



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Home of the Brave

Veterans for Peace displayed 6,400 tombstones along Northwest Eighth Avenue over the Memorial Day weekend in remembrance of the fallen American service members who have died in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001. This was the group's sixth annual Memorial Mile. Each tombstone bore a soldier's name, date of death, age, branch of service, rank and hometown.

Fires, smoke blaze through Gainesville

STAFF REPORT

The perimeter of a 2,088-acre wildfire in northeast Gainesville was secured Saturday evening and held through Monday night, thanks to rain and slowed-down winds.

Five Alachua County fires that started Friday spewed enough smoke for Florida Highway Patrol to block traffic, and one of the blazes threatened five buildings near County Road 1475.

The largest of the five fires moved west and developed two heads.

On Saturday officials set up a roadblock on the street between Northeast 156th Avenue and CR 1475. The road was clear with no smoke by 10:30 a.m. Monday.

Officials worried winds out of the west could push the fires right into a large area of dry timber, and Bond speculated that enough wind could fan the flames into a 5,000-acre fire.

The area accumulated at least 1.5 inches of rain,

SEE FIRE, PAGE 8

LOCAL
UF father runs 100 miles to support art programs in schools

The ultramarathon took 28 hours

CHRIS ALCANTARA

Alligator Writer

With budget cuts threatening art and music programs across Florida public schools and universities, one Altamonte Springs parent ran 100 miles to support the arts.

Steve Wheeler, 53, completed a non-stop, 28-hour ultramarathon from Orlando to Gainesville on Saturday afternoon to raise

awareness about cuts by the Florida Legislature and its effect on the future of art programs in schools.

"He thinks it's crucial that they don't cut these classes because they will benefit someone in the future," said Leslie Wheeler, Wheeler's 22-year-old daughter and a UF alumna. "He doesn't want art to be eliminated from schools and not give kids a chance to explore their creative side."

Wheeler's "Art to Architecture" ultramarathon reflected how his daughter's art education during elementary, middle and high school helped her graduate summa cum laude from UF's architecture program on May 5. She will pursue a master's degree in architecture at Washington University in St. Louis.

"My daughter was blessed with really great teachers who helped her get through the architecture school and graduate," Steve Wheeler said.

His run began at 9 a.m. Friday in Alta-

monte Springs, stopping at Spring Lake Elementary, Teague Middle School and Lake Brantley High School, where his daughter attended school.

He also stopped at Bear Lake Elementary where his two sons, Price, 6, and Lance, 10, are enrolled.

By 10:30 a.m., Steve Wheeler was on State Road 441 running to Gainesville as his daughter drove a car that followed him during the run.

SEE RUN, PAGE 8

Algae blooms threaten water levels in north Central Florida

SHELBY WEBB

Alligator Writer

Algae blooms now plague the Santa Fe River, blanketing parts of the river in green.

"You can't miss them," Jim Wood, owner of the Santa Fe Canoe Outpost, said. "They're everywhere."

The Alachua County Health Department identified algae spreading from Highway 27 Bridge to upstream of Poe Springs.

One test sample taken by the health department

showed a potentially harmful bacterium. This algae strain is known to produce a neurotoxin in Australia but has not been proven toxic in the United States.



Bird

The algae are only a symptom of a wider problem — extremely low water levels in north Central Florida.

Chris Bird, director of the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department, said the springs that dot the

Santa Fe River are now the river's only sources of water

flow. Since the spring water makes the river water extra clear, Bird said, it allows more sunlight beneath the surface, which helps algae thrive. This sucks up the river's oxygen supply.

"That can kill the fish because they don't have enough oxygen to survive," Bird said.

Wood said he now has to drive his customers three miles down river to launch their canoes or kayaks.

"It's a 180-degree difference," Wood said. "It's like a desert compared to an oasis."

Contact Shelby Webb at swebb@alligator.org.

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Media plays increasing role in gay rights issues
 Rutgers freshman suicide case is one example, pg 5.

UF researchers receive grant for liver damage research
 The team received nearly \$1.3 million, pg 8.



UF students caught in Peruvian strike during group trip abroad
 They were stuck on a tour bus for two days, pg. 4.



News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Potluck at Toastmasters

The potluck food table rolls in Tuesday at the Talking Gators Toastmasters meeting. Everyone is welcome. Bring food or just bring yourself. The meeting begins at 5:45 p.m. in the Entomology Bldg., Rm. 1031, 970 Natural Area Drive, east of the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts on UF's campus. Toastmasters provides a positive atmosphere to learn public speaking skills. For more information, visit <http://talkinggators.toastmastersclubs.org>. Talking Gators is also on Facebook.

Got something going on?

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

LOCAL

This Week In Gainesville

May 31, 1966: Accent Speakers Bureau begins to prepare for its first event as an organization. About 3,000 brochures are created for distribution to residence halls and fraternity houses around campus during the first or second day in June. The first planned Accent Speakers Bureau event is a symposium scheduled for Jan. 19 through Jan. 21 with the purpose of encouraging debate and discussion at UF on a wide variety of issues.

May 28, 1974: Ray Charles performs at the Great Southern Music Hall, now known as the Florida Theater, in front of a packed crowd. The Georgia native drew in the crowd with his famous, soulful version of

FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 RAIN 84/72	 THUNDER STORMS 90/71	 THUNDER STORMS 88/70	 THUNDER STORMS 90/71	 SUNNY 91/71

"Georgia on my Mind."

May 31, 1989: UF alumnus Ben Hill Griffin Jr. donates \$10 million to Florida Field, and it is expected that the football stadium will soon become "Ben Hill Griffin Stadium at Florida Field" if final approval is granted by legislators in Tallahassee. The amount makes Griffin's donation total to UF \$19 million.

May 29, 1994: Mark Merklein defeats top-seeded Wayne Black of the University of Southern California to clinch the NCAA men's national singles tennis championship. It is the first men's national singles tennis championship in UF history.

May 31, 2000: Gov. Jeb Bush visits the Gainesville area to survey the damage caused by a large wildfire. The fire burned more than 3,000 acres of pine forest around Waldo and is close to where roughly 7,000 acres of land burned in 1998.

—JOSHUA MINCHIN

NATIONAL

Police say roving cows drank Mass. backyard brews

BOXFORD, Mass. — Police say a roving group of cows crashed a small gathering in a Massachusetts town and bullied the guests for their beer.

Boxford police Lt. James Riter says he was responding to a call for loose cows on Sunday and spotted them in a front yard.

Riter says the herd high-tailed it for the backyard and then he heard screaming. He says when he ran back there he saw the cows had chased

off some young adults and were drinking their beers.

Riter says the cows had knocked the beer cans over on a table and were lapping up what spilled. He says they even started rooting around the recycled cans for some extra drops.

Riter says the cows' owner and some friends herded the cows back home.

—THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INTERNATIONAL

City of Pied Piper fame again faces rat problem

BERLIN — The German city of Hamelin may be in need of another Pied Piper — it seems the rats are back.

City officials say a popular fountain has been put out of service after the rodents gnawed through a power cable, according to the Sueddeutsche Zeitung newspaper.

The Lower Saxony city is where, legend has it, the Pied Piper led all the rats out in 1284 with his magic pipe into the Weser River, where they drowned.

But more than 700 years later, city officials say such drastic measures may not be necessary. The fountain was due to be permanently closed anyway because of the high upkeep costs.

And the solution in the fictitious Piper story isn't practical anyway: Rats are actually pretty good swimmers.

—THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

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INTERNATIONAL

UF students caught in Peruvian strike during group trip abroad

MICHAEL SCOTT DAVIDSON

Alligator Contributing Writer

Rest didn't come easily for Jose Perez.

It was stiflingly hot on the Cruz del Sur tour bus, but for the 19-year-old anthropology and political science junior and the six other UF students traveling with him, it was better than sleeping exposed to the near-freezing temperatures of the Peruvian night.

The double-decker bus rested on a stretch of the Pan-American Highway in Peru, just north of the town of Chala. It was May 9, and the bus had barely moved during the last two days.

The students were a collection of Lombardi and Stamps Scholars. Their curiosity brought them to Peru more than a week before their Scholars in Peru study abroad program began, but a nationwide strike stalled their trip across the country.

On May 8, groups of independent Peruvian gold miners set up roadblocks to protest recent government regulation of their trade.

Since then, the stationary bus had become a makeshift prison. Miners spray painted the bus and beat on its walls with their fists.

The students had been unable to shower, change clothes or use a real bathroom since they first boarded the bus on May 7.

Two days later, they had to decide whether to stay on the bus or try to make their way to Lima, the capital, on their own.

Chala was running out of food and water, but if the students left, they'd be exposed to a strike that could easily turn violent.

It wasn't what they had expected when they left the United States.

On May 7, the seven UF students flew into Lima at 1 a.m.

A bus took them south to Arequipa, where they planned to split into two groups. The students would reconvene in Cuzco on May 13. There, they would meet with their program director before the study abroad program began three days later.

Fewer than 17 hours after Tyler Benjamin arrived in the country's capital, the 20-year-old journalism senior and his six companions boarded the tour bus. They'd be taking the Carretera Panamericana, or Pan-American Highway, which stretches the length of the country's west coast. The journey to Arequipa was supposed to last 16 hours, and Benjamin was already anticipating hiking Colca Canyon as he drifted into sleep.

At 3 a.m. May 8, Benjamin awoke to other bus passengers whispering in Spanish.

The bus stopped about a half-mile north of the town Yauca.

It was there the miners scrawled "Viva el Paro," long live the strike, on the bus. But there were no roadblocks, and

the southward trek resumed before 6 a.m.

Three hours later, the bus was stopped outside of Chala.

About 100 vehicles lined the highway to the north and south, blocked by tires filled with burning debris. To the west, a 200-foot drop off a cliff led to the ocean. Decrepit one-story houses and desert lay to the east.

The road ahead was littered with the blue hard hats of sleeping miners.

"They were literally everywhere," Perez said. He estimated about 400 miners were present on May 8.

Outside, the scent of burning rubber, human urine and decomposing trash began to fill the air.

Eventually, the student's hunger forced them from their shelter. They hadn't eaten a full meal since their departure.

"I thought I could ration my Clif Bars and water," Benjamin said. "But after a day or two, I realized that wasn't going to happen."

In order to buy food in Chala, they had to cross the strike line.

Perez, who speaks fluent Spanish, acted as the group's primary translator. He and the two other Spanish-speaking students gathered information about the strike in town.

The Peruvian government was trying to force independent miners to work for private companies. The miners didn't want to be taxed for their work.

"We were literally caught in the power struggle of this government that's trying to cover up the strike," Perez said.

By 6 p.m. the sun had set, forc-

ing the passengers back on the bus.

"We were told the army was coming," Benjamin said. "Then, nothing."

The next morning, about 10 police officers showed up with riot gear. They were outnumbered almost 60 to one.

The officers stood shoulder-to-shoulder at the strike line, but soon retired to eat Popsicles in the shade of the buses, Benjamin said.

No one else came, and conditions were worse for everyone trapped on the highway.

The holding tanks of the tour buses' bathrooms were reaching their capacities, and drivers began to empty them outside. Rivers of waste streamed down the highway, and trash cans overflowed.

The radio chattered with people worrying about lack of supplies, and the students knew that could mean less food for everyone.

That night, a group of agitated passengers tried to remove the roadblocks, but the miners' confidence and numbers had escalated, and they struck back.

Packs of 10 to 20 miners roamed among the buses, yelling at passengers and punching the sides of the students' bus.

Inside, the students crouched in the middle aisle. They shielded their heads with food trays — Perez said it was the first time he'd ever feared for his life.

The miners eventually left, but the threat of violence pushed the students to act after two days and two nights.

Benjamin said he spoke to the

State Department and the U.S. Embassy in Peru by cellphone earlier that day. Neither was aware of the strikes or roadblocks, nor could they provide help.

If the students were going to leave, they would have to do it alone.

They'd heard that three more strikes lay between Chala and the students' original destination of Arequipa. Backtracking toward Lima, though, would mean crossing through the first strike they'd passed.

Either option would mean traveling by foot, unprotected.

By the morning of May 10, the strikers were acting as a militia, carrying sticks with nails driven through the sides.

That morning, Benjamin and another student were buying food in Chala when they saw a commotion on the highway.

"I saw people jogging back to their buses," Benjamin said. "I hit [my friend] on the shoulder, told him we had to go and overpaid for the meal. I just gave the woman a coin and left."

The travelers took shelter in their vehicles in case of a riot. But like the night before, the disturbance ended without violence.

At 11:30 a.m., Benjamin and the other students decided to leave.

He collected his bags and began marching north, toward the end of a line of 50 buses.

At the end of the line, the students found two men taxing people to Yauca. The group pooled its money and bought two cab rides.

The taxi drivers dropped the students about a 45-minute walk

south of Yauca.

Perez asked two Peruvian women if they were close to the end of the strike. They laughed.

"No, no, no, no," one of the women said. "Lejos." Far.

As the students approached Yauca, the damage from the strike became more noticeable.

Burned tires, electrical cords and rocks littered the way. After that, it was desert.

After nearly three hours of walking in the midday sun, Perez spotted a hopeful sign.

A car-carrier truck bearing a Brazilian flag sat unblocked on the service road that ran parallel to the highway.

Perez, who also speaks Portuguese, found out the truck belonged to a father and son who had been making trips to Nazca for supplies.

If each student paid about \$22 — 10 times the normal cab fare in Peruvian cities — the Brazilians were willing to transport the group to Nazca.

"At this point, it just seemed like pennies to me," Perez said.

The students arrived in Nazca that evening. There, they enjoyed their first showers and full meals in three days. They returned to Lima two days later.

On May 16 they began their study abroad program on schedule, spending the next week and a half building wood-fueled stoves in the highlands around Cuzco.

The students traveled to expose themselves to the world's ills and wonders, and their three days on the highway had brought to life the gritty lessons they had only studied in the classroom.

"It was fantastic and romantic and terrifying and uncertain all at once," Benjamin said. "For so long we did nothing to help ourselves, expecting it would just get resolved. I learned I can make moves for myself in a foreign country, no matter what."

Day by Day

May 7: Students fly in to Lima; Bus departs for Arequipa

May 8: Bus stops outside of Yauca, continues journey southward; Bus stops outside of Chala

May 9: Bus bathroom holding tanks released; Miners retaliate against angry passengers

May 10: Miners become militarized; Students decide to hike north; Students pass through Yauca



Courtesy to the Alligator

Peruvian miners spray painted a bus holding UF students during a protest earlier in May.



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Lean On Me

A large tree damaged the home of Geneva Sercey, 60, off Southeast 11th Street Monday afternoon as Tropical Storm Beryl swept across north Florida.

Media plays increasing role in gay rights issues

KATHERINE HAHN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Gay rights have been making national headlines, and some members of UF's LGBTQ community think it's about time.

In 2010, former Rutgers University student Dharun Ravi used a webcam to view his roommate, Tyler Clementi, being intimate with a man. Ravi told friends and Twitter followers there would be another viewing.

The next day, Clementi jumped to his death from the George Washington Bridge.

Ravi was convicted May 21 of intimidation as a hate crime and tampering with evidence, according to a New York Times article. He faced up to 10 years in prison but received 30 days and community service.

Outgoing UF Pride Student Union president and English senior Ricky Carter, 22, said the LGBTQ community wasn't pushing for the maximum sentence for Ravi.

Carter said he thinks most members of the gay community are satisfied with the sentence. They didn't want a witch hunt.

The trial sends a clear message that the justice system will take action when people are harassed and their privacy is invaded, he said.

"You cannot bully people," Carter said. "You cannot harass people."

Ravi's sentencing trended on Twitter and was prominently featured on major news channels and online sites in the days

before and after the verdict.

UF's Assistant Director of Multicultural and Diversity Affairs, Lauren Hannahs, 27, said she thought coverage of the case brought much-needed attention to harassment of gay people, but the media were misguided in framing the issue as new.

She said the media didn't pay enough attention to the history of homophobic behavior or how deeply it is embedded in this country.

"It's socially acceptable to be homophobic," said Hannahs, who directs Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Affairs.

In April, UF Student Senate President Aundre Price announced the Bias and Apprehension Committee to review university policy on hate crimes.

In the past, Hannahs said, universities typically handled student hate crimes internally. The Dharun Ravi case set new standards by taking the crimes to court.

President Barack Obama was recently featured on a May cover of Newsweek magazine with a rainbow halo as "The First Gay President."

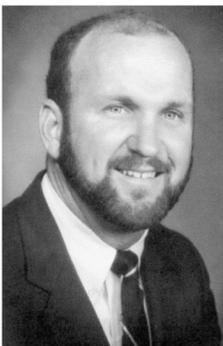
Hannahs said she thinks the high-profile nature of Ravi's sentencing is not strongly linked to Obama's May 9 endorsement of same-sex marriage. Instead, she attributed media coverage to increasing acceptance of the LGBTQ community.

"I think it's a trajectory of where the country is going," she said.



Clementi

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Editorial

Butt Out City should stay out of tobacco

A few weeks ago, the Gainesville City Commission passed a resolution discouraging businesses from selling candy-flavored tobacco products in the area.

Of course, like most government actions, it's just "for the children."

After the city commission researched the issue, it found that the products were allegedly being marketed to young people through the allure of different flavors.

Andrew Romero, a tobacco prevention specialist, said one in six young people between 11 and 17 have tried flavored tobacco in Alachua County.

Of course, Romero does not provide any statistics into which type of tobacco they tried first, nor did he compare these statistics to other cities.

If this candy-flavored tobacco is the first thing these minors have tried, we might be able to make the claim that it entices them. However, if they already have tried tobacco in other forms before trying flavored tobacco, then it's really not any more harmful than regular tobacco.

Also, if the law already prohibits the sale of tobacco to people under the age of 18, what could discouraging the sale of flavored tobacco to adults possibly do to further the cause?

While we do not explicitly advocate the use of tobacco products, we do not see how prohibiting or discouraging the sale of candy-flavored tobacco will do much to curb the use of tobacco by teens.

Still, according to the University of Michigan's Monitoring the Future survey, cigarette use among teens is declining substantially from year to year across every age group.

Although the county has not yet proposed to ban this flavored tobacco, it is not unlikely that it eventually will.

All it takes is more pressure from anti-tobacco advocates such as Romero, as well as an appeal to the desires of politicians to "protect the children," and we could see it banned in no time.

We strongly discourage the county commission from going further on this issue, for a few unintended reasons.

As in every case of prohibition, a ban on the sale of flavored tobacco to adults will definitely lead to an underground market in the area for these products.

Then, because of the prohibition, the police will be tasked with putting people in jail for selling flavored tobacco in the area. Do we really need to put more people in jail for engaging in voluntary commerce?

If we want to prevent minors from using tobacco, the last thing we want to do is make it illegal. Instead, parents and educators should explain the possible negative side effects of the product and talk to minors like they're adults.

Treating minors like children through the heavy hand of the law and a resounding "no" will do little to influence their future decisions.

Let us hope that Gainesville does not follow other cities such as Miami and New York City in banning flavored tobacco sales.

Reader response

Today's question: Did you notice smoke from local wildfires?

Thursday's question: Do you have plans for Memorial Day weekend?

51% YES
49% NO
81 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Clare Lennon
EDITOR

Erin Jester
MANAGING EDITOR

Justin Hayes
OPINIONS EDITOR

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Column

UF should look to Montreal for example

It is no secret that in our gloomy economic times, one of the first sectors to get hit is education. Due to these budget cuts, many universities, including our own, have resorted to tuition hikes. These tuition hikes are part of the dwindling spiral that is our economy.

You can open countless newspapers and read about the "generation of debt." While our predecessors struggled from credit card debt, our generation is faced with crippling student loan debt far surpassing those of previous generations.

We are not only drowning in our debt, but our obstinate Congress couldn't reach a decision on a bill that would keep down the current interest rate on our loans. Without an agreement, the current interest rate will double. This brings the average student further away from seeing the end of the debt-free tunnel.

Now we wonder, with so much talk regarding students and their future, where are the students?

Recently, our neighbors to the north passed their 100th day of protesting student fees. This past week, several thousand students in Montreal protested the rising tuition fees as well as a new bill meant to slow down the protests.

As a result, 518 demonstrators were arrested due to a bill prohibiting the freedom to publicly assemble without prior police approval (a planned route and a notice eight hours before the event).

Despite having one of the lowest tuitions in Canada, Quebec students still felt that the 82 percent tuition increase within five years was not fair. These students have not backed down from the fight and are defending their right to a cost-effective education.

With the inspiration of our spirited neighbors, why hasn't the fight been brought forward at UF?

Barely a month ago the UF administration threatened to drastically cut the Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) department due to budget concerns. CISE students came together and, with several protests, were able to pressure the administration to change the pro-



Michela Martinazzi
opinions@alligator.org

posed plan.

The Architecture and Fine Arts Library has been operating under the threat of shut-down for two semesters. Yet, overwhelming student and faculty opposition has allowed the AFA library to survive another round of budget cuts.

However, the journalism and music libraries may not be as fortunate. Starting this fall, journalism and music majors might have to head over to the lovely and crowded Library West for pertinent materials.

UF has been hiking tuition since 2008. Still, Gator opposition has been pretty low. There's no comparison to the outcry experienced in Canada to similar measures.

When a bill that would have allowed UF and Florida State University administration to raise tuition to an uncapped percentage (as opposed to the previous limit of 15 percent), passed through the Florida legislature, student opposition was very low.

Fortunately, our usually disappointing governor vetoed the bill, and we live to see another year of a probably "low" 15 percent tuition increase.

It saddens me that the Gator Nation is standing by as these tuition hikes occur. On top of the hikes, we face a 5 percent increase of student fees for the Reitz Union renovations.

Despite the extremely tough economic times, our school is valuing renovations over our libraries, departments and students.

Gators, it's about time that we say, "No!" Let's take back our education and become a leading example in the struggle for fair education.

Our time is now. Gators, fight back.

Michela Martinazzi is an art history junior at UF. Her column appears on Tuesdays.

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

Column

Don't condemn someone's way of life, confuse hateful remarks for jokes

Did you know it is the year 2012? Stacey Pritchard doesn't seem to understand what that means.

Last week on "Anderson Cooper 360," journalist extraordinaire Anderson Cooper interviewed people who had opinions regarding Pastor Charles Worley's outrageous remarks about homosexuality.

Worley said that we need to "build a great, big, large fence 50 or 100 miles long."

Why?

"Put all the lesbians in there. Fly over and drop some food. Do the same thing with the queers and the homosexuals," Worley said.

"Have that fence electrified so they can't get out," he said. "You know what, in a few years, they'll die out. You know why? They can't reproduce."

I'll wait here until you do a YouTube search for this man and watch him say those words yourself.

Crazy, right? Not entirely of sound mind and body, if you ask me.

So after those inflammatory remarks, Cooper took to interviewing some of Worley's congregation and supporters. This is when we get to meet the aforementioned lovely Stacey Pritchard.

Bless her heart. She is certainly standing by her pastor and the words he said, but she also wants to make sure that he didn't really want to put gay men and lesbian women behind an electric fence.

Those may have been the words he said from the pulpit, but he didn't really mean it, according to her.

Pritchard is under the impression that putting people behind an electric fence with the intent of killing them off eventually just isn't done anymore.

Or that people couldn't possibly be killed for their sexual orientation, so she didn't see the problem with joking about it.

But as Cooper points out, "It's happening right now in 2012 in Iraq and Iran."

"This is a pastor that speaks the word of God," Pritchard said. "Anybody can take it any way they



Sami Main
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want to. And if they don't like it, they don't have to. They can turn — turn around and go on."

My problem is the fact that someone thinks the word of God is telling him or her to

kill off an entire way of life.

That's rather scary and important to note.

Like Cooper also said, "It's called the Holocaust. It has happened. You said nobody is going to kill homosexuals. Homosexuals are killed around the world."

Homosexuality is clearly far away from becoming a non-issue. Just as we need to stop mentioning that women are funny now, we also need to stop bringing up the simple fact that someone is gay.

Because once we do, people might start to accept people who are "different" and stop trying to condemn them to a life behind an electric fence.

Columnist Bruce Sallan wrote that he believes the show "Glee" is "portraying a fantasy world with minimal consequences for the experimentation and sexual promiscuity these young people indulge in."

Perhaps it is a fantasy world, Sallan. Maybe it's slightly unrealistic to portray a healthy relationship that also happens to be homosexual on television.

(In full disclosure, I haven't seriously watched that show in a while, but I'm at least sure that the infamous gay "plotline" hasn't been happy-go-lucky and easy for the characters.)

Obviously there are a lot of things that go into forming the opinion of the public. Social structures such as school, church and home have a big responsibility in raising people to be functional members of society. Let's not ruin that by shoving our peers behind an electric fence.

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



Guest column

Globalization should bring decentralization

On Tuesday afternoon, former U.K. Prime Minister Gordon Brown gave a lecture on the global economy in which he argued that the world is becoming ever more interconnected and that many problems will need to be solved through greater international cooperation.

While Brown's argument is true with regard to some pressing issues, further centralization of political power isn't wise.

The first part of Brown's argument is most certainly correct: "We are all part of an interdependent economy. What happens to us in one country affects all of us right across the world."

This point was underscored yesterday at the Dartmouth College economics department's weekly seminar, where University of Michigan economist Jing Zhang discussed the impact of Chinese productivity growth on living standards in other countries.

The days of autarky and isolationism are long gone.

Furthermore, it is true that this interdependence necessitates increased international cooperation on certain issues. Greenhouse gas emissions from one country affect not just the polluting country but the entire planet.

Alleviating extreme poverty is not and should not be the sole responsibility of the countries in which the poorest citizens live.

However, in the interest of protecting individual liberties and for pragmatism's sake, I strenuously disagree that further transfers of power from local and state governments to national and international bodies is a wise course of action.

It is often much more difficult for a government to infringe upon the rights and liberties of its citizens if those citizens are free to move to another jurisdiction. Thus, in the interest of protecting individual liberties, political powers should be put in the hands of local and state governments rather than national or international governing authorities as far as reasonably possible.

Take health care, for instance.

Obviously, there are many health-related issues that are best addressed nationally and internationally. Successfully combating the spread of infectious and communicable diseases has often required significant international cooperation.

Likewise, it often makes more sense for research to be funded by the federal rather than state governments, as a discovery made in one state will likely end up benefiting people in multiple states.

However, it is wrong to assume that health insurance is within the proper jurisdiction of the federal government.

I have no problem with Massachusetts adopting an individual mandate or Vermont adopting a single-payer system. After all, if any of these states' residents object to either of these policies, then these residents can always move to New Hampshire.

It is much more difficult, however, to move to another country if you object to a federal government policy.

The second problem with centralization of political power is more pragmatic — sometimes a policy that is entirely appropriate for one place is not at all appropriate for another. The Eurozone's current monetary and financial mess is a case in point.

For more than half a century, many European leaders have worked tirelessly to improve economic integration and international cooperation among different European countries. In many ways, this has been a good idea.

I especially applaud the relative success of the European Common Market, which has greatly liberalized trade in goods and services within Europe, and the Schengen Area, allowing for the free migration of people throughout much of the continent.

However, the euro has undoubtedly been a disaster. With the enactment of a single currency, the countries using the euro left themselves susceptible to the kind of severe macroeconomic difficulties they are currently experiencing.

Many economists on both sides of the Atlantic understood this possibility and thus recommended against the adoption of the single currency, yet the European political elites decided to forge ahead anyway. Ironically, Gordon Brown, who was the U.K.'s chancellor of the Exchequer in the early 2000s, clearly understood these potential problems, and he probably deserves much of the credit for keeping the U.K. from adopting the euro in the first place.

It's true that the countries of the world are becoming more interconnected and that there are many pressing issues that require increased international cooperation. However, we shouldn't, as a general rule, centralize ever more power in the hands of national and international bodies.

Jonathan Pedde is a columnist for The Dartmouth at Dartmouth College.

RESEARCH

UF researchers receive \$1.3M grant for liver damage research

SAMANTHA BLOCK

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF researchers studying ways to lessen liver damage have received a grant of nearly \$1.3 million from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease.

The research team hopes to confirm that the liver's ability to recover from isch-

emia/reperfusion injury — the damage from a lack of oxygen and nutrients — is associated with the process by which cells remove damaged mitochondria.

The research is headed by principal investigators Christiaan Leeuwenburgh, chief of the biology of aging division in the department of aging and geriatric research, and Jae-Sung Kim, assistant professor of surgery in the UF College of Medicine.

Kim and his research team disproved a previous study that found the autophagy process damages the liver during the aging process and there was no way to use older livers.

The team has also been studying the link between impaired autophagy with diseases such as cancer and neurological disorders. Liver transplants can be very dangerous, especially on older individuals

with cancer, Kim said.

Only about 30 percent of individuals on the liver transplant list receive a donor organ, Kim said. He hopes to expand the donor pool by including older individuals.

"Our team has found that even though a senior person has cancer, there is now a potential way to safely perform the operation to expand their life and quality of life," he said.

Fires might have been intended

FIRE from page 1

she said, and fire activity was minimal as of Monday night. Sunday night, five personnel, three brush trucks and three tractors stood by in case the blaze grew. Three personnel with brush trucks, one supervisor and two tractors observed the fire Monday.

Alachua County Fire Rescue, volunteer firefighters, Florida Forestry Services, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, Gainesville Fire Rescue, the Gainesville Police Department and the Red Cross had responded to the various fires.

Ludie Bond, district spokeswoman for the Florida Fire Service, said these fires mirror fires set by an unknown suspect this weekend last year. They could be instances of arson.

"They seem suspicious," she said. Police helicopters patrolled the fires during the weekend to look for suspicious activity.

No injuries have been reported.

But the fire could hurt more than just people.

As the noon sun hung in the smoky sky on Saturday, brothers Leon and Vernon Fuller waited in two small tractors and looked out for more fire moving toward Leon Fuller's 80 acres of mostly pine trees.

About half of the land burned overnight, said Leon Fuller, who worked for the Division of Forestry in the 1980s.

The brothers were up at 2 a.m. putting out fire by plowing containment lines with the tractors, Fuller, 65, said.

To keep fire from spreading, the Fullers and forestry workers plowed paths about 10 feet wide with tractors, knocking trees and debris away from the path.

"[Fire] won't burn the bare ground," Fuller said.

Forestry workers widened the containment lines to 20 to 30 feet on Saturday in preparation for strong winds Sunday.

But rain during the second half of Memorial Day weekend quenched many of the flames and left the fire manageable. Bond said the status of the fire depended on the weather early in the week.



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Ludie Bond, spokeswoman and wildfire mitigation specialist for the Waccasassa Forestry Center, monitors the progress of fire breaks being dug around the County Road 1475 fire on Saturday northeast of Gainesville.

Steve Wheeler has completed six other 100-mile ultramarathons



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Steve Wheeler, 53, runs on the sidewalk of Southeast 13th Street Saturday afternoon as he finishes his last leg of a 100-mile ultramarathon that began the day before in Altamonte Springs and ended in Gainesville. The 28-hour run was done to raise awareness about the cuts by the Florida Legislature and its effect on the future of art programs in schools.

RUN, from page 1

Steve Wheeler started running ultramarathons in his 40s, each race ranging from 50 to 100 miles.

In 2010, he ran his first 100-mile race during the Western States Endurance Run in California.

He said he has completed six other 100-mile ultramarathons, including the 2011 Iron Horse Endurance Runs in Florahome.

To train for long-distance running, Wheeler runs about 20 to 30 miles several times a week through trails at the Wekiwa Springs State Park near his house in Altamonte Springs. He sometimes runs up to 70 miles in a session to build endurance.

During runs that could last several hours, Wheeler said he keeps his mind busy to maintain focus. He also said running helps him stay calm.

"I'm in real estate, and it's stressful," he said. "So going out and running is a great stress reliever."

As her father battled fatigue, dehydration and the north Florida heat Friday afternoon, Leslie Wheeler made sure to have aid supplies ready.

She said throughout the ultramarathon, she stopped every two miles to give her father food and water to replenish his energy. Later in the run, her father was drinking a bottle of water per mile.

During the night, Wheeler ran past The Villages, Belleview and Ocala.

At around 11:30 a.m. Saturday, the Wheelers approached the 90-mile mark at Paynes Prairie near McIntosh.

Smoke from brush fires covered the area, making breathing difficult for Steve Wheeler

as he ran.

Leslie Wheeler drove her father 10 miles up the road until they escaped the smoke to continue the run.

At 2:30 p.m., after 28 hours and 100 miles of running, Wheeler arrived at UF near the architecture and fine arts buildings, symbolizing the end of his journey and his daughter's undergraduate education.

Steve Wheeler's run has drawn praise

"I'm in real estate, and it's stressful, so going out and running is a great stress reliever."

Steve Wheeler

runner

from UF faculty who support funding public school art programs.

"We in the art world are so grateful when someone individually decides to take up the banner," said Margaret Mertz, associate dean of the College of Fine Arts.

Steve Wheeler said the Orlando-to-Gainesville run was his toughest challenge to date due to blistering heat, smoke and hilly terrain.

"You just have to keep telling yourself to keep going," he said on Saturday.

Leslie Wheeler said she hopes her father's run garners more support from families and students to help save art programs in schools.

The Wheelers said they are currently seeking donations for the Seminole County Public Schools and UF's fine arts and architecture departments.

"It's really important for a lot of people's futures," she said.

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Apt for rent near Shands. 3300 SW 23rd St. Apt #1. 2BR w/ study, 1BA. Large screened-in porch. W/D hook-ups. \$675/mo, \$850 sec dep. Pets ok. Please call 352-371-3473 leave message. 6-21-12-11-2

2BR/1BA, W/D hook-ups. Only 1 left. Very quiet. \$633/mo. View Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 8am - 1pm. Gator Place Apts 3600 SW 23rd St. 2 mi to VA & Shands. Call 376-0071 5-29-4-2

★●●● WATERFRONT CONDO ●●●★ On 320-acre lake. Video tour link: tinyurl.com/lakefrontcondo. 1 mi to UF/Shands GVILLE'S BEST KEPT SECRET 1450 sq ft. 2BR/2BA. Easily 3BR. Wall-to-wall & floor-to-ceiling glass, facing sunsets across a mile of open water. Open your doors to breezes & use the pool & BBQ under live oaks. \$1195/ mo Avail immediately. Call 352-262-9058 Email jalkamohn@yahoo.com 5-31-12-5-2

3Bd/2Ba Spacious House for Rent \$1400/ mo. Features: Updated kitchen & baths, new AC, wood/tile throughout, quiet neighborhood, washer/dryer, lawn service included. Contact Amber at ufgal4186@aol.com 6-19-12-10-2

www.CozyGator.com "cozy homes & apartments for rent" 5-31-12-4-2

2 For Rent unfurnished

MERRILL MANAGEMENT INC. 825 NW 13th Street 352-372-1494 x10 www.merrillmanagement.com

1 & 2BR 1BA Apt 1 BLK to UF, Carpet, Central H & Air, Carpet Laundry., Incls, Wtr and Swg. \$575-800 / Mo Grad II 1236 SW 4th Avenue

2BR 1BA Home off NW 6th St. Tile Floors, Window A/C, Nat gas Ht Laundry Room, 750 Sq. Ft. 408 NW 28th Ave \$600/Mo

3BR 1BA with xtra Room for Study or BR Home near Law School \$1125/Mo 303 NW 36th Dr. 1500 sq ft. Central H & Air, 2 Living Rooms, Newly Remodeled, Laundry Room

1 Room Efficiency Across from UF Stadium Tile Floors, Full Kitchen & Bath, Screen Porch 1806 1/2 NW 2nd Ave. \$450/Mo

1BR 1BA 3 BLKS to UF! \$525 Extra room for study/storage Carpet, Central H & Air Marcott Apts 1029 SW 3rd Avenue.

2BR 1BA Apt 1 BLCK to UF Behind Leonardos \$650/Mo Carpet, Wood or Tile Floors Central H & Air Ritz Apts 1234 SW 1st Avenue

2BR 1BA Apt 3 BLKS to UF 216 SW 12th Street \$500/Mo Window A/C, Nat Gas ht Carpet or Wood Floors

St. Croix Apts \$500/Mo 829 SW 5th Avenue 5 Blks to UF Central H & Air, Carpet, 840 sq. ft. Very Spacious and close to downtown

1 & 2BR 1BA Apt Robert Obrien Apts Carpet, Window A/C, Nat Gas Ht Near Sams Club/Walmart \$425-500/Mo 2901 NW 14th Street 5-31-12-4-2

THE POLOS MOVE IN BEFORE JUNE 15th RECEIVE 1 MONTH FREE!! Ask About our Preferred Employer Discounts and SPECIALS! Call for Details! 352-335-7656 8-15-23-2

*****STUDENTS***** 1,2,3 & 4 bedroom apartments & houses available for August. All close to UF & Downtown. Call 870-2760. 8-15-12-22-2

***** AVAILABLE NOW***** 1 bedroom apartment located between UF & downtown. 116 NW 7th Terrace. \$490/mth. Call 870-2760 6-21-12-9-2

1st mo \$100 off. Near UF. Beautiful 4BR/2BA home. FL rm w/inground jacuzzi. W/D. Tile flr. 2-car attached garage, storage shed. Walk to grocery/shops. Avail 8/9. \$1375/mo 904-534-6982, kencarmgravs@comcast.net 6-7-12-5-2

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.

1ST MONTH RENT FREE! All incl luxury apt @ The Enclave. Disc lease \$529/mo incl cable, furn, parking & \$40/util/rm. 3BR/4BA + den. Indiv leases. Rmmt matching. All rms avail Aug. 1 yr lease. 813-220-7637, 813-334-7441 5-29-12-5-3

SUBLEASE 1/1 IN 3/3 AT THE POLOS 1 MONTH FREE. Available Aug. 1 yr lease. 2 male roommates. Call 407-271-4146 or 407-616-4035 6-7-12-5-3

4 Roommates

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

Now you can easily submit your classified ad for print and/or web editions right thru our website!

Just go to www.alligator.org/classifieds Visa and Mastercard accepted.

COLLEGE ROOMS STARTING AT \$400.00 MONTH, UTILITIES INCLUDED NO MOVE IN COST. WE DO SEMISTER LEASING Frances 352-375-8787 Rent Florida Realty 9-28-12-85-4

Female roommate needed in furnished condo, 1.5 miles from UF \$359/MO cable, internet, utilities, pool+ more-beautifully renovated, on bus route, Call 352 262-2871, Available 6/1/12 7-31-11-28-4

MATURE PROFESSIONAL Share 3BR/3BA pool home near UF. Safe area across from Plaza Royale. Bus rte. No alcohol or drugs. \$325 + 1/3 util. 2 rms available 5/20. No pets. 371-3837 6-5-12-5-4

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 8-15-25-5

6 Furnishings

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

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 will deliver. 8-15-12-25-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 8-15-12-25-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400 Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 8-15-12-25-6

BED - KING - \$200 PILLOWTOP mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Call 352-372-8588. Can deliver. 8-15-25-6

BEDROOM SET. 7pc Cherry, Queen/ king bed, dresser w/mirror, 2 nightstands, chests avail. Dovetail const. New, in boxes. Can deliver. Retail \$4500, must sell, sacrifice \$850 (352) 372-7490 8-15-25-6

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

6 Furnishings

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

DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box. Never used. 352-377-9846 8-15-25-6

BEDS - ALL BRAND NEW **Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200** Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 8-15-25-6

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

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 8-15-12-25-6

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.

COMPUTER & LAPTOP REPAIRS Network specialists We buy computers and laptops Working and Non-working 378-4009, 607 NW 13th Street 8-15-11-23-7

8 Electronics

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

9 Bicycles

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

10 For Sale

●●●●PARKING●●●● Private, Secure, Guaranteed. 60 sec to UF. Reserve now! Reasonable rates. 352-538-2181. Can leave mssg. 8-15-12-25-10

●UF Surplus Equipment Auctions● are underway...bikes, computers, printers, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: surplus.ufl.edu 392-0370 8-15-12-25-10

GOATS FOR SALE Charlie - 352-278-1925 8-15-25-10

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 8-15-12-25-10

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

★★★WWW.RPMMOTORCYCLES.COM★★★ FULL SERVICE MOTORCYCLE -SCOOTER REPAIR. 12TH YEAR IN GVILLE. OEM & AFTERMARKET PARTS. BEST TIRE PRICES IN TOWN. 352-377-6974 8-15-25-11



8-15-12-25-11

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

8-15-12-25-11

★★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 8-15-12-25-11

SCRABBLE BRAND

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A ₁	I ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	T ₁	D ₂	R ₁			RACK 1
E ₁	Y ₄	F ₄	T ₁	S ₁	L ₁	H ₄			Triple Word Score RACK 2
E ₁	I ₁	O ₁	M ₃	T ₁	N ₁	F ₄			2nd Letter Double RACK 3
E ₁	E ₁	T ₁	T ₁	N ₁	S ₁	S ₁			RACK 4

PAR SCORE 140-150
BEST SCORE 228

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.

05-29

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 8-15-12-25-11

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 8-15-12-25-11

★★SCOOTER RENTALS★★
Rent for a day, week, month or semester. Students can rent to own! 352-336-1271 www.gainesvillescooterrentals.com 8-15-12-25-11

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 8-15-58-11

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

12 Autos

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
8-15-25-12

WE BUY JUNK CARS

Titles Only. Call KT
352-281-9980 or 352-215-3191 8-15-25-12

I BUY CARS - TRUCKS

★★★★ Call Anytime - Licensed ★★★★★
NO CREDIT CHECK!!!
352-339-5158 6-21-12-11-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
ALL VEHICLES \$0 DOWN!
NO CREDIT CHECK!!!!
VEHICLES \$500 AND UP!
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
BRING W2 AND DRIVE HOME TODAY!
OVER 150 VEHICLES IN STOCK!
CARS, TRUCKS, SUVs, & VANS!
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

BUY FOR BLOWOUT
PRICES & SAVE BIG!!!!
VEHICLES STARTING \$500!!
PRICES NEGOTIABLE!!!
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

12 Autos

95 F350 \$999
97 FORD EXPLORER \$1700
98 GRAND AM \$1999
98 CHEVY VENTURE \$2999
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

98 CADILLAC CATERA \$3999
00 BUICK CENTURY \$3900
98 CHRYSLER SBRING \$3900
01 MITS MIRAGE \$3900
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

02 SATURN \$3900
98 TOYOTA COROLLA \$3900
98 TOYOTA 4RUNNER \$4900
02 TOYOTA COROLLA \$5900
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

99 ACURA INTEGRA \$2999
95 CHEVY CAMERO \$2500
98 HONDA ACCORD \$3900
98 DODGE DURANGO \$4999
352-338-1999 8-15-25-12

SUN RISE AUTO SALES
NO CREDIT CHECK!
CARS, TRUCKS, SUVs, & VANS
30 DAY WARRANTY
352-375-9090 8-15-25-12

SUN RISE AUTO SALES
BRING W2 AND DRIVE HOME!
30 DAY WARRANTY!
NO CREDIT CHECK!
352-375-9090 8-15-25-12

02 CHEVY CAMERO \$6999
04 CHEVY ASTRO \$6999
05 CHEVY IMPALA \$7999
07 CHEVY COBALT \$8999
352-375-9090 8-15-25-12

12 Autos

06 PT CRUISER \$7999
02 DODGE RAM \$8999
05 DODGE DURANGO \$9999
04 KIA SORENTO \$9999
352-375-9090 8-15-25-12

06 SATURN ION \$7999
03 HONDA CRV \$8999
05 GMC SIERRA \$9999
05 FORD F150 \$10,999
352-375-9090 8-15-25-12

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.
8-15-25-13

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 8-25-25-13

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
352-240-5062 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 5-31-12-25-13



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 Breal at (352) 378-9079 or by e-mail at sfhcoor@stfrancis.cfcoxmail.com

WHAT KIND OF VOICE DOES SHE HAVE?

Participants needed for a study of voice perception in voices. \$15 for one hour.

Email: spl.ufl@gmail.com 5-31-12-6-13

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.

14 Help Wanted

Now you can easily submit your classified ad for print and/or web editions right thru our website!

Just go to
www.alligator.org/classifieds
Visa and Mastercard accepted.

alligator

What's black and white and read all over??
The Independent Florida Alligator
Be part of the sales team of the largest college newspaper in the country by applying to be an

INTERN

If you are enrolled as a UF or SFC student available to work 10-12 hours a week this summer, and are eager to gain valuable sales experience, stop by The Alligator, 1105 W. University Avenue, to fill out an application and class schedule or email resume to advertising@alligator.org. We will contact you for an interview opportunity to get your career jump started! EEO/AA.

alligator

What's black and white and read all over??
The Independent Florida Alligator
Be part of the sales team of the largest college newspaper in the country by applying to be a

PAID SALES REP

If you are enrolled as a UF or SFC student available to work 15-20 hours a week this summer, and are eager to gain valuable sales experience, stop by the Alligator, 1105 W. University Avenue, to fill out an application and class schedule or email resume to advertising@alligator.org. We will contact you for an interview opportunity to get your career jump started! EEO/AA

alligator

Student Positions Available Evening Newspaper Production

The Independent Florida Alligator Editorial Production department is now accepting student applications.

Applicants must be enrolled in Summer C or A/B classes to meet eligibility requirements.

Applicants should be available evenings between the hours of 6:00 pm and 1:00 am. Production duties include page layout and design. Experience with Adobe InDesign is preferred, but not required.

A one-year commitment is expected.

Fill out an application at the front desk of The Alligator, 1105 W University Ave, M-F 9 am - 5 pm. Include available work schedule and references. No phone calls or e-mails. Previous applicants are welcome to reapply with current schedule. EOE

BARTENDING
\$300 A DAY POTENTIAL
No experience necessary, training provided. 800-965-6520 ext 138 8-15-12-25-14

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 8-15-12-25-14

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
1 Canal locale
7 Exile isle
11 Young boy
14 Mount where Noah's ark landed
15 Color similar to aqua
16 "___ was saying ..."
17 Staccato's opposite
18 "B.C." creator Johnny
19 Mex. neighbor
20 #1 hit by a 30-Across member
23 Longtime U.K. record label
26 Speechifier's spot
27 Botanical puffiness
28 High-pitched flute
30 '60s pop group
32 Shady spot
33 Detective's lead
35 #1 hit by a 30-Across member
40 Ain't as it should be?
41 Bring together
44 #1 hit by a 30-Across member
49 Gasoline ratings
51 Parceled (out)
52 Sharer's word
53 Tree juice
54 #1 hit by a 30-Across member
58 Advanced legal deg.
59 Top of the line
60 Stylish Oldsmobiles
64 PC linking acronym
65 ___ Gaga
66 Catches some z's
67 Doo-wop's ___ Na Na
68 Terrier named for a Scottish isle
69 Expansive home

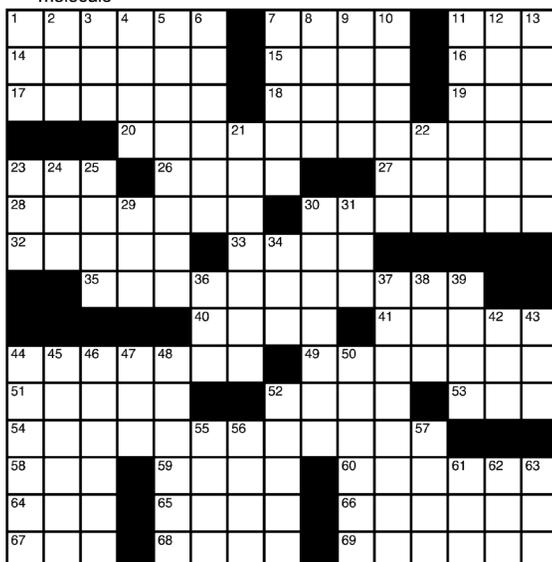
- DOWN**
1 Bud
2 "My lips ___ sealed"
3 Re-re-remind?
4 Oman man, usually
5 Bullfighters
6 Keyless
7 Spirit of a people
8 Hamburger grading word
9 Starr of the NFL
10 '50s tennis standout Gibson
11 Bay leaf source
12 Undertake, as responsibilities
13 Rigg and Ross
21 Bishop's domain
22 N.J. summer setting
23 Org. with a monthly "Go Green!" newsletter
24 Craft whose name means "peace"
25 SALT weapon
29 Playfully noncommittal
30 "Keep your opinions to yourself!"
31 Long-bodied swimmer
34 Novelist Deighton
36 Carry the day
37 Bests in the market
38 Messenger molecule

- 39 Headache intensifiers
42 Afternoon social
43 Debatable mental ability
44 Poems with pastoral themes
45 Do-re-mi
46 Mount Holyoke grad
47 Lang. of Luther
48 Worthy principles
50 Pressed-pants feature
52 Yellow-and-white daisy
55 Linger in the Jacuzzi
56 Memorial Day race, informally
57 Old Nair rival
61 "Michael Collins" actor Stephen
62 Pick, with "for"
63 U-turn from NNW

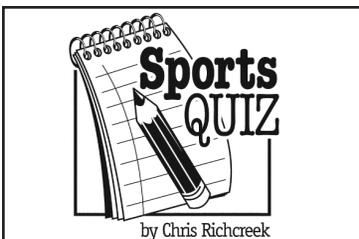
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 05/29/12



By Jeff Stillman
(c)2012 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 05/29/12



by Chris Richcreek

- Who was the last player before Toronto's Jose Bautista in 2010 to belt more than 50 home runs in a season?
- How many consecutive seasons, entering 2012, had Philadelphia's Ryan Howard tallied at least 30 home runs?
- Johnny Unitas holds the NFL record for most consecutive games with at least one TD pass (47, 1956-60). Who has the most since the 1970 NFL merger?
- Who holds the record for most points in a men's basketball NCAA Tournament game?
- Since the NHL lockout season of 2004-05, only three rookies have averaged more than a point a game. Name two of them.
- How many consecutive starts at the Daytona 500 did Michael Waltrip have before failing to qualify in 2012?
- Who was the only player to win a "golden slam" — all four of tennis' majors, plus a gold medal in Olympic singles play, in a calendar year?

Answers

- Alex Rodriguez of the New York Yankees had 54 in 2007.
- Six.
- New Orleans' Drew Brees has done it in 43 consecutive games, starting in 2009.
- Notre Dame's Austin Carr had 61 points against Ohio in 1970.
- Sidney Crosby, Alex Ovechkin and Evgeni Malkin.
- Twenty-five consecutive years.
- Steffi Graf, in 1988.

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14 Help Wanted

STUDENTS GET CASH ON THE SPOTS! For gently used clothing/accessories & furniture. No appt.necessary! - Sandy's Savvy Chic Resale Boutique 2906 NW 13th St. 372-1226 sandysresale.com 8-15-12-25-14

Looking for summer employment? The City Of Gainesville's Parks & Recreation division is looking for people to run its pools and summer camp. Earn great pay while having fun! AA/EOE/DFWP Apply today at www.cityofgainesville.jobs 6-14-12-30-14

PHONE REPS NEEDED ASAP Flexible Shifts, Must be Articulate and Reliable. 371-5888 x 111 or 6020 NW 4th Pl, Ste G 6-21-28-14

Food Science and Human Nutrition at the University of Florida is conducting a research study for women 20-40 yo on birth control pills. Compensation given. For details call Bonnie Coats at 273-9014 8-15-40-14

House Director for Sorority @ UF to start summer or fall. Seeking someone who enjoys working with students, employees, vendors. Coordinating meals, menu, repairs, assisting students with in house events. Must be flexible and personable. Cover letter with salary requirements and resume email to lisa@fratmgmt.com. Room, board and salary with position. 5-29-12-19-14

Smokers needed in a UF study assessing effects of exercise on cravings/withdrawal. COMPENSATION provided! Call 336-406-3706 or email uflsmokelab@gmail.com 5-31-7-14

COUCH POTATOES (age 50+) needed to participate in UF study assessing ease of use and likability of a pedometer. COMPENSATION provided! Call 336-406-3706 or email fitbit10000@gmail.com 5-29-6-14

SUMMER WORK GREAT PAY \$14.50 base/appt -FT/PT openings Customer sales/service all ages 17+ CALL NOW 352-505-9105 8-15-12-25-14

LOCAL CATERER NEEDS: Experienced Waitstaff, Bartenders, Loaders. Call 352-215-1363 5-31-12-6-14

RGIS INVENTORY SPECIALISTS Part-time hourly work Flexible schedules \$8 an hour to start Apply online at RGIS.COM 6-7-12-8-14

Handyman / Helper Needed Need an extra couple hundred dollars a month? Flexible hours, must be dependable, trustworthy, independent worker with reliable transportation. Jobs range from yardwork, painting, odd jobs, etc. putmetowork2012@gmail.com 5-31-12-5-14

OFFICE ASSISTANT Both summer & fall. Minimum 25 hrs/wk. Open between 11am & 6pm. Monday through Friday. Flexible around class schedule. oma.office@yahoo.com 5-31-12-5-14

SUMMER TUTOR Looking for an energetic education major to tutor girls ages 9 - 11 for the summer. They will need tutoring in math, speech, vocabulary and English skills. Please email your resume to hr@gleim.com. 6-5-12-4-14

14 Help Wanted

Great job opportunity for student or someone seeking part time work! We are looking for a team member with exceptional people skills, a quick-learner, and multi-tasker. This is a patient-centric, busy, eye care practice. Hours will be full time from June 15th to August 31st. Then for the rest of the year part time hours Monday, Wednesday, Friday, from 9-6. Please view our website to familiarize your self with our office and staff. (\$9.50 per hour) Send resume and cover letter to staff@starlingeyegroup.com 6-12-12-5-14

Help Wanted: Service/Parts Dept. - Counter staff. Need ambitious, well organized person for growing business. Auto and customer service experience a plus. Apply at Tomlinson Motor Company 3580 N Main GVL 6-7-12-4-14



Obtain valuable experience for your future!! **Gainesville Health & Fitness** is looking for highly motivated, responsible, hardworking individuals for the following positions...
Floor Instructors
Receptionists
Maintenance/Housekeeping
Overnight positions available
Internships for Fall 2012
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by David L. Hoyt 5-29-12

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UF falls in SEC semis, earns No. 1 seed

► FLORIDA WILL HOST NCAA REGIONAL THIS WEEKEND.

JOE MORGAN
Alligator Staff Writer

After a lengthy stay in Alabama, the Gators will be home for a while.

Coming off a semifinal loss to Vanderbilt in the Southeastern Conference Tournament, Florida earned the No. 1 overall seed and will host Georgia Tech, Bethune-Cookman and College of Charleston at one of 16 NCAA Regionals. UF will face BC on Friday night at 7 at McKethan Stadium.

"We're excited to be in it," coach Kevin O'Sullivan said. "We're excited to be home."

The Gators earned the nation's top seeding despite a ninth-inning collapse against the Commodores on Saturday. Leading 4-3, Florida closer Austin Maddox surrendered five runs and six stolen bases to Vanderbilt, including a successful triple steal with the bases loaded.

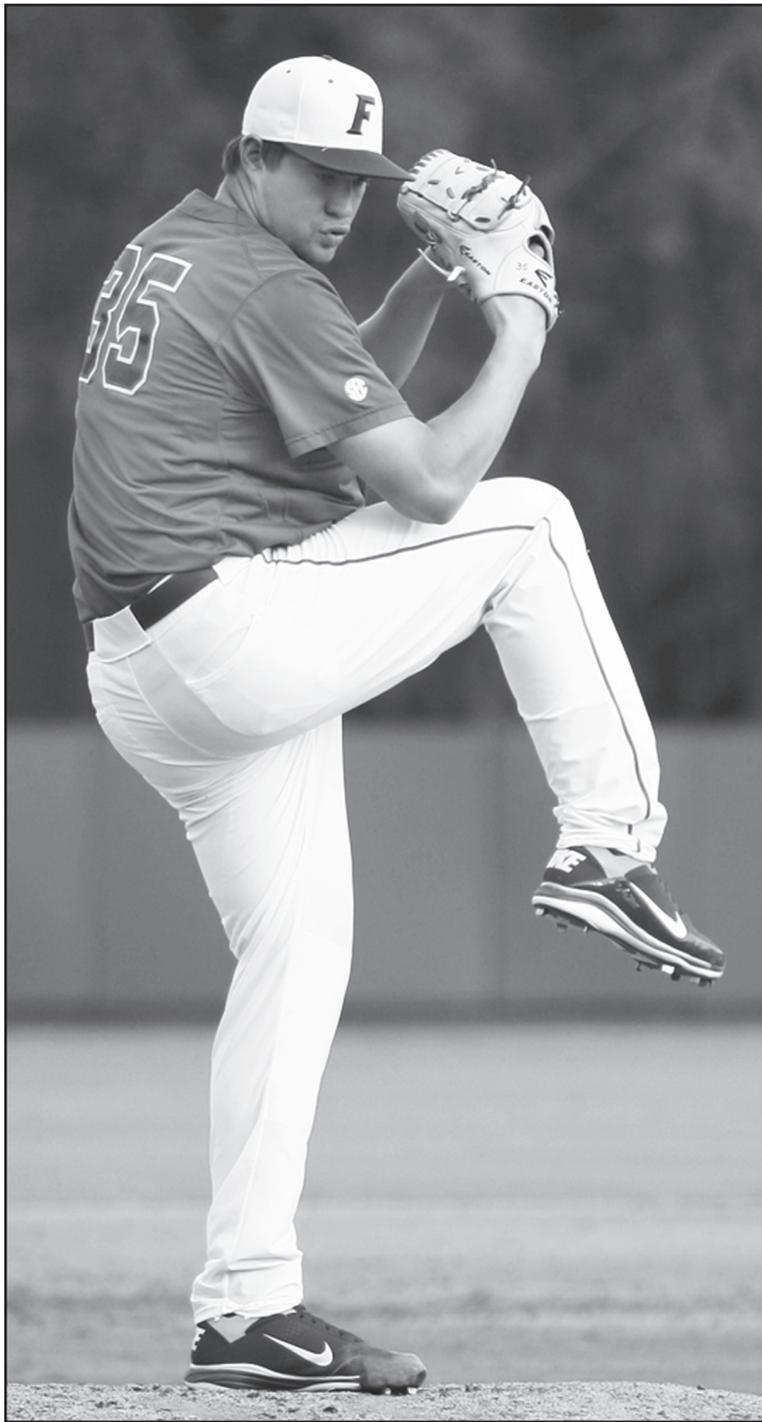
UF brought the winning run to the plate in the bottom half of the ninth, but ultimately lost to Vandy 8-6.

"We got exposed there in the ninth," O'Sullivan said. "Nobody likes to lose, but I'm glad it happened this week and not next. ... I'm not going to let the ninth inning here determine how we played in this tournament."

While the Gators were gone, they rediscovered their hitting stroke. Before playing Samford on May 15, Florida had slumped in May with a .244 batting average and just three runs per game.

However, UF reversed its fortunes shortly thereafter. The

SEE BASEBALL, PAGE 15



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Brian Johnson pitches against Florida Gulf Coast on March 10. He threw his first career complete game against South Carolina on Saturday.

Florida squanders late lead in Final Four loss to Syracuse

JOSH JURNOVOY
Alligator Writer

STONY BROOK, N.Y. — The Gators missed two big opportunities in the Final Four on Friday night. However, only one of them was evident during their game.

Top-seeded Florida squandered a golden opportunity when it let a 12-5 lead with less than 12 minutes remaining disappear in its semifinal game against Syracuse en route to a 14-13 sudden-death overtime loss.

There were several chances to put the game away, but the Gators struggled to get possession down the stretch. Goaltender Mikey Meagher turned the ball over in the second-to-last minute of regulation with Florida up by one goal.

But Florida not only botched its chance to play in the national championship game, they also missed out on the opportunity to do so against a team the players felt they were capable of beating: Northwestern, which defeated Syracuse 8-6 in the national title game.

Despite the disappointing end to the season, coach Amanda O'Leary emphasized the enormity of what the team had accomplished.

"I'm proud of my team and proud of our season as this is just the third year of the program," she said.

On the last day of the regular season, UF captured its second consecutive American Lacrosse Conference regular season championship with an 8-7 win over the Wildcats in Evanston, Ill., snapping Northwestern's 20-game home winning streak.

Then, in Gainesville, on May 5, the Gators handed the Wildcats their worst loss in more than nine years, a



O'Leary

14-7 blow-out in the finals of the ALC Tournament.

While it is no easy task to beat a team three times in one season, some Florida players made it clear just how hard it was to watch Northwestern advance farther than they did.

"The fact that northwestern is going to the championship when we beat them TWICE this season just pisses me off, we should be playing them," junior defender Sam Farrell said on her Twitter account (@goinSAM_) following the Wildcats' semi-

SEE LAX, PAGE 14

FIRE JOE MORGAN

Crawford deserves rotation spot over Whitson in postseason

Florida coach Kevin O'Sullivan is playing the waiting game and it's time to stop. The Gators can no longer wait for Karsten Whitson to find himself.

In arguably his most important start of the season, Whitson lasted just 2.1 innings in an 8-6 loss to Vanderbilt in the Southeastern Conference Tournament semifinals Saturday.

Coming into this season, Whitson had high expectations after a stellar freshman campaign. He recorded a



Joe Morgan
twitter: @joe_morgan

2.40 ERA, a .235 batting average against and a 3.3-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio in 97.1 innings in 2011.

This season, Whitson's ERA is 3.41 and his batting average against is .296 in 31.2 frames. His strikeout-to-walk ratio: 1-to-1.

Whitson has pitched at least five innings in only two of his 10 starts this season: once

against Cal State Fullerton on Feb. 18 and again at Auburn on May 19.

The sophomore right-hander has struggled with injuries. A groin issue sidelined Whitson during fall practice and once he recovered, his arm wasn't in shape.

As a result of his physical predicaments, Whitson's lack of command — usually overcome by his velocity — has proven costly.

SEE JOE, PAGE 16



Help Wanted

Men's tennis coach Andy Jackson resigned after 11 seasons. Women's golf coach Jan Dowling stepped down after three years. Read more at alligatorSports.org.

Poll Question

Who should be Florida's No. 3 starter in the postseason: Karsten Whitson or Jonathon Crawford? Vote online at alligatorSports.org.

Poll Results

Which feat is more impressive: women's playing in three straight national title matches or lacrosse advancing to the Final Four in just its third season?
52% TENNIS
48% LAX
738 total votes

Gators will return entire starting lineup next season

LAX, from page 13

nal win over the Terrapins.

Barring any transfers, the Gators are set to return every player from this year's team except for senior attacker Caroline Cochran, who missed most of the season after suffering a torn left ACL on Feb. 15.

No other semifinalist team will be as lucky as each loses multiple starters to graduation.

The Wildcats will lose 2011 Tewaaraton Award winner and the tournament's Most Outstanding Player this year in Shannon Smith along with goalkeeper Brianne LoManto, who are both seniors.

Syracuse will graduate Sarah Holden. The senior attacker scored seven goals in two games against the Gators this season in-

cluding the game-winner on Friday.

And Maryland loses its third and fourth leading scorers to graduation in Kristy Black and Kerri Ellen Johnson.

"The fact that northwestern is going to the championship when we beat them TWICE this season just pisses me off, we should be playing them."

Sam Farrell, UF defender
via Twitter (@goinSAM_)

Thus, the Gators have another big opportunity next year.

"Getting here means everything," Meagher said.

"I knew we were going places when I stepped onto campus in Gainesville. It's terrible that we lost, but we are definitely going places."



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Mikey Meagher (5) defends a goal against Northwestern on May 5. Meagher, who made 15 saves in Friday's loss in the Final Four, surrendered 10 second-half goals on 22 shots against Syracuse.

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Johnson named to All-SEC Tournament team as pitcher, DH

BASEBALL, from page 13

Gators have averaged 5.9 runs in their last eight games, including six contests with double-digit hits.

A notable contributor to the offensive outburst was Brian Johnson, whose effort in the batter's box earned him the designated hitter spot on the All-SEC Tournament Team.

Johnson hit .300 during the eight-game stretch away from home with seven RBI, including a .375 clip during the SEC Tourney.

"I'm just keeping things simple," Johnson said. "Seeing the ball, hitting the ball. I don't really think too much. I just hit it where it's pitched."

The junior southpaw also earned All-SEC Tournament

team recognition as a pitcher for his outing against South Carolina. Facing the defending national champion Gamecocks in an elimination game Friday, Johnson gave up just two earned runs in his first career complete game.

In May, Johnson has logged 21 innings in three starts and posted a 1.29 ERA.

"I'm letting it all hang out," Johnson said Friday. "I'm just

throwing it with all I've got."

Florida also received a boost from freshmen Justin Schafer and Casey Turgeon, who overcame their inexperience to garner selections to the All-SEC Tournament Team.

Turgeon batted .429 and knocked in four runs; Schafer recorded a base hit in each game, and he totaled three RBI in Hoover, Ala.

With solid production from the bottom of the lineup and a 2.38 ERA by the starting rotation, O'Sullivan believes the Gators' best baseball lies ahead in the postseason.

"Our bullpen's in good shape, we've been swinging the bat better," O'Sullivan said. "I do like where we're at right now."

Contact Joe Morgan at joemorgan@alligator.org.

2012 NCAA Baseball Tournament



Gainesville Regional

1. Florida
2. Georgia Tech
3. Charleston
4. Bethune-Cookman

Raleigh Regional

1. NC State
2. Vanderbilt
3. UNC Wilmington
4. Sacred Heart

Charlottesville Regional

1. Virginia
2. Oklahoma
3. Appalachian St.
4. Army

Gary Regional

1. Purdue
2. Kentucky
3. Kent St.
4. Valparaiso

Waco Regional

1. Baylor
2. Dallas Baptist
3. UT-Arlington
4. Oral Roberts

Columbia Regional

1. South Carolina
2. Clemson
3. Coast Carolina
4. Manhattan

Eugene Regional

1. Oregon
2. Fullerton
3. Indiana St.
4. Austin Peay

Houston Regional

1. Rice
2. Arkansas
3. Sam Houston St.
4. Prairie View

Chapel Hill Regional

1. North Carolina
2. East Carolina
3. St. John's
4. Cornell

Tucson Regional

1. Arizona
2. New Mexico St.
3. Louisville
4. Missouri

Palo Alto Regional

1. Stanford
2. Pepperdine
3. Michigan St.
4. Fresno St.

Tallahassee Regional

1. Florida St.
2. Mississippi St.
3. Samford
4. UAB

Los Angeles Regional

1. UCLA
2. San Diego
3. New Mexico
4. Creighton

College Station Regional

1. Texas A&M
2. TCU
3. Mississippi
4. Dayton

Baton Rouge Regional

1. LSU
2. Oregon St.
3. Belmont
4. La.-Monroe

Coral Gables Regional

1. Miami (Fla.)
2. UCF
3. Missouri St.
4. Stony Brook

Fri. 6/1 1 PM ET

3	Charleston	37-20
2	Georgia Tech	36-24

Fri. 6/1 7 PM ET

1	Florida	42-18
4	Bethune-Cookman	34-25

Top 8 Seeds

1. Florida
2. UCLA
3. Florida State
4. Baylor
5. Oregon
6. North Carolina
7. LSU
8. South Carolina

Maegan Dennis / Alligator Staff

Will advances to NCAA Singles semifinals, loses in three sets

ADAM LICHTENSTEIN

Alligator Writer

Allie Will's run in the NCAA Women's Tennis Singles Championships came to an end on Sunday when she fell to Stanford's Nicole Gibbs in three sets.

Will came into the match ranked No. 1 in the country but was unable to come back and defeat Gibbs after forcing a third set.

"Allie played her best match of the entire tournament," coach Roland Thornqvist said. "It was a great match against [Gibbs]. You have to give a lot of credit to [Gibbs], she found a way in the third set."

Gibbs jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead and took the first set 6-2.

Will fought back in the second, breaking Gibbs twice and taking a 3-0 lead. Gibbs evened the match at 4-4, but Will broke back and was able to take the second set 6-4.

"Allie really made it tough and physical in the second set with some deep, big, heavy forehands in the second set and was able to wear [Gibbs] down a little," Thorn-

qvist said.

In the third set, Gibbs pushed ahead, getting an early break point.

Will wasn't able to hold Gibbs off and fell behind 5-1. Will then won eight of the next 11 points and cut Gibbs' lead to 5-3, but Gibbs put Will away and won the set 6-3.

"There was a pivotal game when [Gibbs] was up 3-1 and made it 4-1," Thornqvist said.

"She found a way to get that game and that was the difference. If it had been 3-2, it would have been a different match"

Will had dominated the singles competition until this match, winning her first four matches in straight sets.

In doubles play, Will and her playing partner, Sofie Oyen, fell in the first round to Baylor's team of Ema Burgic and Nina Secerbegovic.

Will ends her junior season with a 26-3 record, and a 109-13 mark for her career.

UF Tennis

MEN'S GOLF

Florida competing in 12th straight NCAA Championship

STAFF REPORT

For the last 11 years the UF men's golf team has made it to the NCAA Championships, and today they will mark their 12th consecutive appearance. Although the Gators finished runner-up at the NCAA East Regional, they are trying to stay focused to avoid getting distracted by the idea of winning the title.

"Well I think anybody that's going has to expect just to play as well as they can," freshman J.D. Tomlinson said. "You can't expect to win, but that's the goal for everybody in the tournament."

Last season Florida finished first in both the Southeastern Conference Championship and the NCAA Regionals. However, they fell apart in the NCAA Championships finishing 23rd. But at this year's championship in Pacific Palisades, Calif., Florida will be fielding three new players.

Included in that group of first-year Gators is junior T.J. Vogel, who transferred to Florida from USC last summer. According to Tomlinson, the team will be looking to Vogel for advice due to his prior experience

on the course.

"I know where to miss, which is huge out there," Vogel said. "The greens are going to be very fast and firm, so I know the correct spots on the greens where to miss. I know how certain putts break, and I just know where to be on that golf course because it's very difficult."

The Gators will play in three straight rounds, and then will advance to match play if they are one of the top-eight teams.

Florida has had six top-three finishes in the last eight tournaments including two wins.

Coach Buddy Alexander hopes that the team's constant improvement throughout the season will help them make it to the final day of play.

"We knew this was going to be a rebuilding year for us. We lost some great players, a first, second and third team All-American and replaced them with freshmen essentially," Alexander said. "But they've done a nice job, they've gotten a lot better and I'm proud of that."



Alexander

UF has 21 athletes qualify for NCAA Outdoor Championships

KATIE AGOSTIN

Alligator Staff Writer

This weekend the Gators had 21 athletes qualify for 19 events at the NCAA East Preliminary Round.

Although Florida was among the teams that secured multiple spots for the NCAA Outdoor Championships, one spot wasn't enough for five Gators.

Darshay Davis, Dedric Dukes, Lanie Whittaker, Tony McQuay and Marquis Dendy will all be going to Des Moines, Iowa, to represent their team in two different events.

"This meet is all about finishing in the top 12," said coach Mike Holloway about the NCAA East Preliminary Round.

The weekend started off as Dendy qualified in the men's long jump with a personal record. He then went on to have another record-breaking performance on Friday as he qualified in the triple jump with a mark of 15.55 meters.

"We knew Marquis was a dual threat when we recruited him, and he and Coach (Brian) O'Neal have been working very hard to see him develop through the season," Holloway said.

"We don't think he's there yet, but we know his potential and I couldn't be more pleased."

Davis continued the momentum on Friday by qualifying in the 100 meters, followed by the 200 meters on Saturday.

"I'm so pleased with Darshay's effort," Holloway said.

"What a tremendous weekend for her to qualify in both the 100 and 200. She's really setting herself up for a special week at NCAAs."

"In just [Dukes's] first season with us, having enrolled here in January and just working with us for a few months, he's qualified for NCAAs with a great race in the 200."

Mike Holloway

UF track and field coach

Dukes and McQuay qualified in the 4x400 meter relay on Saturday with a then-facility record-breaking time of 3:03.64. Earlier in the day, Dukes broke his personal record in the 200 meters to finish fifth and secured his first appearance at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

"I can't say enough about Dedric Dukes," Holloway said.

"In just his first season with us, having enrolled here in January and just working with us for a few months, he's qualified for NCAAs with a great race in the 200."

On Friday, McQuay qualified in the 400 meters with a season best of 45.41. The reigning U.S. Champion will be hoping to grab his first NCAA title.

"Tony is Tony and he did what he always does, he competes," Holloway said.

Like McQuay, Whittaker was able to qualify in both the 4x400 meter relay in addition to the 400 meters.

"With Lanie, I'm so proud of her making her first NCAA Outdoors on her own and can't wait to see what she'll do in Des Moines," Holloway said.

The Gators will begin competition in Iowa on June 6 with the men looking to break their three-year streak of top-three finishes and grab the title.

Florida has lost by a combined five points to three-time defending national champion Texas A&M in the last three seasons at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

Contact Katie Agostin at kagostin@alligator.org



Breet Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Lanie Whittaker runs at the Tom Jones Classic on April 21. Whittaker will anchor the 4x400 relay team at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

JOE, from page 13

O'Sullivan has been cautious with the No. 9 overall pick in the 2010 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft, but the excuses for Whitson's struggles have worn thin.

Either Whitson is hiding an injury or he's in a very dark place on the mound. Considering the care O'Sullivan has taken with Whitson this season, the former seems unlikely. Therefore, I lean towards the latter.

Either way, it's time for the Gators to find a new third starter, and the man for the job is Jonathon Crawford.

In Whitson's prolonged absence this season, Crawford has made 12 starts and thrown 62 innings.

His 3.34 ERA ranks second only to Hudson Randall for UF pitchers with at least six starts.

Compared head-to-head with Whitson, Crawford has been the better pitcher in 2012.

In roughly half as many innings, Whitson has 16 walks compared to Crawford's 22.

Whitson has six wild pitches compared to Crawford's four, and Crawford has surrendered one more extra-base hit.

In addition to his solid numbers, Crawford

proved his worth in the SEC Tournament opener against Auburn on May 22.

Crawford gave up just one unearned run in 5.2 innings and struck out nine batters against the Tigers in a 6-1 Gators' victory.

Following Florida's 8-6 loss to Vanderbilt on Saturday, O'Sullivan summed up each of his starting pitchers in a few words.

Randall: "Hudson Randall has been really sharp for us all year long. Even when he's not as sharp as he normally is, he still keeps you in the game."

Brian Johnson: "Brian Johnson's been throwing the ball as good — actually, he is

throwing the ball as well as he ever has."

Crawford: "Johnny Crawford's been really, really good."

Whitson: "Obviously, he's been very good in the postseason."

While Whitson's 1.89 postseason ERA from Florida's College World Series run last year may tempt O'Sullivan to keep going to the Whitson well this time around, he shouldn't.

Relying on Whitson to pitch any better than he did during the regular season is foolish.

Give Crawford the ball.

Contact Joe Morgan at joemorgan@alligator.org.

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