per student ID, and no more than four IDs can be presented at a time.

"You are never in your life going to be able to see Billy Joel for free, and this is a great experience and hopefully a memory you will have forever," said Corey Portnoy, Accent

chairman. "He is a legend."

Portnoy said Accent Speaker's Bureau is paying Joel \$25,000 for the event.

If tickets are still available, they will be distributed Thursday starting at noon for students and at 6 p.m. for the public.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Each ticket reserves a seat until 7:45 p.m.

Student Government Productions chairman Jeffrey Schnier said the Phillips Center was chosen per Joel's request.

Student Government Productions is co-sponsoring the event.

Sorority member speaks out about election

JON SILMAN
 Alligator Staff Writer

It was a simple status update.

Beatrice Diehl, 22, a journalism senior and a member of the Sigma Kappa sorority, felt a need to express her opinion about Student Government after she read an article in the Alligator on Monday about a Unite Party member throwing away copies of the paper. In an interview with the Alligator on Tuesday, she described a social environment that catered to the Unite Party by coercing members to vote and pass out fliers for Unite to get privileges and that generally perpetuated a silent mandate to support the party or be subtly ostracized, even reprimanded.

"It's patronage politics," she said, "and that's what I hate so much about it. It's not democratic at all."

Diehl, a member of Sigma Kappa for four years, said she doesn't usually get involved with SG, but after the trash can newspaper incident, she had to speak out. On Tuesday at about 2:30 a.m., she wrote this:

"It's patronage politics, and that's what I hate so much about it. It's not democratic at all."

Beatrice Diehl
 UF senior

Everyone remember to vote today!! As a Senior, it would be really great to leave this school knowing it was in good hands, with people who actually care about the ENTIRE student body. I've hated campus politics and avoided them for four years because they seemed so petty. And this proves they

SEE SORORITY, PAGE 8

Voter turnout increases by 18 percent for first day of elections

► POLLS ARE OPEN UNTIL 8:30 P.M.

SAMANTHA SHAVELL
 Alligator Writer

Tuesday's Student Government elections brought out about 18 percent more students than voted on the first day in the past two elections.

Supervisor of Elections Toni Megna said Tuesday's votes tallied 6,517.

These numbers are up about 1,000 votes from the first day of both the last two SG elections.

The total votes from the first day of the Fall 2011 election was 5,486, and the total vote tally for the Spring 2011 was 5,532, according to Alligator archives.

No major computer errors occurred Tuesday.

Ian Centrone, a 21-year-old advertising senior, voted in the CSE lab and said some of the keyboards were acting up, but it didn't cause too much of a problem.

Students can vote today at any of the 11 locations, which include the Broward Hall Basement, Jennings first floor study room, Springs

Area Office Room 202, Murphree Area Commons, Reitz Union third floor computer lab, McCarty Hall B computer lab B, Southwest Rec Center, Levin College of Law student lounge, CSE Computer Lab, Marston Library and the Health Science Center Library Collaboration Center.

Today the health center location will open at 9 a.m. and the CSE Computer Lab will close at 4:30 p.m.

Today 77/60

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Commission votes in support of water regulations
 The resolution will protect Alachua County springs, pg 3.

Relish to open new location in downtown Gainesville
 The restaurant will stay open after bars close, pg 5.



Dancer, blogger talks body image
 Ragen Chastain discussed health and confidence in the Reitz Union Ballroom, pg. 4.



News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

3-Day Call in to Support the RTS

Bus Drivers

Today to Thursday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Turlington Plaza
This week Students for a Democratic Society is hosting a three-day call-in to support bus drivers. See members on Turlington Plaza to learn more about the challenges that RTS bus drivers are facing and how to help.

5K-9 Olympics

Today, 2 p.m.
Reitz Union North Lawn
Compete alongside your dog in the first 5K-9 Olympics. Winners of the longest fetch, highest jump and most time standing on hind legs will be rewarded with prizes including cruises, gym memberships and waived University Commons 5K-9 admission. More event details can be found on Facebook.com/uc5k9.

Authors@UF: Hitler's Shadow — Nazi War Criminals, US Intelligence and the Cold War

Today, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Smathers Library, Room 1A
History professor Norman Goda will discuss his book "Hitler's Shadow — Nazi War Criminals, US Intelligence and the Cold War." The book investigates how and why numerous Nazi war criminals, including high officials of the Gestapo, escaped prosecution at the end of WWII. Goda will share his

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
PARTLY CLOUDY 77/60	PARTLY CLOUDY 80/60	THUNDER STORMS 80/48	PARTLY CLOUDY 66/40	PARTLY CLOUDY 71/50

perspective as a writer, historian and researcher. Q&A and reception will follow.

CHISPAS General Body Meeting

Today, 6:30 p.m.
Institute of Hispanic Latino Cultures, "La Casita"
All students are welcome. There will be free pizza and a speaker from the Student/Farmworker Alliance.

Golden Key General Body Meeting

Today, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Turlington, Room L011
Go to Golden Key's third general body meeting to learn about more ongoing events and opportunities this spring. There will be free pizza, soda and a presentation from guest speaker Abhi Lokesh. After the meeting, everyone is invited to a social at Applebee's to raise funds for Relay for Life.

Cross Examined: The Evidence for Belief

Today to Friday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
The Ocora at Pugh Hall
Join Dr. Subodh Pandit as he

presents a free lecture series. Pandit, born and raised in India, is a licensed, board-certified physician. His 20-year search for a reason to believe led him through the questions of atheism, postmodernism and pluralism to a unique method of comparing the five great world religions. For more information visit facebook.com/pandituf or email uf.babyisaac@gmail.com

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.

The Alligator strives to be accurate and clear in its news reports and editorials. If you find an error, please call our newsroom at 352-376-4458 or email editor@alligator.org.

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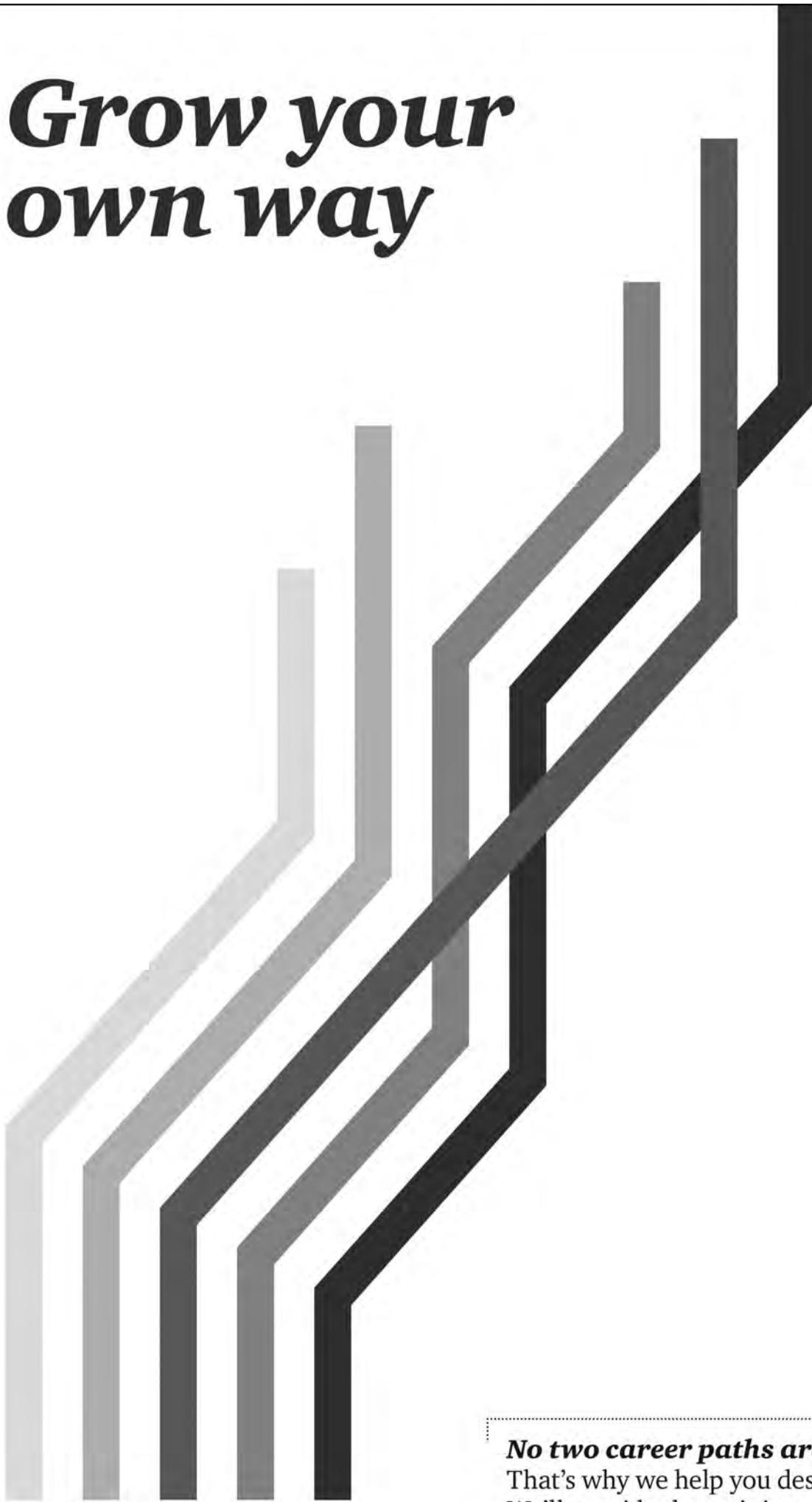
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County votes to protect springs

► COMMISSION WANTS LOCAL WATER CONTROL.

ADRIANNA PAIDAS

Alligator Writer

The Alachua County Commission wants Ginnie Springs and other county springs to keep strongly flowing.

To bring attention to water depletion in Alachua County, the commission pledged its support to keep water regulation of Florida's rivers and springs under local control rather than state control.

In a unanimous vote Tuesday morning, the commission approved a resolution to continue its support of keeping control of public water within water management districts, which are the agencies that control how much water can be pumped out of the ground to irrigate land throughout the state.

The resolution came in reaction to a Florida Senate bill that would take water regulation power from the water management districts and give it to the state.

Two springs in North Florida that were once tourist destinations in the 1920s are now dried up because too many areas around the state are pumping groundwater out of North Florida, said Chris Bird, director of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. He is concerned Ginnie Springs could follow.



DeLaney

"Water and lack of it is probably the most pressing problem in the future of Florida," commissioner Lee Pinkoson said.

There are five water management districts in Florida. Alachua County is split between two districts: the Suwannee River Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District.

When residents request a permit to irrigate their land — usually farmland — their water district denies or grants them a permit to set up a well that pumps groundwater from the Floridan Aquifer, a large underground body of water that fills springs across North Florida.

"As a result, there is less water to feed the springs," Bird said.

While supporting water management districts will not solve the problem of disappearing water, the commissioners said at the meeting, it would allow local governments to keep a watchful eye over the springs and rivers.

If the state government takes control of water regulation and distribution, it could pump from wherever it pleases, he said.

ON CAMPUS

Dancer, blogger talks body image at Reitz



Elizabeth Hamilton / Alligator

Ragen Chastain, three-time national championship dancer, author and motivational speaker, talks about positive body image in the Rion Ballroom on Tuesday night.

CAITLIN HARTLEY

Alligator Contributing Writer

When Ragen Chastain collapsed on a treadmill in her gym, she knew she had to make some changes in her life.

Tuesday night, she shared her discoveries and offered strategies for a life of health and happiness with an audience of about 80 people in the Reitz Union Rion Ballroom.

GatorWell paid Chastain \$2,000 to speak.

Chastain is 5 foot 4 inches tall and weighs 284 pounds. She believes she is the healthiest and happiest she could ever be.

She encourages others with body image issues to feel the same way.

"Health and weight are two different things," Chastain said. "There are healthy people and unhealthy people in every size and weight."

"She is such a confident person. From her body, my bias would first be she's not. But she really is that confident, and I love that."

Kaifang Zheng

23-year-old mental health counseling student

Chastain overcame an eating disorder and won three national dance championships. She now maintains a blog about her journey at danceswithfat.org.

She said she's familiar with negativity from doctors and society, and she still receives ridicule despite her accomplishments.

"A lot of times, somebody wants to bring me in as a speaker, but I was turned down because they say I was promoting obesity," she said.

On the contrary, she said, her belief is to support all body types and help people love what size they are while being healthy.

"She is such a confident person," said Kaifang Zheng, a 23-year-old mental health counseling student. "From her body, my bias would first be she's not. But she really is that confident, and I love that."

Man charged with having sex with teenager

TYLER JETT

Alligator Staff Writer

Alachua County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested a Gainesville man Monday night for having sex with a 16-year-old girl.

Torie G. Richardson, 33, was charged with sexual assault after spending Sunday night with the girl at the Motel 6 at 4000 SW 40th Blvd. The

girl told Sheriff's Office deputy Brian Gregalot that she and Richardson had sex twice in the last year, according to the arrest report.

Gainesville Police also arrested Richardson for sexual assault of a girl younger than 16 years old on Dec. 13, but charges were dropped on Jan. 30 due to insufficient evidence, according to the Alachua County Clerk of Court.

The girl in the most recent

case said she didn't know Richardson before he added her as a friend on Facebook last March.

According to the arrest report, they communicated via telephone and Facebook before

eventually meeting at Eddy Boy Park in Chiefland.

On Sunday, the two decided to meet again. The girl said she rode the bus to the Motel 6, where they smoked marijuana for about 30 minutes before having sex, according to police.

Richardson has been incarcerated in the state three times and most recently got out in 2009, according to the Florida Department of Corrections.



Richardson

Costumes, beads consume Mardi Gras in New Orleans

The first celebration was in 1682

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — As the sun began to set and the traditional family atmosphere of Mardi Gras along St. Charles Avenue ended, streams of revelers poured into New Orleans' French Quarter to continue the party well into the night.

Earlier, bathed in spring-like warmth and showered with trinkets, beads and music, New Orleans reveled in the excesses of Fat Tuesday.

A seemingly endless stream of costumed marching groups and ornately decorated float parades led by make-believe royalty poured out of the Garden District, while the French Quarter filled up with thrill-seekers

expecting to see debauchery.

And they did.

Some in the Quarter had a sleepless night after Monday's Lundi Gras prequel party. The drinking was in full-swing again shortly after dawn, and with it came outrageous costumes and flesh-flashing that would continue until police made their annual attempt to break up the merrymaking at midnight, when Lent began.

Tom White, 46, clad in a pink tutu, bicycled with his wife, Allison, to the French Quarter.

"I'm the pink fairy this year," he said. "Costuming is the real fun of Mardi Gras. I'm not too creative, but when you weigh 200 pounds and put on a tutu, people still

take your picture."

His wife was not in costume. "He's disgraced the family enough," she said.

The theme of the day was party hard and often.

Across the globe, people dressed up in elaborate costumes and partied the day away. In Rio de Janeiro, an estimated 850,000 tourists joined the city's massive five-day blowout. Meanwhile, the Portuguese, who have suffered deeply in Europe's debt crisis, defied a government appeal to keep working.

In New Orleans, the streets filled with hundreds of thousands of people.

The celebration arrived in Louisiana in 1682 when the explorer LaSalle and his party stopped at a place they called Bayou Mardi Gras south of New Orleans to celebrate.

School Board votes on Spring Break dates

CAROLYN HAND

Alligator Contributing Writer

The Alachua County School Board voted Tuesday to keep county schools' 2012-13 Spring Break separate from that of UF and Santa Fe College.

The vote was 3-2.

Some advocated for aligning the breaks to give UF and SFC employees who have school-age children the chance to have the same Spring Break as their children.

But some board members were worried that having an earlier Spring Break would have a negative effect on student performance in the spring months.

"If you're a teacher, you know that after Spring Break — especially with high school students — the students think the school year is over," said Eileen Roy, a member of the School Board.

Shane Andrew, principal of Newberry High School, said students tend to lose focus after Spring Break, especially high school seniors who are preoccupied with thoughts of prom and graduation.

"If you're a teacher, you know that after Spring Break — especially with high school students — the students think the school year is over."

Eileen Roy

school board member

Karen McCann, president of the Alachua County Education Association, told the Board at a previous meeting that teachers and staff were concerned a joint Spring Break would give high school students easy access to alcohol through older college students.

In response to McCann's statement, board member Carol Oyenarte said aligning the breaks would mean more parental supervision for students.

Encouraging the board to try something new, Oyenarte said doing so would be similar to its previous decision to adopt a countywide school dress code.

"The first time is hard, but it's at least worth a try," she said.

Kari Cronin, an Irby Elementary School teacher and a parent, said she understood that the decision was not an easy one for the board.

"The 3-2 vote tonight to me says that they were kind of torn themselves in what kind of decision to make," she said. "Change is hard at first, but I think that we can all adjust to change. But it just sounds like tonight that they were not quite ready to embrace that philosophy when it comes to the spring schedule."

Man charged with setting relative's closet on fire

ADRIANNA PAIDAS
Alligator Writer

Beverly Bruce was watching "The Voice" Monday night when her grandson came home and lit her closet on fire.

An Alachua County Sheriff's Office deputy arrested 32-year-old Keith Thomas at 10:16 p.m. Monday on charges of arson and criminal mischief, according to an arrest report.

At about 9:45 p.m., Thomas, who Bruce said is mentally challenged, came home from drinking at a bar with his friend. He wanted to drive to see his girlfriend, but Bruce wouldn't let him. She said she hid the keys in her pocket so he wouldn't find them.

"He really only gets like this when he is drunk," said Bruce, 73. "He's real sweet when he is sober."

After frantically searching for his grandmother's car keys, Thomas went into an empty bedroom and walked into the storage closet where Bruce stored her 5-foot-tall fake Christmas tree. He then lit a match and set the box holding the tree ablaze, according to the arrest report.

Bruce said she did not chase him when he went into the bedroom. She sat in her chair and continued watching "The Voice," a reality TV singing competition.

Bruce said she was accustomed to her grandson's drunken outbursts after living with him for nine years. However, she said his behavior has never caused her to call the police.

"I called the police, but I

wasn't afraid of him," she said. "He would never hurt me. Never."

Ten minutes later, she saw a flickering light in the empty bedroom adjacent to her living room. She walked into the room and saw flames.

Bruce, who needs a tank of oxygen to breathe, tried to think of a safe place to go. She said she remembered there was a built-in oxygen tank in her car and headed for her driveway.

"I saw those flames, and I said, 'I'm outta here,'" Bruce said. "'You're not blowin' me up.'"

Bruce locked herself in her car and called the police. In the meantime, Thomas took a steak knife from the kitchen, walked outside and slashed the front left tire of her white Honda Civic, according to the police report.

Within minutes, Bruce said, two deputies' vehicles and a fire truck were outside her door.

The fire burned several plastic boxes, coat hangers and the cardboard box holding her Christmas tree, according to the arrest report. Damage from the fire did not exceed \$1,000.

Thomas's bond has not been set, and he was in the Alachua County Jail as of Tuesday night, according to the county Clerk of Court website.

"I just want him to get some help," Bruce said. "He just needs help."



Thomas



John McLaughlin / Alligator

Peace Corps Acceptance

The director of the Peace Corps, Aaron Williams (right), presents Elihu Isele (left), 35, with an acceptance package to the Peace Corps. Isele recently graduated with a master's in sustainable development practice from UF. Albert the Alligator also made an appearance.

LOCAL

Relish to open downtown location

BLAINE KRIVACEK
Alligator Contributing Writer

Downtown party-goers will soon have more options for satisfying late-night burger cravings.

Relish Big Tasty Burgers will open a new location in downtown Gainesville that will stay open after the bars close, owner Rob Roche said.

The new location at 201 SE First St. is tentatively scheduled to open on March 15.

Roche said the Midtown location is a quick place to eat, whereas the new downtown location will be more of a hang-out spot.

Along with extended weekend hours, the downtown Relish

will have an outside seating area, serve beer and wine and have 60-inch televisions.

"We really focus on people having a great experience when they visit Relish."

Rob Roche
owner of Relish

Roche said he aims to create a comfortable atmosphere where people can go to relax after a long night and eat quality burgers.

"We really focus on people having a great experience when they visit Relish," Roche said.

Roche, who also owns the Pita Pit on West University, opened

the Relish in Midtown in January 2009 because he saw an untapped market for burgers in the area.

His business places an emphasis on fresh ingredients and certified Angus beef, which makes up only 8 percent of the beef sold in the country, he said.

Relish patrons can choose from eight types of relish, and there's no limit to the amount of toppings one can pile on a burger.

Marketing junior David Burkhardt, 21, said he enjoys the restaurant's topping philosophy.

"Relish is really convenient after a late night in Midtown," he said. "I'm glad Relish will be in downtown too for when I am in a downtown mood."

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Opinions

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2012
WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG/OPINIONS

Editorial

Never Be Silenced Voting is the only way to be heard in SG

What is UF Student Government?

According to the SG Constitution, members of Student Government are supposed to:

- represent and defend the rights of students to the university, the community and government;
- provide a forum for the expression of student views and interests;
- promote academic freedom, responsibility and high standards of education;
- provide services and organize events for the benefit of students.
- help promote understanding and recognition of the responsibilities of students to the university, the community and humanity.

During this election, you probably have not heard these principles espoused by representatives of either party.

However, these principles are extremely important to understanding why you should care about SG elections.

According to its own constitution, SG represents the voice of the entire Student Body, and it cannot do so justly unless members of the Student Body make their voices heard at the ballot box.

If this election is decided by members of only a few organizations on campus, then the decisions made by SG will reflect those views alone. SG will also be beholden to only those who helped put them in power.

Voting is not only your privilege, but at UF, where SG holds so much power and influence, it should be your responsibility.

Caring about this election will also ensure that you have the ability to hold elected officials accountable when they make mistakes.

Fortunately, the Alligator is protected by the First Amendment to act as a watchdog for you, the Student Body.

But we can only do so much to hold our representatives accountable. Unless members of SG recognize the power of the Student Body to influence the makeup of this governing body, nothing will change.

Voting for the SG Elections ends tonight at 8:30 p.m.

The locations include the Broward Hall basement, Jennings Hall first floor study room, Springs Area Office Room 202, Murphree Area Commons, Reitz Union third floor computer lab, McCarty Hall B computer lab B, Southwest Recreation Center, Levin College of Law student lounge, CSE computer lab, Marston Library and the Health Science Center Library Collaboration Center.

The CSE lab will close at 4:30 p.m. and the health center location will open at 9 a.m. today.

Go vote. Do not vote on behalf of any party, any platform or any particular candidate.

Vote to keep your voice.

Reader response

Today's question: Will you go to Relish downtown?

Monday's question: Are you going to vote today?

67% YES
33% NO
324 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Joey Flechas
EDITOR

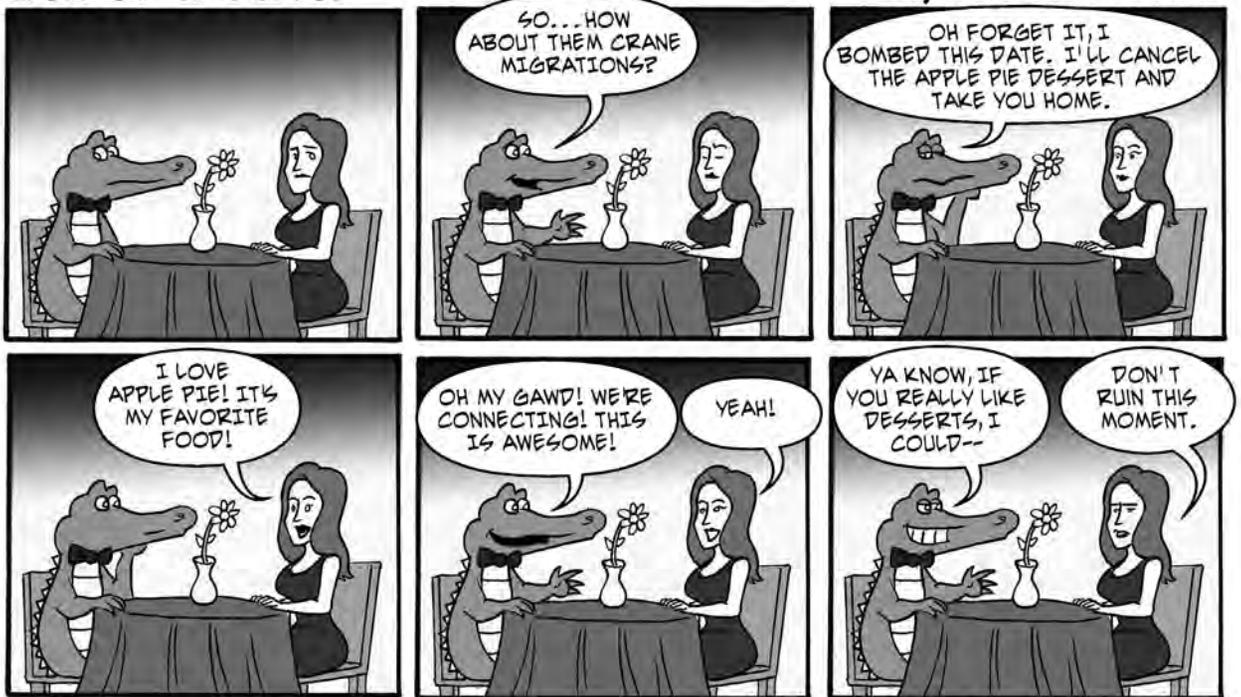
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MANAGING EDITOR

Justin Hayes
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the independent florida
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Son of a Gator

by Andre R. Frattino



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Column

Internet shouldn't change the way we read

We're all familiar with people who claim to hate reading, yet spend hours perusing Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr posts.

Now it's time to fess up.

In the last week, have you spent more time engaged in deep, contemplative reading or browsing the Internet?

Equally important, have you found it more difficult to absorb yourself in longer writings and easier to read short online articles?

Let's be clear: By deep, contemplative reading, I mean a complete, undisturbed commitment to a writing of several pages. That is, reading in the traditional sense.

Contrasted with this type of reading are inattentive Internet browsing, reading Facebook posts, emailing and quickly skimming Wikipedia articles — in short, the ways we read online content.

Research shows that there is a fundamental difference between these two types of reading. Scholars at University College London conducted a study observing online research habits and found that Internet readers "power browse horizontally through titles ... going for quick wins. It almost seems that they go online to avoid reading in the traditional sense."

So why are we avoiding reading "in the traditional sense?" Why is it more difficult for us to engage in longer writing?

In his article "Is Google Making Us Stupid?," Nicholas Carr explored such questions and found that he, along with many of his colleagues, had more difficulty reading longer writings as their Internet use increased over the years. Further, Carr argued that we tend to take on the qualities of the technology we use, and the Internet might be fundamentally changing the way we think.

In fact, it seems difficult to imagine Internet use not affecting the way we think. Much Internet use today is based on instant gratification: short, immediate bursts of information or entertainment that tend to have little last-



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ing, beneficial impact.

As we read Facebook and Twitter posts, watch short video clips and quickly skim Wikipedia articles (forgetting its content soon after), we reinforce the neural circuitry responsible for instant gratification.

Similarly, as we use the Internet more, we tend to engage less in longer writings. This may have long-term effects on our ability to think because it weakens the neural circuitry that allows for delayed gratification. As a result, we become less likely to read longer writings to gain new insight.

According to Susan Greenfield, professor of synaptic pharmacology at Lincoln College, Oxford, social media websites pose a unique risk. Greenfield found that experiences on social media websites "are devoid of cohesive narrative and long-term significance. As a consequence, the mid-21st century mind might almost become infant-like, characterized by short attention spans, sensationalism, inability to empathize and a shaky sense of identity."

This is not to condescend or bemoan a technology that has made knowledge more widely available. The Internet's benefits are self-evident, but there is considerable emerging evidence suggesting that its unchecked use may affect the way we think.

At the end of the week, ask yourself: Have I spent more time browsing the Internet and reading Facebook statuses or reading in the traditional sense?

If the answer is the former, remember that you might be changing the way you think, and try to take steps to tip the balance in favor of the latter.

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.

Column

Sex should not always be considered recreational

The past few weeks have been politically dominated by President Barack Obama's mandate requiring Catholic institutions to provide workers with access to contraception and pharmacological abortion. The conservative outcry was well-placed, and I agree that the mandate was a gross governmental overstep.

The political and religious battle at the moment of the declaration was well covered, yet another question should be answered: How does contraception affect the fabric of society?

Most of us are so used to the existence of readily available contraception that we cannot imagine a world without it. Like everyone who attended a public school in Florida, I was forced to take a sexual education course at 12 years old, in which I was taught the virtues of sexual prophylactics. It was condescendingly assumed that we would all soon be engaging in wanton sex, so the best thing the school could do was make sure nobody got pregnant.

The underlying assumption in courses such as these is that sex is a recreational activity, which unfortunately can have the negative side effect of pregnancy. Sex is considered by our society a fun thing to do on the weekends with no lingering consequences, thanks to contraception. Whether to bear a child, on the other hand, is considered an educated choice, much like taking out a mortgage on a home or starting a retirement fund.

Before widespread contraception, sex and pregnancy were not separated. Rather, they were one in the same. People got married not because of any 20th-century romantic ideal, but because a couple bearing children was a boon to society.

Pregnancy was once considered a blessing from God — now it is often seen as a curse. When did we, as a culture, begin to perceive ourselves as Nietzschean god-men with the ability to overthrow the laws of nature with a manufactured prophylactic?

These past few paragraphs pose the question: Was the current sexual climate born out of widespread contraception, or did an organic cultural change simply create the demand?

The answer is likely a little of both.

However, contraception is still the symbol of our highly sexualized culture, and it's fair to ask if disconnecting sex from pregnancy is healthy for society.

The Western world is suffering a reversal of its family trees. Birth rates have declined immensely in Europe, and are suffering in the U.S. as well. Women in the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and Greece bear less than two children each on average — a number that leads to a decline in population. The U.S. is barely over the line at 2.06 children per woman.

At first glance, this seems like a harmless proposition. However, the current model of Western government expenditures relies on ever-increasing generations of young people to support those who retire. There is a reason why Social Security is no longer as economically viable as it was when it was founded — people aren't having enough babies. Isn't it ironic that those on the left who so staunchly support contraception and abortion at the same time advertise a system that relies on high birth rates to function?

To reverse this course, the way Western culture perceives sex and pregnancy has to change. Sex should no longer be a recreational activity but rather a meaningful symbol of union between two individuals. Pregnancy should no longer be seen as a curse, but rather a blessing.

One is reminded of the motto of the 1933 Century of Progress World's Fair: "Science finds, Industry applies, Man conforms." I wonder if the workers at the first condom factory knew the society their new product would breed. Even if they didn't, we should still reflect on it.

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



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Guest column

Students should ignore speaker's rhetoric

On Feb. 13, the Bob Graham Center for Public Service hosted Israeli journalist Amira Hass. Hass is an Israeli, the daughter of two Holocaust survivors and is known for her leftist reports on Palestinian affairs.

Her lecture left me in shock and frustration. I would like to put the rhetoric aside and discuss the facts.

In her discussion titled "Israel & Palestine: Fear of the Future," Hass lamented the culture of what she calls "Jewish ethnic privileges" in Israel and cautioned everyone in the packed Pugh Hall against the dangers of such a "colonial society."

I am an ardent supporter of free speech, but I am also a strong believer in the importance of facts and informed decisions. To those who agree with Hass, I ask you to consider the following.

Hass asserts that Palestinians are forced to live as "stateless refugees in their own homeland." Yet it was Arab leaders who, in 1948, refused to accept the United Nations Partition Plan and instead went to war with Israel. After the war of 1967, Israeli leaders immediately sought to return the newly acquired Sinai and Gaza Strip in exchange for peace. Arab governments including Jordan, Syria and Egypt refused and launched a surprise attack on Israel's holiest day of the year in 1973.

Hass claims that Israel disregarded its chance for peace by ignoring the Oslo Accords, but she failed to acknowledge several key points. Discussions between Yasser Arafat (chairman of the Palestinian Labor Organization, an organization whose explicit goal was to replace Israel rather than live alongside it) and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin began in 1993. Israel agreed to withdraw from most of the territories in exchange for peace and the PLO's acknowledgment of Israel's right to exist.

Yet in 2000 at Camp David, Yasser Arafat chose to reject a two-state solution and the second intifada (wave of terrorism) began two months later.

The Oslo Accords are just one of many examples of Israel's attempts to obtain peaceful relations. Israeli soldiers forcibly withdrew Israeli citizens from Gaza and the West Bank in 2005 in order to turn the land over to Palestinians in hopes of peace.

Since the disengagement, Quassam rockets have been fired from Gaza into Israeli cities such as Sederot on a nearly daily basis for the past 10 years.

I do not write this article in an attempt falsify

Zoe Beiner
Speaking Out

every single one of Hass's claims. Like any country, Israel is not flawless. However, it is unique in that it is surrounded on all sides by enemies and must go to greater lengths than any other state to protect its people — both Arabs and Jews.

Hass justified suicide bombings and terrorist attacks on Israeli citizens by comparing the situation to South African apartheid. This claim is in need of severe clarification.

Apartheid was a system in which the minority of whites governed the majority black population. Blacks were subjected to social, political and economic discrimination. Unlike the apartheid system, Israel not only extends citizenship to Arabs but also gives equal protections, rights and liberties to all those citizens.

Israel is a multi-ethnic democracy, struggling to eradicate discrimination, not promote it. Furthermore, as of 2011, 13 of the 110 Knesset seats and one seat on the Supreme Court are held by Arabs.

Hass also claims that the security fence constructed by the Israelis in 2003 when terrorist attacks were at their peak is a means of separation and segregation. However, 97 percent is chain-link fence and, most important, terrorist attacks have decreased more than 90 percent since its construction.

I could write pages addressing each of Hass's claims: refuting, rebutting and clarifying. But unlike Hass, I am not hoping to propagate my views to you. I simply want to present both sides of the issue.

To eliminate Israel is to eliminate the only democracy in the Middle East, a country that provides its people with security and health benefits and the world with technology and other incredible resources.

To eliminate Israel is to also eliminate America's one true ally in the region. Today, if you walk down the streets of Tel Aviv, you will pass Arab shops and sit next to Palestinians on the bus. It is abundantly clear that there is no systematic oppression in place.

As students at UF, you all have the opportunity to make independent and informed decisions. Do not allow yourselves to be swayed by one speaker. Consider the facts.

Zoe Beiner is a history freshman at UF.



Villamil criticizes Alligator in campaign YouTube video

► THE VIDEO WAS POSTED TUESDAY.

STAFF REPORT

Unite Party members uploaded a video to YouTube on Tuesday afternoon of Student Body presidential candidate Tj Villamil speaking about The Independent Florida Alligator.

The video, posted by "UnitePartyUF" at about 1 p.m., had about 850 views as of Tuesday evening and was also posted on the Unite Party's Facebook page.

In the video, Villamil said he asked the "Florida Alligator" to cut its expenses in 2011 in order to increase the funds available for student organizations by 5 percent.

Villamil could not be reached for comment Tuesday evening.

Christina Bonnarigo, Unite Party spokeswoman, said she could not clarify or elaborate on Villamil's statements.

Janine Sikes, UF spokeswoman, said the Alligator is financially independent from the university.

"The University of Florida often purchases space for advertising or campus news bulletins but provides no subsidy or other financial support to the newspaper," she wrote in an email Tuesday.

Jeanna Mastrodiacasa, assistant vice president of student affairs, said the newspaper's budget has no effect on the budgets of student organizations.

"[The two] are financially and editorially totally separate," she said.

Jean Chance, chairwoman of the Alligator's board of directors, said the Alligator became independent of the university in 1973 after the editor, Ron Sachs, approved an insert to run with the paper listing the addresses of abortion clinics. Abortion was illegal in Florida at

the time, as was printing information about abortion or abortion clinics.

Prior to this, she said, the Florida Alligator, as it was then called, had an office in the Reitz Union, was funded by the Students Activities Fee and had a board that was appointed by the UF president. After the insert ran, Sachs was arrested, Chance said. The court ruled in his

favor, declaring the state law unconstitutional and a breach of free speech. However, Florida Attorney General Robert Shevin ruled that the Alligator and UF should split.

Following this decision, she said, the paper moved off campus and added "independent" to its name.

This independence refers not only to the paper's relationship with UF, but also to the relationship between the newsroom and the business side, said Patricia Carey, general manager of the Alligator.

The newsroom is entirely student-run, with 52 paid employees. The other departments — advertising, business, production and promotions — have 22 paid employees and 10 unpaid interns. These people are a mixture of both students and career staff members, Carey said, but the two parts of the Alligator never influence each other's content.

"There is a strict hands-off policy when it comes to the editorial department," she said. "And it works both ways. Editorial can't come into advertising and tell us what to run, and we would never come to editorial and say, 'Write this story about an advertiser.'"

Carey oversees the Alligator's total operating expenses and said the newspaper's budget has been steadily decreasing since 2009.

As a result of the shrinking budget, staff has also decreased.

Alligator staff writers Joey Flechas, Emily Morrow and Meredith Rutland contributed to this report.



Screenshot pulled from YouTube.com

Tj Villamil, presidential candidate for the Unite Party, speaks in a YouTube video posted Tuesday afternoon.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

SG commission hears complaint against Students Party

SAMANTHA SHAVELL

Alligator Writer

The Student Government Election Commission advised the UF Supreme Court to disqualify several Students Party candidates.

The commission, lead by Michael Hacker, recommended three Students Party engineering Student Senate candidates — Umair Asghar, Kyle Collins and Max Stein — be disqualified. It also recommended

that engineering students' votes for the Students Party executive ticket not be counted.

However, the final decision will fall on the Supreme Court at its meeting on Sunday.

The Unite Party complaint focused on an unauthorized email sent through an academic list-serv.

The issue of authorization was dropped. However, the commission ruled that the Students Party violated the election codes by using

IT services for personal commercial purposes. This violates UF's Acceptable Use Policy.

"I don't see any grounds to exempt themselves as a political party."

Casey Stamps

Unite Party general council

Students Party treasurer candidate Carly Wilson argued that the

Acceptable Use Policy states that IT resources can be used for support of student activities.

The Unite Party representatives said the Students Party candidates could personally gain from sending the emails.

"I don't see any grounds to exempt themselves as a political party," said Unite Party general council Casey Stamps.

The Unite Party said the Students Party sent a campaign email through

the Institute of Industrial Engineers list-serv.

The Students Party was also found to have violated election codes with two campaign emails that weren't registered correctly. They were fined \$1 per email.

One is still being examined by the commission, which is scheduled to meet Friday.

Students Party members said they will immediately appeal the decisions.

Facebook status update sparks controversy among sorority members

SORORITY, from page 1

came [sic] be: [link to article was provided here]

Please vote for the Students Party. I think you'll find that a new and fair SG administration is just what we need. I tried to be apathetic for my entire college career, but reading things like this (and frankly knowing other sneaky tactics) makes me so upset.

And again, in case I wasn't clear, you should really vote Students Party. Because they're awesome. And democratic. Which is, you know, the way our government, whether university, local or national, should be. Okay. Off my soapbox. :)

Diehl said she knew the post might potentially offend some, but was surprised to receive two separate messages from two different sorority sisters. The first, who Diehl asked to remain anonymous, said this: I'm not trying at all to limit your rights to freedom of speech, but since we as a Sigma Kappa chapter endorse Unite, your status is contradictory to our chapter views as a whole. It is also very unsisterly, considering we have sisters running on the Unite Party ticket this semester.

If you would like to keep your status as is, I suggest that you please remove all of the Sigma Kappa paraphernalia from your profile (including profile pictures with Sigma Kappa shirts, hearts and doves, etc).

Two hours later, Diehl received another message, this time from standards chairwoman Meredith Cotton. According to Diehl, the standards chairwoman checks to make sure sisters are not making the sorority look bad, and she would be responsible for asking sisters to remove drunk photos or inappropri-

ate comments from Facebook.

"They make sure we're being classy when we exercise our First Amendment rights," Diehl said, laughing.

Cotton's message: *Your election posts are unsisterly and inappropriate, especially towards the women that are up for election. While it is great to exercise your freedom of speech, it is also hurtful to have sigma kappa and sisterly posts on your facebook that put down these women and their efforts. Please exercise your freedom of speech in a classy and respectful way, as the women involved in SG have personally come to me saying that they feel hurt by your actions.*

The messages upset Diehl, she said, especially because she was on her own Facebook page, and she said she wasn't putting down anyone in particular, just expressing an opinion.

"When I went into a sorority, I didn't expect they would try to take over your life and limit what you could say or do," she said. "I just said I support Students Party, I don't support the Unite Party, and here's why."

Diehl said coercion is a big part of the Greek community's way of supporting the Unite Party, and that almost every sorority and fraternity on campus has candidates running for office.

"They never explicitly tell you to vote Unite, but we have a Unite Party representative in every house," she said. "And then we have people running for Unite, we have posters that say Unite, and they say we support Unite. It's everywhere."

She said on election day a representative for Unite makes sure everyone is voting. Her house and many others have a way of ensuring this.

"We have a board," she said.

The sticker board has all the names of the sisters on it, and

for the two days of elections, they get texts and calls reminding them to vote. When they do, they are to place an "I voted" sticker next to their name. Doing so gets them points, which are incentives that she said can be used for sorority events like socials.

"And they will literally call you," she said. "I even have a message from our message board that says having an exam is not an excuse tonight. You have to go out and vote."

The girls are pressured to fill the board the first day, Diehl said, and the more stickers, the better. The idea is that if the Unite Party rep sees a full sticker board, it'll be good for the house.

In addition to the board, Diehl said sisters are expected to pass out fliers and campaign for Unite, regardless of the knowledge they have of the issues.

"We never sit down and talk about the issues. It's literally shirt, flier," she said. "In the past I never recall someone coming up and explaining the issues. They're always just, 'Remember, we support Unite.' It's obvious who they want you to vote for."

The thing that bothers Diehl the most is that she was chastised for stating her opinion.

"To receive such a response, I was kind of shocked and angered, and I don't really want to be affiliated with people that are going to do that to someone."

She said she didn't change her Facebook status, and she doesn't plan on doing it at all. She may be reprimanded again, but she's adamant about how she feels.

"It's my Facebook," she said, "I'm allowed to do that."



Conquering Spring Break

Tips for a safer vacation with your friends

Zhada A Eaves

Graduate Assistant at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

From unforgettable cross-country trips to volunteer projects, spring break has become an undisputed highlight of the spring semester. The following is a guide to help you stay safe during your spring break travels:

Travel Safety Tips

- Check the oils and tire pressures in your vehicle.
- Drive the speed limit.
- If you are tired, pull over. Stop at a rest stop, switch drivers if possible.
- Always carry some emergency cash. It can range from five dollars to twenty.
- Keep valuables out of view in your locked vehicle.
- Give your itinerary and ways of contacting you to someone back home in case of an emergency.

Alcohol Tips

- If you chose to drink, try to limit yourself to one drink per hour, alternate your drinks with water, and make sure to eat before you drink.
- When you go with friends to a party, have a designated driver - someone who will stay sober and drive. You can take turns for other parties.
- Watch who makes your drink, and keep your drink in your possession at all times.
- Set a limit on how many drinks you are going to have when you drink, and stick to it.
- *Get help if someone has any of the signs of alcohol poisoning:*
 - Person is passed out or unresponsive and cannot be awakened.
 - Cold, clammy, pale or bluish skin.
 - Breathing is slow or irregular, with 10 seconds or more between breaths.
 - Vomiting while "sleeping" or passed out and not waking

after vomiting.

- Unable to stand or walk without great difficulty.

Safer Sex Tips

- Plan on using the buddy system with your friends. By coming and leaving together it will help prevent unwanted hook-ups or anyone being left behind.
- If you choose to engage in sexual activities, always use a condom and/or dental dam.
- Trust your instincts. If you are uncomfortable, leave the situation.

Sun Safety Tips

- Wear sunscreen with at least 15 SPF (sun protection factor) while outdoors.
- Minimize exposure to the sun during its peak hours, 10am-3pm, by wearing hats, sun shades, light clothing, or carrying an umbrella while outdoors.

For information regarding international travel, visit travel.state.gov. Keep this information in mind and enjoy your vacation!

ACADEMICS

Managing Time for Academic Success

Sara Martin, MS, CHES

Health Promotion Specialist at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Many college students have very busy schedules and the pressure of being academically successful can be great, so being able to manage your time is essential! In fact, according to a 2010 Healthy Gators survey, UF students reported that effectively managing their time was "very important" to their academic success.

Indeed, learning how to manage your time helps increase productivity and reduces procrastination, both of which can improve academic success. So how do you turn this knowledge into action?

1. Assess how you are currently using your time. For 2-3 days, keep a time log of what you do during the day and how long you spend doing it. Afterwards, look for trends. Identify which activities are important (see #2) and which are time wasters.

2. Know what's important! Prioritize your daily and weekly tasks. Then, organize your time according to your priorities. Higher priority tasks should come first.

3. Make time to manage time. Set aside consistent time in your schedule to organize how you will use your time. This can be done on a daily, weekly, monthly, and even whole-semester basis.

There are a wide variety of tools that can be used to help with this including planners, calendars, phone apps, "to do" lists. Pick whatever works for you and your organization style.

4. Minimize distractions. Identify what your common distractors and time wasters are. Then, come up with a plan to minimize these where possible. This may mean studying in a different environment, turning off the

TV and/or computer, putting your phone on silent, or even setting aside specific times of the day that you will not answer the phone or hang-out with friends.

5. Learn to say NO! Sometimes it feels like you do not have enough time in the day to get everything done because... YOU DON'T. If 24 hours rarely seems like enough time, then you may be putting too much on your plate. Sound familiar? Identify current activities that are not priorities and decrease them or cut them out completely. In the future, before you say yes to something new, ask yourself if it realistically fits in with your priorities and time. If you do take on something new, think about cutting something else out of your schedule.

6. Make time for yourself! Living a balanced life is important to your overall wellbeing. Schedule time to take care of yourself and manage your stress. Take breaks while studying, relax at the end of a long day, or schedule in activities that you enjoy doing such as volunteering, hiking, dancing, going to sporting events, or spending time with friends.

For more information about time management or to learn how to schedule an appointment with a wellness coach to work on time management, visit GatorWell's website at gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu.



Always Be Prepared

• HAVE A CONDOM WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO!

Samantha Evans, MS, CHES

Health Promotion Specialist at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Accidents can happen: Condoms can break because they are past the expiration date, stored improperly, or used incorrectly, especially in the heat of the moment. If you're worried that a condom may break, you may want to keep the following points in mind.

Condoms should never be stored in a wallet, car, or direct sunlight because heat, even body heat, weakens the condom over time. Oil-based lubricants also cause condoms to break. Instead choose a water or silicone-based lube (Astroglide, Wet, etc) which is safe for use with condoms and can help prevent breakage by reducing friction.

Never use two condoms at once because the friction can cause both condoms to break. When putting the condom on, first check the expiration date and squeeze the condom package to ensure it still has an air bubble (if it does not, the package and condom may be punctured). Open the package carefully (no teeth, nails, or scissors). Pinch the tip of the condom to leave space for ejaculation and unroll the condom all the way down.

After sex, hold the base of the condom before withdrawing. If you or your partner ever find yourself in a situation where the condom does break there are a few things to consider. If pregnancy prevention is a concern, consider following your condom breaking incident with Plan

B. Also known as emergency contraception, or EC, the high-dose birth control pill is available over-the-counter and can prevent pregnancy if taken within 72 hours. Plan B is most effective when within 24 hours. Women and men over 17 years of age can call a doctor, a health clinic, a pharmacy, or place an overnight order from Drugstore.com without a prescription.

If sexually transmitted infections (STI) prevention is a concern, there are some things to consider.

There are different window periods, or time it takes for the STI to be detected in a person's system, so the timing of testing is important. When it does come time to test, there are some reasonably priced or even free options to consider on campus or in the Gainesville community.

Free confidential HIV testing for UF students is available on campus at the GatorWell main office (352-273-4450) by appointment only. HIV testing is also available at the Alachua County Health Department (352-334-7960) for an optional \$20 fee and at the Student Health Care Center (392-1161) for a fee ranging from \$25-40. The Student Health Care Center, Alachua County Health Department, and Planned Parenthood of North Florida (352-377-0881) also offer testing for other STIs and pricing is usually determined by a sliding scale fee or based on your insurance.

The Alachua County Health Department also offers free walk-in HIV and STI testing (including Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis) on the first and third Thursday of the month at the Pride Community Center of Gainesville (4-6pm) and Body Tech Tattoo Parlor (8-11pm).

You Asked, We Answered



E. Maureen Miller, MPH, CHES
Coordinator for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Recently at GatorWell we asked University of Florida students to provide us feedback about what specific questions they had about health. The following are two of your alcohol questions that we thought were especially great and our answers:

Q1. What should I do when everyone around me is drinking and I don't wish to drink?

First of all, if you choose not to drink, you are not alone. At UF, over 17,000 students choose not to drink alcohol. The decision of when, where, and why you drink is yours. It should not be dependent on the drinking habits of those around you. Remember that it is always okay to say no to a drink. Be polite but firm in your refusal. You can also carry around a non-alcoholic drink such as juice, soda, tea, and water.

Keep busy-make conversation, enjoy the meal or appetizers, take photos with other guests, or dance with your friends. Offer to be the sober designated driver. Ex-

plain your reasons for not drinking or make an excuse such as you're allergic to alcohol, you have a test or project the next day, you have to get up early the next morning, you don't want to spend the money, you've been sick and taking antibiotics, or it is contrary to your religious beliefs.

Regardless of what you say, the decision to not drink is your own and it should be respected by your friends.

Q2. Is there any way to know if drugs have been slipped into your drink at your party?

It is important to remember that alcohol itself is the cheapest type of drug. It is also quite accessible and readily available. It is easy to lose track of how many drinks you have consumed and quickly raise your Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) to over the legal limit of .08.

Further, if an individual has passed out from drinking too much, legally they cannot give their consent for sexual activity. There is really no way to detect if an additional drug has been slipped into your drink. Most drugs are odorless, colorless, and tasteless.

If a drug such as Rohypnol, Ketamine, or GHB has been slipped into your drink, you will experience the effects almost immediately including a sleepy, relaxed, and drunk feeling that lasts anywhere between 2 to 8 hours.

These types of drugs combined with alcohol can also result in amnesia, respiratory depression, and death. Ways to decrease your risk include the following:

- Get a fresh drink if you have left your drink unattended.
- Never accept drinks from someone you don't know, even if it is an acquaintance
- Watch the bartender or server make your drink
- Use the "buddy system" to watch out for friends
- Never leave a party or club with someone you do not know well and trust
- Be alert to any unusual behavior around you.
- If you suspect your drink has been drugged, seek medical help as soon as possible.

For more information about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, visit GatorWell's website at gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu.

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PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Get Up to Get Down with Fitness

Lauren Witbart

Graduate Assistant at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Incorporating physical activity into your day can be a healthy habit that benefits every aspect of your life including stress levels, mood, energy, weight management, and sleep. According to a 2010 University of Florida Healthy Gators survey students ranked "exercise/fitness" as their fourth greatest health concern.

Sound relatable?

The US Department of Health and Human Services recommends that "Adults should do at least 2 hours and 30 minutes each week of aerobic physical activity at a moderate level."

Examples of moderate physical activities include walking briskly to class, dancing, biking, and swimming.

A good rule of thumb to know if you are working at a moderate level is that you should be able to talk while participating in these activities, but not sing. Here are some tips to help you get started or increase your current level of physical activity:

1. You don't have to leave your house.

- Get up during commercials and study breaks and do some jump-jacks, sit-ups, or push-ups.
- Use technology. Try Wii fitness, Kinect, YouTube fitness videos, or fitness DVDs like P90X.

2. Change your daily routines.

- Park at the end of the parking lot and use that opportunity to add physical activity to your errands. Chores count too- vacuum, dust, mop, scrub, they all get you moving.
- Bike to campus.
- Walk to that next class rather than taking the bus.
- Use a pedometer to track your daily steps- everything counts!

3. Get Social!

- Get an exercise buddy that will keep you motivated..
- Grab a couple friends and take a trip out to Lake Wauberg.
- Join an intermural team, club team, or student organization. From sailing to table tennis, quidditch to dance, there are lots of activities to try out on campus.

4. Try New Things.

- The Gainesville Rock Gym offers a fun rock climbing experience.
- UF Rec Sports, community gyms and centers, and even the Alachua County Public Library offer unique group classes such as Bosu, Country Line Dance, Dance Fusion, Yoga and Zumba.
- If you're up for a little adventure, The Lake Alice walking/biking path, Paynes Prairie State Preserve, Morningside Trails, and/or San Felasco Hammock Preserve are fun options to experience nature while getting in some physical activity.

5. Other Tips.

- Gradually build new activities or longer time spent exercising into your routine.
- Feel proud of your accomplishments and celebrate your successes! Use an app to keep track.
- Keep at it! Try new things until you find an activity that is both challenging and fun. The more you incorporate physical activity into your daily routine, the more you will start to feel the benefits of it.

Get a friend, set up a couple times you're available during the week, and get moving UF! For more information, visit <http://www.choosemyplate.gov/physical-activity/what.html> and <http://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/Nutrition.aspx>



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Wanted! Tasty, Healthy Options When Time & Money are Tight

Provided by GatorWell Health Promotion Services

When you think of college students' eating patterns, do you picture nutritious, balanced meals? Or is the image filled with fast food, pizza, and eating ramen until you can't stand to look at it ever again?

For many students the reality is somewhere in between and for good reasons. Dr. Brian Wansink at Cornell University found that the average person makes more than 250 food-related decisions a day.

While studying why people choose the foods they do, Dr. Karen Glanz found that taste, cost and often convenience outweigh nutrition. When you are making many daily food decisions in the context of an irregular, packed schedule and a tight college budget, it is easy to see why cost and convenience can trump nutrition.

What can you do if you want tasty, healthy food when time and money are in short supply? The trick is making nutritious choices both convenient and attractive so that the decision is an easy one.

Pack a Snack. Snacking is often a key source of fuel for busy days and late night study sessions, but the

cost can add up quickly if you have to buy snacks when hunger strikes. Have a stock of go-to snacks on hand:

- Pack a banana, apple, carrot sticks or grapes – a great and inexpensive way to get some extra fruit and vegetable servings in.
- Make your own trail mix at home with nuts, dried fruit, cereal and chocolate chips for a satisfying snack that is easy to pack. You can change it up each week to fit your tastes and ingredients that are on sale.
- Bring a peanut butter sandwich for a low cost snack that can keep

you going until your next meal.

Eating on Campus. One of the keys to eating well on campus is knowing your options. Take a look around the dining locations that are most convenient for your schedule or check out Gator Dining's website for a guide to smart food choices at locations across campus.

- At the dining halls, stop by the salad bar to round out your meal with a few favorite veggies.
- At eateries like Subway and Moe's Southwest Grill take advantage of the option to add extra veggies to your sandwich or entree for free.
- Look for substitutions like brown rice, whole grain bread or vegetable side dishes to easily pack in some extra nutrients.

At the Grocery Store. Sticking to a grocery list and buying only what you know you will use can reduce unpleasant surprises at the register.

- Opt for items that you can enjoy for multiple meals. Canned black beans, chicken breast, cheese, salsa, tortillas, and lettuce are loaded with vitamins, minerals, fiber, and protein. Turn them into burritos, quesadillas, and a taco salad.
- Weigh cost versus convenience. Throwing out a ton of produce that you bought with the best of intentions can leave you rethinking future purchases. If you are more likely to use the pre-cut fruit or bagged salad, the extra expense may be worth it in the long run.
- Consider trying a new recipe with friends and roommates. Splitting up the ingredient costs and prep time can make it more manageable and you can all enjoy the leftovers.

With these strategies, you can help make your 250+ food decisions a little easier. Visit gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu for more healthy eating tips.

SUN SAFETY

Don't let the sun burn your spring break fun

Provided by the UF Student Health Care Center

the blisters intact.

Gainesville's cold and wet winter has made basking in the sun a priority for many students this spring break. But most want sun-kissed skin, not a trip to the emergency room.

Before you hit the beach, follow these recommendations to protect yourself from painful, harmful sunburn:

1. Protect yourself from the sun during the most intense times of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Plan outside activities for the early morning or late afternoon.

2. Choose a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 and higher. SPF only refers to protection against ultraviolet B (UVB) rays, so read the label to ensure you are protected against both ultraviolet A (UVA) and UVB rays.

3. Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes prior to sun exposure and reapply frequently. If you are particularly sensitive to the sun, wear sun-protective clothing, a hat and sunglasses to protect your eyes.

There are many prescription and over-the-counter products that can make you more susceptible to sunburn. Use extra precaution if you are taking these or any other medications, which may enhance sun sensitivity in some individuals: birth control (tablets, ring or patch); antibiotics commonly prescribed for acne or urinary tract infections (UTIs); non-steroidal pain relievers (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen (Advil®) or naproxen (Aleve®); and/or cholesterol-lowering agents ("statins").

Even ingredients in certain sunscreens can cause photosensitivity in some people. Avoid sunscreens that contain benzophenones (dioxbenzone and oxybenzone), para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA), salicylates and cinnamates.

If prevention fails and you become sunburned, it is important to treat the burn properly:

1. The extent of the burn will not be apparent until 12-24 hours after sun exposure. Keep the skin cool and moist by applying cool compresses. If skin is blistered, leave

2. Avoid tight clothing and apply moisturizer or aloe gel to hydrate the skin. Avoid any topical products which contain numbing agents (for example, lidocaine, benzocaine or dibucaine) because you could become allergic to these products.

3. DO NOT apply ointments or butter to a burn as this will likely cause further damage to the skin.

4. Drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration.

5. Pain relievers such as acetaminophen (Tylenol®), ibuprofen (Advil®) and naproxen (Aleve®) can help with the discomfort and fever that may accompany sunburn. Antihistamines such as cetirizine (Zyrtec®), loratidine (Claritin®) or diphenhydramine (Benadryl®) can help with the itchiness that often accompanies sunburn.

6. Seek medical attention if you experience a fever higher than 102° F, chills, dizziness or nausea.

If you have any questions or concerns, make an appointment with your UF Student Health Care Center primary care provider. For more information about sun protection and skin cancer prevention, visit the Skin Cancer Foundation's website at www.skincancer.org.

Information provided by the UF Student Health Care Center, www.shcc.ufl.edu



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3-2-12-29-2

TOWNHOUSE - 2BR/1.5BA, W/D hook-up, pvt backyard, carpet, tiles, just painted. Extra clean. \$600/mo + \$600 sec. 2627 SW 38th Place. Available now. 941-204-1304 or 352-215-3160 2-29-12-25-2

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4 Roommates

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4-25-72-4

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6 Furnishings

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6 Furnishings

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A ₁	I ₁	U ₁	L ₁	D ₂	P ₃	C ₃		RACK 2
A ₁	A ₁	O ₁	O ₁	K ₅	B ₃	Z ₁₀	Triple Word Score	RACK 3
A ₁	E ₁	T ₁	V ₄	N ₁	R ₁	D ₂	4th Letter Double	RACK 4

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02-22

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- MEASUREMENTS: How often would a tricennial celebration occur?
- MOVIES: What movie is considered to be the first feature-length talking picture ever made?
- HISTORY: In 1973, who became the second special prosecutor in the Watergate scandal?
- MYTHOLOGY: What area of influence is the Norse god Bragi associated with?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What country once had emperors called "kaisers"?
- MUSIC: In musical terms, what is an opus?
- THEATER: Who wrote the play "The Odd Couple"?
- GEOGRAPHY: What river runs through Baghdad?
- GAMES: How often is soccer's World Cup held?
- POETRY: What poet wrote the lines, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I ... /I took the one less traveled by"?

Answers

- Every 30 years
- "The Jazz Singer"
- Leon Jaworski
- God of poetry
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- Neil Simon
- The Tigris
- Every four years
- Robert Frost

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PAR SCORE 145-155							TOTAL	248

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18 Personals

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Donovan speech inspires UF comeback Yeguete ruled out indefinitely

JOHN BOOTHE
Alligator Staff Writer

Brad Beal could not repeat what he heard at halftime in Florida's locker room.

Neither would Kenny Boynton, nor Erving Walker.

"Coach was mad as I-don't-know what," Beal said. "He said words we can't even describe."

Billy Donovan didn't delve into too



David Carr / Alligator

UF freshman Brad Beal scored 13 points and grabbed six rebounds in Tuesday's win, but he also accounted for four turnovers after committing six Saturday.

many details either, but he did have the right to dish out an unpleasant speech midway through No. 12 Florida's 63-47 win against Auburn (14-13, 4-9 Southeastern Conference) on Tuesday night in the O'Connell Center.

The Gators (22-6, 10-3 SEC) spent their first 20 minutes turning the ball over 12 times and trailed by three at halftime. By the end of the game, Florida had 18 turnovers — a season-high at home.

Beal accounted for four, following a six-turnover outing Saturday against Arkansas.

Not since committing 20 in a Dec. 2 loss to Syracuse have the Gators given away possessions so freely.

Donovan said he spoke to his players about their families perhaps watching in the stands or former players like Joakim Noah or Mike Miller seeing the game on TV. At least one former Donovan player, 1996-1999 guard Greg Stolt, was actually in the building.

"What's their feeling right now?" Donovan said. "Those guys gave their heart and soul to this program and that's the way you're representing our program right now with your effort and focus and everything else?"

Though the Gators made their first six attempts of the night and shot better than 50 percent from the field and behind the arc for the second straight game, Donovan felt the good shooting performance didn't cover up a lack of focus.

He brought up Walker, who scored 13 points and grabbed a team-high seven rebounds, as an example. With eight seconds left in the first, he clanked a long 3-point shot off the rim and then failed to get back in transition. Auburn's Chris Denson was able to drive the length of the court and lay in a shot at the buzzer, sealing the first-half lead for the Tigers.

"Erving Walker's going to shoot with eight seconds to go at the end of the half and then he's going to look up at the clock and hope the clock runs out," Donovan said. "Are you kidding me? So I don't think that, for me as coach, that it's that outrageous to ask."

When the Gators finally emerged for the second half, they clearly took Donovan's message to heart. Florida dished out eight assists in the final stanza after only having five in the first. UF also cut its turnover rate in half with just six giveaways.

After trading the lead 13 times, the Gators were finally able to pull away courtesy of a 15-2 run sparked by a

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 18

Tucker's game-winner outshines two-homer night from Zunino

► NO. 1 FLORIDA BEAT BETHUNE-COOKMAN, 8-6, ON TUESDAY AT MCKETHAN STADIUM.

TOM GREEN
Alligator Staff Writer

Preston Tucker's first four plate appearances Tuesday didn't go as planned.

Florida's right fielder started the game 0 for 4 at the plate, with two groundouts and a pair of fly balls.

But with the score tied and the bases loaded in the bottom of the eighth inning, Tucker finally came through.

The Gators' slugger ripped a single to right-center field to plate Cody Dent for what proved to be the game-winning run as No. 1 Florida downed Bethune-Cookman, 8-6, in the team's first mid-week game of the season.

"You gotta put bad at-bats behind you," Tucker said. "I just grinded out that last at-bat, put the ball in play and good things happened."



Tucker

The go-ahead RBI moved Tucker to within one of tying former Florida great Brad Wilkerson for the Gators' all-time career record of 214. He nearly tied the record on the eighth-inning single, but Florida held shortstop Nolan Fontana at third.

That didn't prevent the Gators from tacking on an insurance run two at-bats later, when Brian Johnson came through with a sacrifice fly to put Florida (3-1) ahead.

"As long as we got one in I was fine," Tucker said.

"I knew we had [Mike Zunino] behind me and then Brian. I knew either way we were going to get at least one more across."

Tucker's late-inning heroics overshadowed a big night at the plate from Zunino, who started at designated hitter while Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week Taylor Gushue got the start at catcher.

Without the worries of calling a game, Zunino belted two solo home runs and extended his hitting streak to eight games dating back to last season.

Although Zunino hit .417 during opening

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 20



Florida catcher Brittany Schutte has been excelling in the cleanup role for the Gators, pulling in multiple weekly honors. See story, page 18.

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Quotable

"It wasn't pleasant. ... I wouldn't want my kids to hear it."
Erving Walker
UF point guard
(on Billy Donovan's halftime speech Tuesday)

Schutte receives national recognition for standout weekend

JONATHAN CZUPRYN

Alligator Writer

In the Gators' first homestand of the season, Brittany Schutte not only outperformed every player in the Southeastern Conference, but every player in the nation.

The junior catcher earned the honors of Southeastern Conference Player of the Week and National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division I National Player of the Week for her play against Jacksonville and Michigan State.

In four games, Schutte racked up nine straight hits after grounding out in her first at-bat against Jacksonville. Batting cleanup for Florida, she also knocked in six runs, including two home runs on back-to-back days.

"Brittany works hard at her game and is her own biggest critic," Florida coach Tim Walton said.

"Last week, she was locked in and swung at good pitches. When you hit fourth for the Gators, you get everyone's attention and I truly appreciate the way Brittany has handled the pressure. Brittany Schutte is fun to watch and I am very proud of what she brings to the game."

After setting the UF single-season record in home runs last year, Schutte has picked up where she left off.

Nine games into the season, Schutte leads her team with a .560 batting average. She is also tops in five other offensive categories and ranks second in hits, runs and

RBI.

Before the Gators kicked off their season, Schutte expressed her goals during media day.

"More than anything I think I have more

individual expectations," Schutte said. "I just want to come through, since I'm one of the upperclassmen now and one of the older players, considering how young our team is. I just want to do what I've been do-

ing, and even get better in all aspects of the game."

Although Florida is only two weeks into a nearly four-month season, there have been signs that Schutte has evolved from being just a power-hitting catcher to a more complete hitter.

At this point, Schutte is on pace for 86

"When you hit fourth for the Gators, you get everyone's attention and I truly appreciate the way Brittany has handled the pressure."

Tim Walton

UF softball coach



David Carr / Alligator

Florida catcher and cleanup hitter Brittany Schutte won two awards this week after recording a hit in nine straight at-bats and driving in six runs during last week's games.

regular-season hits this year, 25 more than she had in an extended 2011 season that featured a run to the Women's College World Series finals. She is also projected to collect five more RBI, eight more stolen bases and 10 more doubles.

Of course, Schutte has not forgotten the staple of her game: home runs.

In back-to-back games, Schutte showed off her power, sending a softball over the fence in each contest. However, she said it's not her goal to break her own single-season home run record, but just go out and become an all-around better hitter.

"No [goals] numbers-wise or statistics," Schutte said.

"I just want to be able to, when I'm called upon in certain situations, be able to succeed in those and come through in those for my team and probably cut down on the strikeouts, if anything."



David Carr / Alligator

Florida sophomore forward Will Yeguete is out indefinitely after suffering a broken left foot in Tuesday's game.

Yeguete suffers broken left foot in second

HOOPS, from page 17

Beal 3-pointer at the 12:52 mark. Beal, a freshman, scored 13 points and hauled in six rebounds.

For a veteran guard like Boynton, who had a team-high 20 points on 6-of-9 shooting from three, seeing Donovan angry wasn't a novel experience like it was for Beal. Though, it still was beneficial.

"I've seen him like that a couple times," Boynton said. "He needed to get on us though. I think it helped us. We came out in the second half and we came with some intensity."

Despite losing sophomore forward

Will Yeguete for the indefinite future to a broken left foot with 11:11 left to play, the Gators were able to clamp down defensively and hold the Tigers to just 17 points in the second half.



Donovan

After Auburn hit half of its 10 shots from behind the 3-point line in the first, it made just 1 of 7 in the second half and ended the night shooting 33.3 percent from the field.

In his postgame press conference, Donovan said Yeguete's injury will

force UF to overhaul its lineup and use several players out of position.

The 6-foot-7 Yeguete had just returned to Florida's lineup Saturday against Arkansas following a one-game absence due to suffering his second concussion of the year.

"We're banged up right now," Donovan said. "We've got some health issues that we need to get back healthier than we are right now, but it's nothing major."

"Will's would be major because if it is broken, I would say that he's done for the year."

Contact John Boothe at jboothe@alligator.org.

Turnovers Hoops Graphic			
TOs	Assists	Result	Date
20	15	LOSS 69-72 at Syracuse	Dec. 2
18	14	LOSS 83-85 (20T) at Rutgers	Dec. 29
18	13	WIN 63-47 vs. Auburn	Feb. 21
16	11	LOSS 74-81 at Ohio State	Nov. 15
15	9	LOSS 70-75 vs. Tennessee	Feb. 11
15	10	LOSS 56-67 at Tennessee	Jan. 7
15	19	WIN 78-65 vs. Wright State	Nov. 21

Gators making most of new man-up, man-down situations

JOSH JURNOVOY

Alligator Writer

The Gators want to play like they have the upper hand even when they don't.

A change to the carding rules in women's lacrosse this season has put teams in situations where they often have to play with a man advantage or disadvantage. Florida had its most impressive performance of the season in these uneven situations on Sunday in an 18-6 win at Maryland-Baltimore County.

After converting on less than 50 percent of their man-up opportunities in their first two games of the season, the Gators capitalized on both Retriever yellow cards in Sunday's win.

"The fact that we scored a man down was a testament to our attacking and being able to run by those defenders."

Amanda O'Leary
UF coach

"It's something we need to continue to work on," coach Amanda O'Leary said of playing a man up. "Opportunities are going to arise where we are going to be in those situations."

O'Leary said Florida's success when playing with a man advantage is predicated on quickly finding the unmarked player.

"It's just really good ball movement," O'Leary said. "It's very similar to basketball. You got to move the ball quickly and efficiently and that person has to put the ball in the back of the net."

Under the previous rule, the offending team could still keep seven players in the ac-

tive third of the field while having just three players outside of that third.

The new rule prevents the penalized team from moving a player up on offense or back on defense, forcing them to play 7-on-6 lacrosse during the time the carded player is out.

With UF on the advantage, Ashley Bruns found Gabi Wiegand 12 seconds into the second half against the Retrievers. One minute after UMBC's Alicia Krause picked up her second yellow card of the game, Bruns had the ball behind the net and found junior attacker Caroline Chesterman unguarded on the right side of the crease for a goal.

UF also excelled against UMBC in situations where it was a man down.

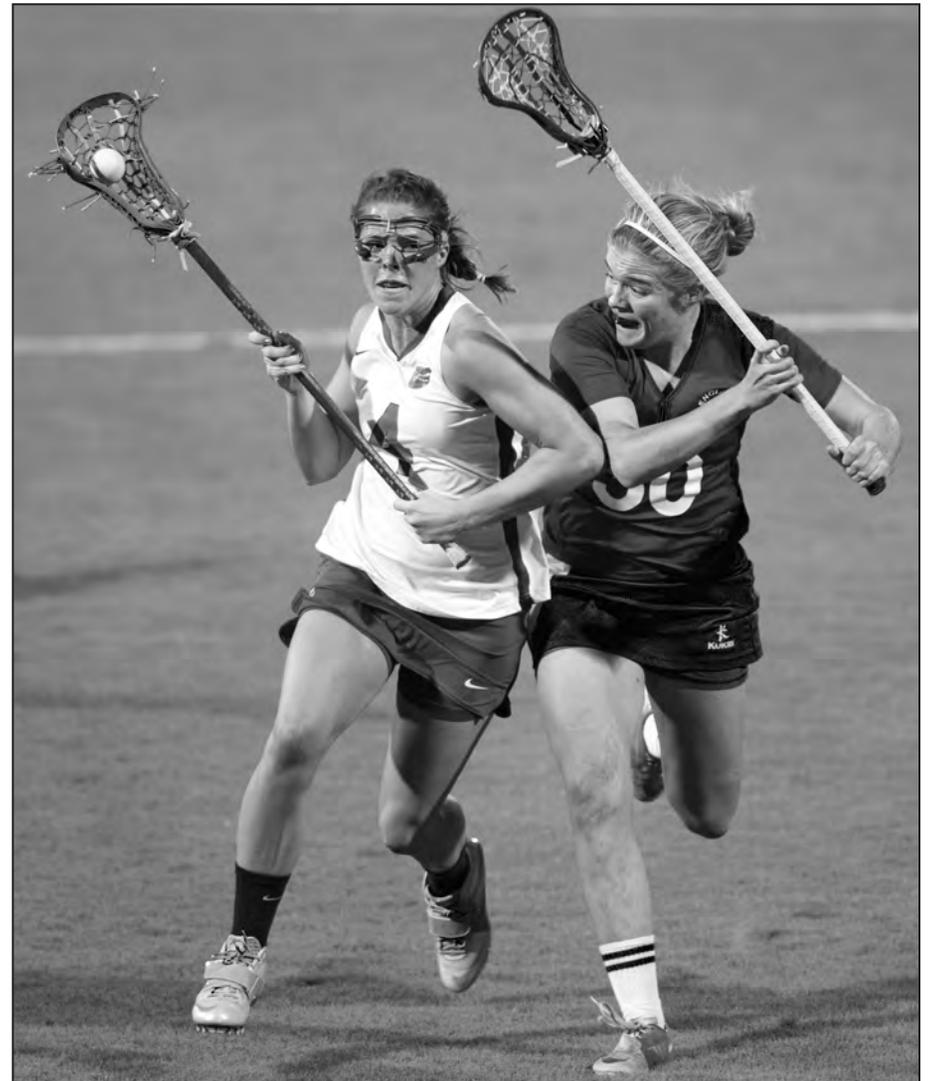
In addition to holding the Retrievers scoreless on one of their man-up opportunities, the Gators scored the first man-down goal of the season when junior attacker Kitty Cullen beat a triple team and scored an unassisted goal.

Cullen said the attack is only as effective as the defense allows it to be that when playing a man down. Whenever the defense can force a turnover, the offense will have a good chance to score.

"Our defenders are just unbelievable when we are a man down," Cullen said.

The Gators had six yellow cards in their 14-5 win over Jacksonville last Wednesday, and while O'Leary said after the game that she was not pleased with the overly aggressive play, she said it gave them good in-game experience playing a man down.

"We are getting better at it," O'Leary said. "The fact that we scored a man down was a testament to our attacking and being able to run by those defenders."



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Florida junior attacker Kitty Cullen highlighted UF's success in yellow-card situations with a man-down goal Sunday against Maryland-Baltimore County.

GYMNASTICS

Florida's Spicer, 17, having impact after early arrival

LONDON WATNICK

Alligator Writer

While most of the Gators practiced their routines with the coaching staff last fall, Rachel Spicer had one less semester to prepare for the upcoming season.

Spicer, a 17-year-old from Texas, was one of three freshmen to join the UF gymnastics team last December.

She signed her National Letter of Intent with Florida in November, but elected to graduate early from Marcus High in Flower Mound, Texas, to enroll for the spring semester.

"Here I don't really notice my age and being young because everyone is so close," said Spicer, who turns 18 in June. "Sometimes I take an advantage from that because they have so many more experiences than me, and they can help me in that aspect."

Spicer joined the team on Dec. 26 and saw action 11 days later in all four events during UF's season opener against North Carolina State.

In her debut, Spicer scored 9.75 on balance beam, 9.725 on floor exercise, 9.7 on vault and a 9.65 on an uneven bars exhibition.

"They had to have at least trusted me a little bit because I got

to compete in all of the events at my first meet," Spicer said. "They just believed in me, even though I hadn't been here very long."

Spicer entered UF with experience as a member of the Ju-

nior Olympic National team and Metroplex Gymnastics, her elite-level club.

Still, it took her a couple of weeks to get used to the physically draining pace of collegiate

gymnastics.

"I was like, 'Oh my gosh, this is going to be so hard,'" Spicer said. "But I think for being so young, I've done a pretty good job just figuring out myself how to do

things."

Throughout the remainder of January, Spicer gradually saw less action than she did against the Wolfpack due to a sore calf.

But in the past two meets, Spicer has been a big contributor for the Gators, competing in six events and one exhibition.

Against LSU on Feb. 10, she tallied a 9.85 on floor and beam, and she added a 9.8 on vault.

Last weekend at Auburn, Spicer struggled on floor (9.75) due to a strained groin muscle, but still managed to record career bests on beam (9.875) and vault (9.85).

"She came up just a little bit short on her final tumbling pass on floor," coach Rhonda Faehn said. "But the way she performed, the way she competed — she stuck her vault again and her beam, just no wobbles. Knowing that, doing a really limited number, she did a great job being out there [last Friday] competing consistently."

Spicer said she hopes to compete in at least three events when No. 1 Florida hosts No. 3 Georgia to close out its Southeastern Conference slate Friday night.

"All of my hard work started to pay off [last Friday]," Spicer said. "But I just need to work on my endurance and I'll be back and ready."



David Carr / Alligator

Gators freshman gymnast Rachel Spicer skipped her final semester of high school to enroll in UF at age 17. She posted career bests on beam (9.875) and vault (9.85) Friday against Auburn.



Audre Larrow / Alligator Staff

Florida catcher Mike Zunino hit two home runs in Tuesday's 8-6 win.

Magliozzi lasts three innings in win

BASEBALL, from page 17

weekend, the reigning SEC Player of the Year said he felt he was pressing too much at the plate with teams pitching him outside of the strike zone.

"I know I'm going to get pitched there most of the year," Zunino said. "I just got too antsy that first weekend and was able to sit back in my stance [Tuesday] and get a couple pitches I can drive."

After working on his swing and shortening his stride during Florida's off day Monday, Zunino settled in against the Wildcats (2-2).

In the second inning, Zunino sent the first pitch he saw from Bethune-Cookman starter Scott Garner to the bleachers in left field to lead off the frame and start the scoring for the Gators.

Florida added three runs the following inning and another in the fourth, but the Gators' middle relief gave up three runs of its own between the fifth and seventh innings to allow the Wildcats to take a 6-5 lead.

"There's some things pitching-wise with the young pitchers we need to get a little better at," Florida coach Kevin O'Sullivan said. "We need to pitch ahead a little bit and we need to put zeroes on the board the following inning when we score. ... They're young mistakes and they'll get better as we move along."

While the middle relievers struggled to sustain a lead for the second game in a row, Zunino's bat came to the rescue again to lead off the seventh when he hit what O'Sullivan called a "no-doubter" to right field to tie the game.

The opposite-field blast, combined with Tucker's late-inning hit, helped UF overcome a night when the Gators stranded 10 runners on base and gave Florida some momentum heading into Wednesday night's home game against No. 19 UCF.

"There's some things pitching-wise with the young hitters we need to get a little better at."

Kevin O'Sullivan
UF baseball coach

Freshman Johnny Magliozzi got the start for Florida, his first as a Gator. In 3.2 innings, Magliozzi allowed three earned runs on five hits, two walks and a hit batter. He also struck out three.

Austin Maddox picked up the win, throwing two innings of scoreless relief.

"It doesn't get any easier," O'Sullivan said. "We still haven't clicked yet, we're still knocking some rust off, so to speak. I don't think we're quite sharp yet, but we'll get there."

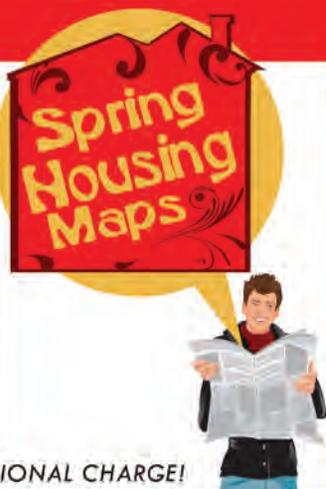
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