



# Tattoos, piercings in the workplace influence job-hunting

► **TWO IN FIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS HAVE BODY MODIFICATIONS.**

**BROCK SENG**

Alligator Contributing Writer

Cody Thomas' father thinks his son's life is ruined.

Thomas, a 19-year-old networking services sophomore at Santa Fe College, has size 4-gauge, 5.189 mm, stretched earlobes.

"I can tell, when people are looking at me, that they think I may not be up to society's standards," Thomas said. "They feel that since I have these holes in my ears that there may be something wrong with me."

According to a recent article in Inked Magazine, a tattoo lifestyle magazine, two out of five students have some sort of body modification.

Michelle Clarkson, a 19-year-old UF journalism sophomore, has two tattoos, one on her wrist and one on her foot. Her wrist tattoo is for her sister, who was diagnosed with cancer, and her foot tattoo repre-

sents her faith.

She said people have come up to her and asked her the meaning behind her tattoos, which she appreciates. She said she doesn't believe she is viewed as a delinquent because her tattoos are "delicate looking."

The professional world differs from the way society views a tattoo, especially businesses in the public eye.

Post-graduation job hunting is a difficult time for students with the U.S. economy still on a steady decline, according to a July 23 CNBC article.

Thomas doesn't believe a body modification would hurt his chance at a job.

"I've talked with people in networking and they do not care about your physical appearance, they care more about your intelligence," he said. "That is what it usually comes down to."

Clarkson said she decided to be safe and got her tattoos on parts of her body she can cover easily.

Individual business policies on the body modification issue differ

**SEE TATTOO, PAGE 4**



Kristina Camara / Alligator

Santa Fe College health science freshman Charles Quinlan, 32, endures the pain of a custom tattoo by Mike Taylor, 23, at Addiction Tattoo and Piercing, 819 W. University Ave., on Sunday evening.

## Fair encourages students to bike, bus, carpool to class

**BRANDON SHENK**

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF's Office of Sustainability will host an Alternative Transportation Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday on the Reitz Union North Lawn.

Students can learn different modes of transportation and the benefits of using them.

The fair will feature both student organizations and local businesses, including Gators for a Sustainable Campus, Mr. Goodbike and the Regional Transit System.

"At the fair, we'll be doing small seminars on basic repairs, things such as chain maintenance and tire repairs," said Student Government Bike Repair manager Sergio Gomez, 21.

In addition to cycling, attendees can learn about using buses and carpooling.

Office of Sustainability staff member Michael Amish said there will also be a limited amount of free T-shirts given to people who pledge to not use a single-occupancy vehicle on One Less Car Day, Oct. 31.

*"The key thing is to not just do it one day, but every day."*

**Michael Amish**

Office of Sustainability staff

UF has an overall goal of being carbon neutral by 2025, and transportation-related carbon emissions account for about 10 percent of UF's carbon footprint, according to a press release.

The fair aims to encourage students to help the community in cutting back.

"The key thing is to not just do it one day, but every day," Amish said.

## POLITICS

# UF College Democrats and Republicans to host 9/11 tribute together for first time

**SAMANTHA SHAVELL**

Alligator Staff Writer

At about 9 a.m. on Sept. 11, 2001, Lindsey Kelly was in her third-grade math class.

When two planes crashed into the World Trade Center, her teacher turned on the TV in the classroom to watch the news. Eight-year-old Kelly didn't really understand what was going on.

Now, 11 years later, the 19-year-old nursing sophomore feels the impact of the terrorist attack.

"It was a big event that changed everything about the United States," Kelly said.

The events of 9/11 brought Americans together.

Today at UF, amid controversy and mud-slinging as the two major political parties campaign for the presidency, they're still together.

The UF College Democrats and UF Col-

lege Republicans will collaborate for the first time to co-sponsor a tribute ceremony at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Plaza of the Americas. Attendees will light candles, observe a moment of silence and join in a short prayer.

Representatives from each group will speak, said UF College Republicans Chairwoman Katy Melchiorre.

The 21-year-old political science and telecommunication senior said the organization has held a candlelight vigil every year since she was a freshman.

She said it's nice to take a break from campaigning and work together.

"This means a lot to everybody," Melchiorre said. "It's not a partisan issue."

Billy Farrell, UF College Democrats president, agreed.

"We are all Americans," the 20-year-old

**SEE 9/11, PAGE 4**

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**UF actors put a modern twist on the Shakespeare classic**

Students will perform "Measure for Measure," pg 8.



**Therapy dogs help students cope with stress**

UF's Counseling and Wellness Center has two therapy dogs, pg. 3.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING

## CHISPAS hosting event for immigration reform

Join CHISPAS tonight for "Theatre of the Oppressed: Modern Day Slavery" at 7 p.m. in Reitz Union Room 355. Learn about the atrocities migrant farmworkers face in the fields through an interactive theatrical experience. This event is part of CIW Week of Action 2012, which will feature events addressing farmworker justice, immigration reform, and issues of fair food and sustainability.

## The Entrepreneurship Club at UF presents: Abhi Lokesh, CEO and co-founder of Fracture

The keynote speaker, Abhi Lokesh, will talk about his experiences founding Fracture — a Gainesville tech company that prints digital images directly onto glass. Join The Entrepreneurship Club at UF for a night of free food, networking and the tools to think, innovate and succeed. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. in Hough Hall Room 240. Email ronnyfherrera@ufl.edu for more information.

## Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice hosts CIW Week of Action

Today, 7 p.m.: "Farmworker Poverty: An Interactive Play" performed by UF CHISPAS in Reitz Union Room 335. Wednesday, 7 p.m.: Meet the Coalition of Immokalee Workers at a community potluck and presentation at Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 1236 NW 18th Ave. Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Modern Day Slavery Museum on Plaza of the Americas. Thursday, 1 p.m.: Talk and multimedia presentation by CIW farmworkers in UF Smathers Library Room 1A. Friday, 5 p.m.: CIW Farmworker Protest Action at Westgate Publix at University Avenue and 34th Street.

## Scholarship informational meeting

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar Chapter at UF is hosting a scholarship informational meeting. Come to La Casita on University Avenue, across from Library West, at 7 p.m. to learn about a variety of scholarships

## FORECAST

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
PARTLY CLOUDY 87/69	PARTLY CLOUDY 87/70	PARTLY CLOUDY 86/70	PARTLY CLOUDY 87/70	PARTLY CLOUDY 88/70

(merit-based, need-based, minority, etc.) that are available. There will be free food.

## Café Cultural: Voter

**Registration Workshop**  
Join the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures on Wednesday at 6 p.m. to discuss the importance of voting rights activism in creating effective change for the community. Get registered to vote or certified to register others to vote. Free food and refreshments will be provided. The event is open to everyone. Like "Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures" on Facebook for more information.

## UF Shakespeare in the Park "Hamlet" auditions

No acting experience? Not a theater major? Not a problem. Come out and audition for UF Shakespeare in the Park's "Hamlet" on Wednesday and Thursday from 7:20 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Matherly Room 10. No experience is required, and all majors are welcome. For more information, check out the Facebook page at "UF Shakespeare in the Park."

## Fall Seed and Plant sale

EdiblePlantProject.org, an all-volunteer, nonprofit edible plant and fruit nursery, is having a Fall Seed and Plant sale at the downtown Gainesville Farmers Market Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help before and after.

## Gainesville's Family Chiropractic Center hosts career night

Dr. Steven Schargel will host a career night at his chiropractic center, located at 1107 SW Second Ave., Wednesday at 7 p.m. The event is for students looking to learn more about the profession. The career night is open to all. For more

information, call 352-372-3784.

## Morris Morrison speaks at UF American Marketing Association meeting

Motivational speaker and entrepreneur Morris Morrison will make a presentation Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Stuzin Hall Room 101. The presentation is open to the public, but seating is limited. AMA Gators is a nationally recognized professional business organization providing students with hands-on marketing experience and opportunities to network with recruiters from Fortune 500 companies. For information, visit [www.amagator.com](http://www.amagator.com) or contact [amagator@gmail.com](mailto:amagator@gmail.com).

## Asthma study

If you are African-American and between the ages of 18 and 75 and have been diagnosed with asthma for more than a year, you may be eligible to be part of a research study at UF. Enroll at UF Shands Eastside Community Practice through December 2012. If interested, please call Cheri Knecht at 352-219-7366.

## Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to [skinonen@alligator.org](mailto:skinonen@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.

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The Independent Florida Alligator is a student newspaper serving the University of Florida, published by a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) educational organization, Campus Communications Inc., P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, Florida, 32604-2257. The Alligator is published Monday through Friday mornings, except during holidays and exam periods. During UF summer academic terms The Alligator is published Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Alligator is a member of the Newspaper Association of America, National Newspaper Association, Florida Press Association and Southern University Newspapers.

Subscription Rate: Full Year (All Semesters) \$100

The Alligator offices are located at 1105 W. University Ave. Classified advertising can be placed at that location from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays. Classifieds also can be placed at the UF Bookstore. © Copyright 2005. All rights reserved. No portion of The Alligator may be reproduced in any means without the written consent of an officer of Campus Communications Inc.

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# The doggie will see you now

► UF'S COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER HAS TWO THERAPY DOGS.

**DANIELLE BOYD**

Alligator Contributing Writer

Sigmund F. Welsch isn't your typical therapist.

As stressed-out students walk onto the second floor of the Counseling and Wellness Center, they're greeted by the 1-year-old Havanese with wet kisses.

"He gives kisses to all the students," said Paula Dragutsky, the second-floor secretary.

Psychologists Barbara Welsch and Jennifer Stuart have brought in therapy dogs like Sigmund for a year to help relieve students' anxiety during counseling sessions.

As new students flock to their first college classes, they can get overwhelmed with homework or feelings of loneliness, Welsch said.

"Something about petting animals lowers blood pressure," she said.

Sigmund, with his long, wispy hair and 11-pound frame, prefers to chase his toys — when he isn't jumping in patients' laps.

When students come in for an appointment, Sigmund sits with them during the counseling sessions. Welsch said he picks up on patients' body language and knows when to console them.

With the mounting stress of college classes,

she said, some students find him to be a welcome relief.

"Students become irritable, sad, anxious and have increased worries," Welsch said. "Some may display more physical symptoms like headaches or shoulder and neck pain."

To work at the counseling center, Sigmund had to pass tests, too. Welsch said he and other therapy dogs were tested on their ability to stay happy and cheerful while being subjected to unusual noises, numerous patients, and unfamiliar objects like wheelchairs and crutches.

Sigmund and Gabe, a 5-year-old shih tzu, are the only therapy dogs at the center, but there's talk of adding a third dog, Welsch said.

Therapy dogs were added to the counseling center, in part, because some students see counseling as intimidating. Welsch said a happy puppy can help patients relax and open up about what's bothering them.

"They smile more and interact with each other more," Welsch said.

Sigmund likes to make his presence known by prancing around the center, Welsch said. Gabe is quieter but will look at patients with his big eyes and cock his tiny head to the side, sometimes on command.

Dragutsky said these hard-working pups have made a big impact on many students and staff.

"I've seen amazing reactions how students interact," she said. "I can see that they can calm them and cheer them up sometimes."



Rachel Crosby / Alligator

Certified therapy dog Sigmund, a 1-year-old Havanese, and Barbara Welsch, licensed psychologist at UF's Counseling and Wellness Center, wait for patients on the second floor of the center on Wednesday afternoon.

## REMEMBERING 9/11

# Security increases prompted by 9/11 attacks still in place

**KATHRYN VARN**

Alligator Contributing Writer

Eleven years ago today, Lt. Todd Kelly was lobster fishing in the Keys. He climbed back in the boat to find others gathered around a radio, listening to reports that the twin towers had fallen.

Since that day, security has tightened across the nation, including in Gainesville, said Kelly, spokesman for the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

The biggest effects can be seen during Gators football games, said University Police Capt. Jeff Holcomb, who was working at the UPD dispatch center when he watched

the first tower go down.

Since the attacks, police presence at Gators games has increased, he said. They keep an especially close eye now on any event where thousands of people attend.

The Gainesville Fire Rescue has increased security at football games as well, said Chief Gene Prince, who spent 9/11 calling to see if the fire department could help and watching the events on TV.

The department set up detectors in the stadium to monitor chemicals and environments, Prince said, and there is a decontamination plan in case of a chemical emergency.

In fact, a federal mandate was instituted after 9/11 that required

more training to familiarize officers and fire rescuers with the National Incident Management System, Prince said.

*"If we were to have a large-scale emergency situation, all the responding agencies can now communicate and ensure that we can work together."*

**Todd Kelly**

Alachua County Sheriff's Office  
spokesman

"Those are things we continue to work on," Prince said.

Communication among various responding agencies improved as

well, Prince said.

There is now a federal radio mandate that requires law enforcement and fire rescue from neighboring counties to have a shared radio channel that they can all access in the case of a widespread emergency.

While this change has been nationwide, Prince and Kelly both said Alachua County has made a tremendous amount of progress with communication.

"If we were to have a large-scale emergency situation, all the responding agencies can now communicate and ensure that we can work together," Kelly said. "There's kind of a seamless transition in the

communication aspect."

Kelly also said officers are generally more aware of their surroundings.

Officers get to know who the mailmen and delivery people are at early hours of the morning, he said, so flags start coming up more often if an officer sees anything out of the ordinary.

The attacks shook police and fire officials as much as students and Gainesville residents, Kelly said. Eleven years later, it rallies them to work to make their city safer.

"We have the same range of emotions that everyone else did," Kelly said. "It definitely magnified our sense of purpose."

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## CAMPUS

# Students plant herbs for use in campus dining centers

**KATHERINE HAHN**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

UF students wanting to go green can start the old-fashioned way.

Student volunteers replanted two herb gardens outside Gator Corner Dining Center on Monday night and will be replanting two others at Fresh Food Company tonight.

The volunteers are planting mostly basil, parsley and cilantro, said Leah Chapman, sustainability manager for ARAMARK Higher Education. Other herbs, including chives, rosemary, oregano and spearmint will be planted, too.

Dining hall chefs will use the herbs, which will fully mature in about a month, in their cooking. Chefs in the Reitz Union will use them

while preparing food for catering events.

"During peak season, we hope to produce at least five pounds of herbs from each bed every week," Chapman said.

The herbs were planted in boxes instead of in-ground beds because raised beds are better for growing small amounts of herbs and vegetables, she said.

The gardens will be maintained by Gator Dining Services, UF's Office of Sustainability and the Physical Plant Division.

Entomology freshman Andre Szejner, 21, said he came to plant the herbs because he likes gardening.

Monday, he pulled out old basil and oregano plants to make room for new herbs.

"I will definitely be coming back if it's needed," he said.



Erin Winick / Alligator

Entomology freshman Andre Szejner, 21, plants herbs next to Gator Corner Dining Center with Leah Chapman, sustainability manager for ARAMARK Higher Education.

## Tebow fan turns gator into Heisman tribute

**EMILY PADGETT**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

Would you purchase a huge alligator standing in the Heisman trophy pose?

A 63-year-old Tim Tebow fan is selling the 13-foot-4-inch alligator on eBay. And for \$15,000, it can be yours.

The gator is wearing a Tim Tebow jersey and holding a football signed by all three UF Heisman quarterbacks.

"Anybody with any Gator blood at all should be real excited about this," said Don Perkins, the owner of the alligator.

He thinks Tebow, or "TimBo" as he calls him, might want it and said he has been trying to get in contact with him. Perkins plans to distribute fliers to Gainesville sports bars and businesses.

He thinks the gator would

look great on the football field and said he would bring it to a game, so it could be put next to the cheerleaders or paraded on the field at halftime.



Tebow

His cousin, Dennis Perkins, caught the close-to-record-size gator in the Fish eating Creek Wildlife Management Area in

November.

Dennis was called by law enforcement game wardens, Perkins said, to remove the 700-pound nuisance gator from the Palmdale area, because it was halting construction of a bridge over the creek.

Read the rest of this story at [www.alligator.org](http://www.alligator.org).

## UF first lady, residents raise money for St. Francis House Pet Care clinic

► THEY RAISED ABOUT \$200.

**ALYSSA NIEVES**  
Alligator Contributing Writer

Chris Machen sported her Gators gear as she held Satellite, an all-white cat, while other pets lined up to get their picture taken.

Earth Pets of Gainesville hosted a pet photography event Sunday to raise money for the St. Francis House Pet Care Clinic.

About 20 pet owners gathered at the pet store for professional photos by Glamour Pets, a photography group based out of Cape Canaveral. The event raised about \$200 by donating part of the photography fee to the clinic.

Karma Paws Couture featured its "Gameday Edition" canine attire for pups to wear for their photo shoot and for the

owners to buy.

Lara Shepard, a 22-year-old equine science and agribusiness at the College of Central Florida in Ocala, and her dog Roxy came to Earth Pets wearing a Karma Paws Couture doggy outfit, ready for her close-up.

*"Our clinic, as far as we know, is the only one of its kind."*

**Chris Machen**  
co-founder of the St. Francis House Pet Care Clinic

Machen, first lady of UF and a co-founder of the St. Francis House Pet Care Clinic, said she and Earth Pets owner Joy Drawdy started talking when the clinic opened five years ago and have been in close contact since.

"Our clinic, as far as we know, is the only one of its kind," Machen said.

The clinic offers free care to animals owned by homeless, unemployed and low-income residents of Alachua County.

"Not only are we taking care of the animals of these really wonderful people — who are some of the best pet owners we've ever met," she said, "but we also want to build a relationship with the person."

The clinic was based out of the St. Francis House for four years, then it temporarily moved to the Civic Media Center for four months. It has been at their current location on 501 SE Second St. for about six months.

Machen, who owns a Jack Russell terrier and a Labrador retriever, said she appreciates the community coming together to help pets.

"There's a lot of crazy cat people," Machen said. "I happen to be a crazy dog person."

## Some employers only ban excessive tattoos and piercings

**TATTOO**, from page 1

depending on the workplace.

Jonathan Goldberg, a lawyer at Goldberg Law Office, 1013 SW Second Ave., said his hiring policies are different.

"It's a personal preference," he said. "If the interviewee meets the standards for the job we aren't going to avoid them because they chose to express themselves."

Goldberg said the exception is if they had enough piercings or tattoos to make a client feel uncomfortable.

Then, he wouldn't be able to hire him or her.

Whether a tattoo or a stretched ear-

*"Be who you want to be and don't worry about what other people think about you," he said. "Once you do that, you lose sight of who you are in this world."*

**Cody Thomas**  
SFC networking services sophomore

lobe, there's no consensus about how employers feel about body modifications. Thomas had a solution to the worrying.

"Be who you want to be and don't worry about what other people think about you," he said. "Once you do that, you lose sight of who you are in this world."

## Students remember little of the day

**9/11**, from page 1

environmental science junior said.

Farrell said in the past, each group held its own tribute.

But with the current political divide due to election season, he said the two groups decided to join together.

They had attempted to co-sponsor events in the past, but this will be their first.

Like Kelly and many current college students, Farrell and Melchiorre were in elementary school when terrorists hijacked two American Airlines flights and two United Airlines flights that crashed into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and

a field in Pennsylvania, killing almost 3,000 people.

Farrell was in fourth grade but didn't know anything about it until he came home from school and watched the TV coverage. Melchiorre watched it in her fifth-grade classroom.

Although she had no idea what was happening at the time, she remembers it vividly.

She said future generations may not be able to grasp the significance of 9/11.

"We have to remind them how tragic it was," Melchiorre said.

Contact Samantha Shavell at [sshavell@alligator.org](mailto:sshavell@alligator.org).

## FOOD

# Canadian dish to make an appearance at Relish downtown

ALEX CATALANO

Alligator Staff Writer

Rob Roche is on the search to make the perfect poutine.

Roche, owner of Relish Big Tasty Burgers in downtown Gainesville, plans to bring the Canadian speciality snack to the city. Relish expects to be the first to bring the dish to Gainesville, but shipping issues have kept Relish from serving it.

Poutine, a dish of fries drenched in cheese curds and thick beef stock gravy, is common in Canada and in the American North, but it's a rarity in Florida.

Aubrey Helm, a 23-year-old server at the downtown Relish, said customers have been eager to try their poutine.

"I've had a couple people come back and ask, 'Do you have it yet? Do you have it?'" she said.

Ryan Edgar, 29-year-old manager of Relish downtown, said he's never seen the snack served in a restaurant in the state.

"The only time I've ever had it was when my buddy made it for Canada Day," he said.

Roche, who plans to charge \$4 per plate of poutine, has the right fries for the dish and is on the search for the perfect curds. He said he flew to Canada to find the right ones.

Roche knows what it looks like, tastes like and even what it sounds like when his teeth squeak against it.

The wrong curds will ruin a dish. "Rob and Edgar are severely Canadian, so they're on the search for

the perfect cheese," Helm said. "They don't want to expose Gainesville to an imperfect poutine."

Roche hasn't been able to find a cost-effective company that can ship the curds in time to maintain the freshness necessary to make the perfect poutine.

Curd samples will be shipped to the store Thursday from the Roth Käse plant in southern Wisconsin, Rob's third attempt at finding the right curds.

Kraig Depue, Roche's food supplier and a marketing associate for Sysco Foods, said cheese curds are a difficult item to get to Florida.

"We're trying to get him the right formula, but it's a very perishable product," he said. "Nobody makes it down here. It's just not a Southern thing."

Lauren Litchet, an 18-year-old physiology and kinesiology freshman, said she had never heard of poutine until she visited Canada.

"It was all over the place," she said. "It was advertised on every menu. It was at vendors on the street corners, fast food places and in little diners, especially burger-esque places and bars."

Edgar said the perfect poutine will be worth the wait.

"Eventually, we're going to have it, and it's going to be delicious," he said. "You just have to try it."

Contact Alex Catalano at [acatalano@alligator.org](mailto:acatalano@alligator.org).



Alex Catalano / Alligator Staff

Accounting junior Sam Coccia, 20, dumps bacon bits on an order of loaded french fries Friday afternoon at the Midtown location of Relish. Loaded fries are the closest meal to poutine, which is not yet available.

## Female couple denied Ladies Night discount at bowling alley

► THE PROMOTION WASN'T MEANT TO OFFEND, MANAGER SAID.

SHELBY WEBB

Alligator Staff Writer

Saereedun wanted to strap on some goofy shoes and have a fun date night at Splitz bowling alley.

It was Ladies Night, so Saereedun brought her girlfriend hoping one of them could bowl for free. But they left before they even saw the lanes.

"They asked if we had two men coming with us," Saereedun said.

The couple wasn't able to redeem a ladies'

night discount Aug. 23 after managers at Splitz told the two they needed a man with them.

The Ladies Night deal, according to the website, gives a woman a night of free bowling, but only if a man buys an all-you-can-bowl pass.

Will Lariscey, a manager at Splitz, said the bowling alley had the promotion to bring more men into the amusement center, something the alley has struggled with.

"We're not biased or against gay rights or anything like that," Lariscey said. "That's just how our promotion is set up. You can bring your nephew or your dad. As long as a guy buys it, you get yours free."

Saereedun's situation was complicated — she was born a man.

Saereedun prefers to be described as QT\*, where the Q stands for queer and the T\* stands for transgendered or bi-gendered. Saereedun is her drag performance name.

*"We're not biased or against gay rights or anything like that."*

Will Lariscey  
manager of Splitz

While Saereedun switches appearances regularly and describes her gender as "fluid," she was presenting herself as a female when she and her partner went to Splitz.

The dispute began when Saereedun approached the cashier, who told the couple they had to have a man with them to get a deal. The

cashier called management, who told Saereedun the same thing.

"Personally, I felt incredibly invisible," she said. "My partner was crying. She was very upset. She's not very comfortable being out in public, so to have this happen during one of our first times out together was horrible."

Katie Connolly, Splitz spokeswoman, said no one meant to make the couple upset.

She said Splitz values their LGBT customers and hosts the Rainbow League, a local gay bowling league, each week.

"We have 21-and-up nights, and 20-year-olds get mad," she said. "It doesn't matter what we do. We're always going to offend someone."

Contact Shelby Webb at [swebb@alligator.org](mailto:swebb@alligator.org).



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# Opinions

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012  
WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG/OPINIONS

Editorial

## Weekend Warriors

### Romney's plane, message don't take off

From the Democratic National Convention, President Obama headed to Florida to take on this notorious swing state of ours.

The election might come down to us, folks.

Florida and Ohio have been key states in recent elections; no Republican has ever won office without winning Ohio, and Florida has the most electoral college votes of the two with 29.

Should we feel special that Obama has spent the past few days touring our state? Or should we feel spoiled because we're most likely only getting this focused attention because of the nature of our election system?

While here, Obama visited a pizza shop where the owner, Scott Van Duzer, lifted the president off the ground.

Don't worry, he asked for permission first, according to the Tampa Bay Times.

A Secret Service agent assured that "I was all right as long as I didn't take him away," Van Duzer said.

Van Duzer's shop was chosen because of his work in the community.

"One of the reasons that we wanted to stop by is that Scott has been doing unbelievable work out of this pizza shop in promoting the importance of donating blood," Obama said. "And so, he has set some records here in Florida. He has received commendations from the White House, the surgeon general, he has galvanized and mobilized the local community and he's educating kids and folks all across the country on this issue."

The president even got a little sassy during his campaign's stop in Kissimmee.

According to the Orlando Sentinel, he started to poke fun at Mitt Romney, and other Republicans, for offering the same tax plan as they have for years: tax cuts for the wealthy.

"Tax cuts when times are good. Tax cuts when times are bad. Tax cuts to lose a few pounds. Tax cuts to improve your love life," Obama said. "I've cut taxes for folks who need it."

It seems as if Obama is connecting, or at least trying to connect, with the middle-class families and the minority vote in Florida; he even connected with Gainesville and football fans by doing a couple of "Gator chomps."

But while Obama's tour of Florida seems to help him get his point across, Romney's message is stalled on the tarmac.

We love when reality creates metaphors for us.

On Saturday night, the plane that carries Romney, his staff and the loyal-yet-exhausted press corps to and fro broke down.

To pass the time, reporters took to Twitter to complain hilariously with tweets like these posts from Bonney Kapp, a reporter with CBS News: "Romney charter turned power off+on twice now. reax in press section: that's what I do with my computer when it isn't working" and "Romney charter shuts down power for 3rd time bf takeoff. 'Control Alt Delete,' someone in press cabin says. #stillinRichmond."

The plane eventually reached Massachusetts safely.

Guess the robot apple doesn't fall far from the metaphor tree. Not even Romney's "Believe In America" plane did well this weekend.

## Reader response

**Today's question:** Do you have a tattoo?

**Monday's question:** Is school stressing you out?

**68% YES**  
**32% NO**  
56 TOTAL VOTES

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

Erin Jester  
EDITOR

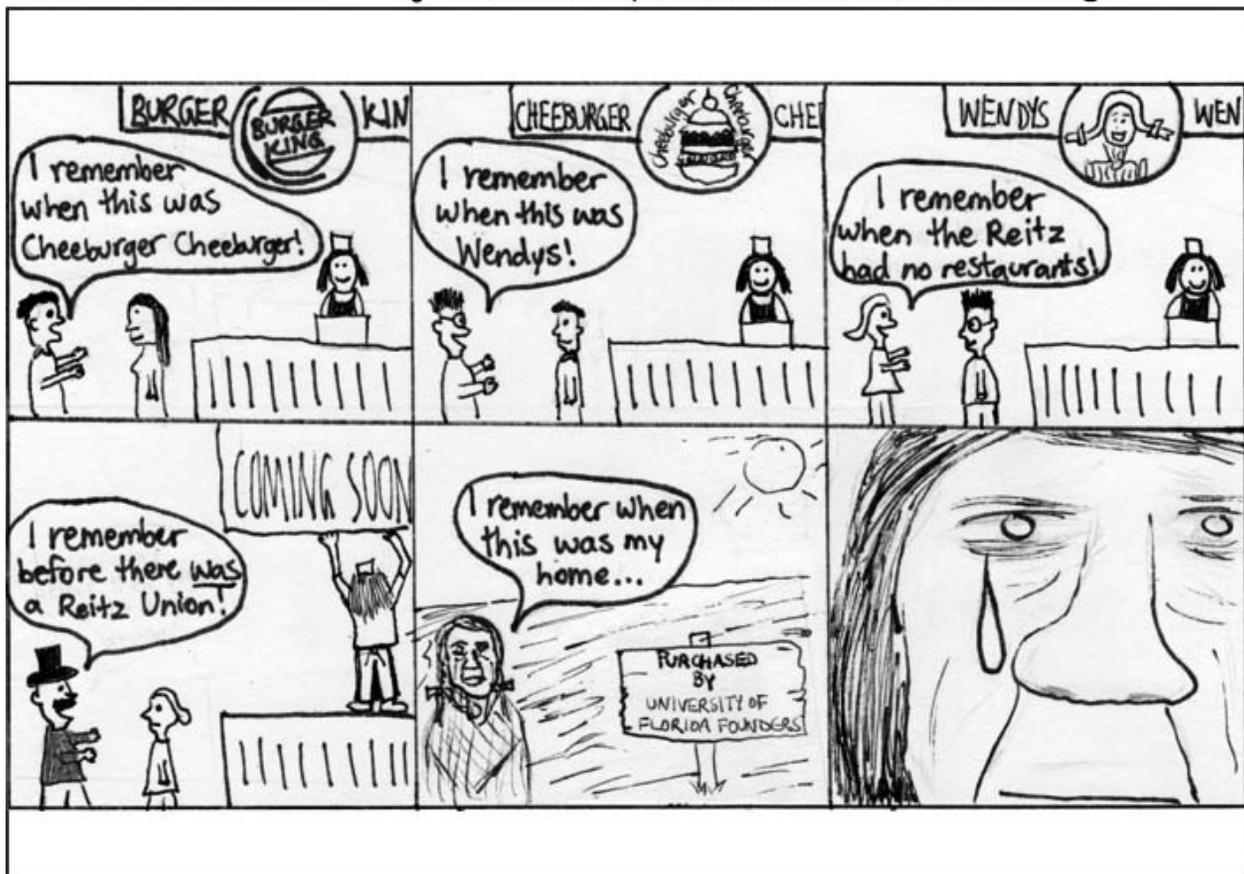
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MANAGING EDITOR

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OPINIONS EDITOR

the independent florida  
**alligator**

## LAKE MALICE

By Brad Hersch, Dan LeVine & Paul Rosenberger



Column

## Professors take the easy way out, too

There are many general truths about UF that students should know.

The most important: The higher the floor, the cleaner the bathroom.

The next most important: You ever notice how books in required classes — either general education or critical tracking, but more often the former — are plentiful, expensive and (more often than not) written, compiled or edited by your professor? In those classes, a significant portion of your grade comes from some assessment or other to make sure you "read" — purchased — the book and went to class. And these assessments are usually with some sort of online companion that comes along with the book that you have to pay for?

That's pretty standard.

The worst offender at UF is the Age of Dinosaurs class, taught halfheartedly by some aloof archaeologist who authored an overly expensive book and companion CD.

The class is of such obviously little academic merit it's hard to imagine why it's a staple of the course offerings. But imagine the reason I did:

Textbook companies are always in a tizzy to make money because they're selling a product people usually buy begrudgingly. Once books are reprinted, students resell them to each other, and the company sees none of that money. Worse yet, students don't want to read the books at all. But then computers came along and allowed the textbook companies to sell licenses to online companions, which the professors always seem to use.

Well, the Age of Dinosaurs professor realized if he wrote up a textbook and put all the tests on a CD that comes with the book, students would assemble a test bank of all the questions and distribute it, making the class an easy A for anyone willing to pay the toll. The students need a science credit, and Hera forbid they take a class where the professor requires thinking (or even reading) and gives you a C if you don't.

There's no way the professor is oblivious to this.

Textbook companies take great pains to ensure kids



**Chip Skambis**  
opinions@alligator.org

in premed classes can't cheat the system like those in Age of Dinosaurs can.

Hell, the chemistry department even scans all the lab reports in CHM2045L into a database and cross-references them to find any cheaters.

(I know this because I included the word "skanky" in one of

my lab reports and the scanner has an obscenity filter. Horvath was not pleased.)

The textbook company doesn't care if you read the book; they only care that you buy it — and so does the professor, so he can get his royalties.

So they've offered a way for students to satisfy their general education requirement and boost their GPA without ever opening a book. That's an offer a student would be hard-pressed to refuse.

Both the students and the professor know they're doing something unethical that benefits the both of them, so no one says anything about it.

This is why the standard talk most professors give about plagiarism and cheating drives me nuts.

They act as if it's because the members of my generation innately have worse ethics than those prior — and therefore we need to receive thorough lectures on copyright law and "academic integrity." But I think students are receiving mixed messages from professors about the subject.

That's why that unfortunate student who got caught cheating in a computer science class last Spring for having old test data had the gall to say, "I'm really angry at the fact that students got away with this in earlier semesters. We are taking the hit, and I believe that is unfair."

Students know this behavior isn't right, but some professors make it more OK than others.

Chip Skambis is a telecommunication senior. His column appears on Mondays.

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

UWire

## Electoral College limits voters' power

Another year, another election, another campaign urging us to "rock the vote." Sigh.

Politics has always fascinated me, but it's hard to get interested in the presidential election. I know my vote doesn't matter. A vote for incumbent President Barack Obama, a vote for Republican contender Mitt Romney — neither one matters.

No, not because I am just one lonely man with a single vote, but because of where I live.

As an occasionally left-leaning citizen, I know that in Oklahoma, it doesn't matter who I vote for.

If I vote for Romney, I'll just go along with what the rest of conservative Oklahoma will choose. In the 2008 election, we were the only state that voted in favor of Republican candidate John McCain in every single county.

We're so conservative, we voted Rick Santorum to be the Republican nominee.

Oklahomans may be upset Santorum didn't ultimately triumph, but I don't think they will protest by voting for Obama. Oklahomans will gladly let him keep the change.

A vote for Obama in Oklahoma is a complete waste. I am currently undecided, but I know if I vote for him, my vote will simply disappear because the majority in Oklahoma decides where all of our electoral votes go.

This is all thanks to the bizarre and uniquely American system we call the Electoral College. If we elected the president by popular vote, my decision would make a difference. The tally would be slightly larger for one candidate because of my individual vote. What a satisfaction that would be.

The strongest argument against the Electoral College in recent memory is the debacle from 2000 that culminated in the controversial Supreme Court case, *Bush v. Gore*. The national popular vote had already been decided and Gore won, but because of our voting system, we were forced to recount the votes in one state. Eventually, the Supreme Court intervened to rule whether Bush's previously announced victory in Florida would stand. Five conservatives outvoted four liberals in favor of Bush.

In the end, nine people previously appointed by various presidents decided the next leader of the free world. The only popular vote that mattered was that of nine justices. For Bush's detractors, this one incident is enough to prove the foolishness of the Electoral College.

In fact, 75 percent of Democrats polled days after the

Tom Rains  
UWire

judgment said they were for the abolition of the system.

Proponents of the Electoral College argue that the system gives states more power. This

isn't necessary. It makes more sense to count each vote individually rather than lump us arbitrarily by states. There is no reason to pit the states against each other when voting for president, and there is no reason to believe that all Oklahomans, for example, desire the same thing simply because they are Oklahomans.

Yes, we are a conservative state, but obviously not every Oklahoman has the same political viewpoint.

Others argue that small states need protection; the type only the electoral college can give them. This idea is outdated.

Back in the time of the Founding Fathers, states were fiercely independent and competitive. For this reason, the Great Compromise of 1787 created a House based on state population and a Senate based on equal representation from every state. We don't experience these same conflicts anymore.

Big states like Texas and California don't "gang up" on the Rhode Islands and Wyomings of America. If anything, the little states gang up on the big ones.

In 2000, for example, California received one electoral vote for every 615,848 people while Wyoming received one electoral vote for every 164,594 people.

That means every Wyomingite's vote was worth more than three times as much as a Californian's. That simply isn't a fair democracy.

Furthermore, the votes in swing states count for more than they do in a tried-and-true red or blue state's. Ohio and Pennsylvania receive extra attention due to their tendency to go either red or blue depending on the year and the candidates.

Oklahoma receives nothing in the way of political campaigning; everyone already knows where our votes will go.

Yes, the Founding Fathers were brilliant, but they didn't foresee a country of 50 states and a population of 300 million in the future. It's time for the popular vote to reign. After all, 62 percent of Americans are for it, though that statistic may be irrelevant to one who views the popular vote with disdain.

Following the popular vote is a clear and fair way to elect the president.

*Tom Rains is a columnist at the Oklahoma Daily at the University of Oklahoma.*

UWire

## The "moral question" has nothing to do with good parenting

I was raised by a gay, single father. A recent study by University of Texas at Austin sociology professor Mark Regnerus found that children raised by gay parents are at a disadvantage. One of the many responses to the study was the assertion by a conservative Christian group on campus that scientific studies are less important than "the moral question of homosexuality" when considering same-sex parenting. While I think the group's claim is disingenuous, taken at face value, the assertion is useful.

I find the assertion disingenuous because it tries to dismiss the scientific consensus of the last decade by shifting the debate from a scientific paradigm to a religious one seemingly more favorable for conservative Christians. The assertion, however, deserves attention because we can reflect on the fact that, as conservatives point out, many times studies have been used to shut out moral questions, close debates and diminish personal experience with the old adage, "The numbers don't lie." The problem for conservative Christians who make this argument is that proponents of gay rights are not the ones who have pushed dated sociological concepts regarding the child's best interest for years. The other side has, through its claim of gay parenting's detriment to the child. My experience causes me to agree that studies are not the final say but has also caused me to ask a different moral question: What value does individual sacrifice have in this debate?

I grew up in a small, upper-middle-class neighborhood in Dallas and attended the Ridgewood Park United Methodist Church there. At church, close friends would all gush with praise about the dedication of my single father, his forbearance of my impulsiveness (ADHD), his generosity, his teaching me to be available to those at the church who needed help cooking luncheons or cleaning up afterward and his insistence that we give our share of prayers, presence and service to the youth group.

Travis Knoll  
Speaking Out

The praise would turn less resounding after our friends in the congregation learned that my father was gay.

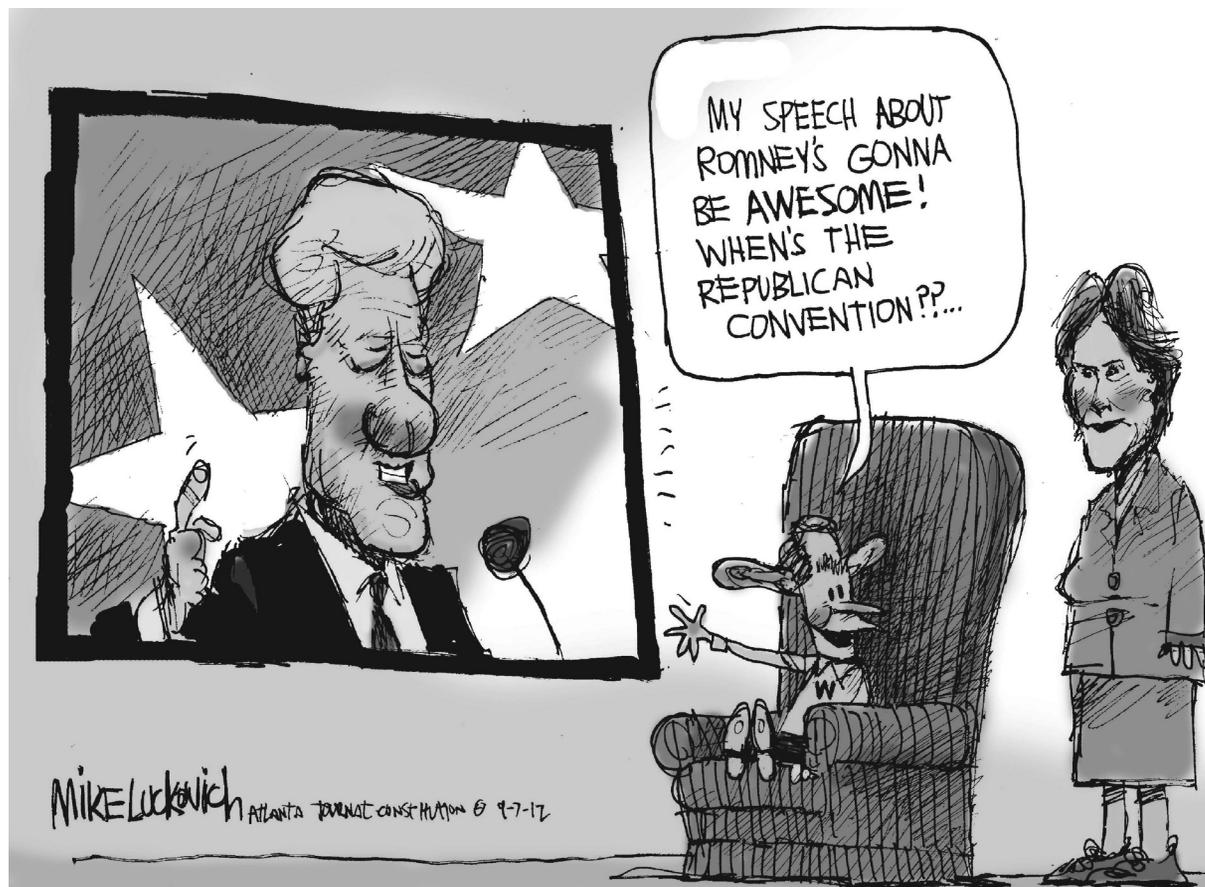
Notwithstanding all of his generosity and their previous praise of his parenting skills, my father could never again meet their parenting standards. The sometimes explicit, but mostly unstated, question — "He's amazing, but what would Travis be if he had been raised in a normal family?" — qualified my father's long list of parental accomplishments, which include raising me in every stage of my educational development, from special education in elementary school to the University of Texas, where I am a two-time UT Presidential Scholar.

My father searched out and found trusted childcare for the times he taught night classes. My father paid for the piano lessons that led me to attend Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, a fine arts magnet in Dallas. My father went to the aforementioned Methodist church because of its strong community and youth group when he could have been more at peace at the Cathedral of Hope or the United Church of Christ, both either gay or gay-affirming churches. My father was there to teach me ethics, critical thinking and, yes, religious principles.

As for the concept of "normal families," the man who is the very inspiration for those Christians who condemn "alternative family forms," was technically conceived out of wedlock, raising suspicion in his community (Mark 6:3), and, according to Matthew, had a genealogy full of heroic "disreputable" women who sacrificed for their families (Tamar, Rahab, Bathsheba and Ruth, the foreigner of the group).

It is not necessary to debate my father's homosexuality and its moral status in the Christian tradition any more than divorce or sex outside of wedlock. I am not asking Christian institutions to support same-sex marriages or to host religious same-sex weddings. However, in a liberal republic, the moral question is not about stereotypes of same-sex lifestyles any more than it is about Vegas marriages and general promiscuity. The "moral question" is, did my father, who was willing to make extraordinary sacrifices, have the right to raise me? Yes. Does he deserve due credit and praise for the job he did? Absolutely. My father's due is more consideration than to be judged on a "normal" distribution curve.

*Travis Knoll is a columnist for the Daily Texan at the University of Texas.*



## THEATER

# UF actors put a modern twist on a Shakespeare classic



Kelly Logan / Alligator

Second-year master of fine arts student Laine Evans Nelson, 23, rehearses for Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure." Performances will be in the Nadine McGuire Black Box Theatre.

## KELLY PRICE

Alligator Contributing Writer

When Stephen Ruffin first sat down to memorize William Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure" script, he was lost.

In order to interpret his role as Claudio in the UF School of Theatre + Dance's upcoming reinterpretation of the 17th-century work, he translated the dialogue into modern English.

"I need to know what the word means because I obviously want to be able to portray it in a way the audience can understand," the 20-year-old acting junior said. "I got to look at a script like I've never looked at it before."

In a move meant to attract more viewers, director and theatre professor Ralf Remshardt decided in April to drop the 1603 play into the 1960s — with a "Mad Men" twist. Actors in the play, which will run from Friday to Sept. 23 at the Nadine McGuire Black Box Theatre, will perform Shakespeare's original script. Tickets are \$13 for students and \$17 for the general public.

Remshardt said he wanted the audience to be able to relate easily.

"There is no traditional Shakespearean way; if it were, we would all be men acting

outside in the middle of the afternoon," he said. "I want students not only to come willingly but to realize why Shakespeare is the most famous playwright."

The set design was inspired by 1960s advertisements and features era-inspired props like billboards. The reinvented play features characters in the corporate world in a big city similar to New York, Remshardt said.

In the original play, a man's girlfriend gets pregnant, which at the time was an offense punishable by death. In an ironic twist, the deputy who sentenced the man tries to seduce the girlfriend.

Ruffin, who plays Claudio, said the 1960s theme helped much of the cast adapt to the play's challenging language and style.

"Adapting the time period a little closer to now acted as a bridge for me," he said.

Remshardt said the original play fits well into a "transitional phase" like the 1960s.

Remshardt said the cast will be performing the original script but with a comical tinge.

"It's often not played comically, so I think the audience will enjoy that," he said. "But the audience always has to play the game to have fun."

## New award will honor a Gator who embodies UF's mission

### Nominations are due Oct. 10

## CHRIS KIRSCHNER

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF Homecoming's Education Celebration staff will present the first-ever Morrill Act Award to a student, faculty member, student organization or faculty organization that exemplifies UF's land grant mission.

The award recognizes the 150th anniversary

of the act, which gave Americans the chance to attend universities, said Education Celebration director Hanna Gehr.

The winner will be announced at the Education Celebration during the Swamp Symphony Oct. 28 on Flavel Field.

He or she will receive a plaque, two tickets to Gator Growl and acknowledgement at the Homecoming parade.

*"The signing of the Morrill Act changed our trajectory as a nation forever and for the better."*

Teri Balsler

Dean of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Nominees will be judged by winners at last year's Education Celebration, Gehr, and the Dean of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Teri Balsler.

"The signing of the Morrill Act changed

our trajectory as a nation forever and for the better," Balsler said. "The Morrill Act of 1862 represents a moment in time where the United States as a country made a bold statement about the value of education and its importance for our growth and success as a nation."

The application can be found online at [www.gatorgrowl.org/homecoming](http://www.gatorgrowl.org/homecoming).

Hard copy applications can be picked up in the Florida Blue Key office on the third floor of the Reitz Union. All nominations are due Oct. 10.

## Gainesville man attacked with soiled underwear

## CHRIS ALCANTARA

Alligator Writer

Walter Liddell tried to get some sleep in his camper on Saturday afternoon. Instead, he got a face full of dirty underwear.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office arrested Johnny Wade Broestler, 46, of 9428 N. County Road 226, and charged him with battery for allegedly attacking Liddell, 60, with a pair of soiled underwear, according to an ASO arrest report.

At about 4 p.m. Saturday, Broestler walked into the camper while Liddell slept and started demanding money for the landlord.

Liddell woke up, and the men started arguing.

The dispute turned physical when Broestler grabbed the dirty underwear and smeared it on Liddell's face, according to the report.

"The underwear was full of poop, and he was trying to wipe it all over me," Liddell said Monday.

Liddell then pushed Broestler away and shoved the underwear back in Broestler's face.

The fight spilled out onto Liddell's driveway, where a neighbor broke up the dispute, and Liddell called police.

"When the cops came by, he was still covered with the poop," Liddell said. "He never tried to wash himself to get it off."

Police booked Broestler into Alachua County Jail at 5:51 p.m. Saturday, where he remained Monday night with a bond set at \$5,000.

Contact Chris Alcantara at [calcantara@alligator.org](mailto:calcantara@alligator.org).



Broestler



Rachele Harvey / Alligator

### Spread Your Wings

A blue Morpho butterfly rests in the Butterfly Garden of the Museum of Natural History. UF students get in free with their Gator1 cards until Sept. 30. The Florida Museum of Natural History is on Hull Road across the street from Southwest Recreation Center.

## UF combines alumni groups

► THE NEW ASSOCIATION HAS ABOUT 350,000 MEMBERS.

**ANDREW KAYS**

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF's Student Alumni Association has merged with its parent organization.

The University of Florida Alumni Association has nearly 350,000 members total, according to its website. "The integration came as part of an ongoing effort to further involve current students despite budget cuts," said associate executive director Katie Marquis.

"We found many students didn't realize that they had to register with the Alumni Association after they graduated," Marquis said. "Now we have the student membership option as well as a reduced rate for recent graduates."

The association has also launched a re-branding process which includes a new logo.

"It's unusual to go through so many logos so quickly, but after a special 2006 UF centennial logo, we have been working on a more progressive, powerful and permanent logo," Marquis said. "We expect this one to stay with us."

She said the cost of the changes is relatively low because most materials with the logo on them are ordered annually. These include nametags, Cicerone shirts and stationery.

"I think the logo is nice, but not very modern," said 19-year-old computer science sophomore Anthony Timoti. "But it's a good improvement over the former logo."

## MUSIC

# Passion Pit to perform at UF in October

**COLLEEN WRIGHT**

Alligator Contributing Writer

Indie pop band Passion Pit will stop by UF on its world tour.

Passion Pit will perform at 7 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center, according to Student Government Productions Vice Chair of Public Relations Evan Galin. The performance will be co-sponsored by Reitz Union Board Entertainment.

Galín would not disclose how much the band will be paid for the performance.

"Passion Pit is a band that can relate to a lot of students," Galín said, referencing that the group doesn't stick to a certain genre.

Capacity for the concert is capped at 5,000 tickets. Galín said the organization worked to make tickets affordable and is confident the performance will have a good turnout.

Tickets are assigned seating and will go on sale to UF students at noon Monday at the Reitz Union Box Office. Students can line up for tickets starting at 7 a.m. Tickets will be sold on a best available, first-come, first-served basis.

Seats in the bleachers in

levels one through three are \$15, and floor seats are \$28 for UF students.

Tickets are \$25 for bleacher seats and \$38 for floor seats for non-students.

Galín estimated that there will be 500 floor seats. Tickets will open up to the public Sept. 19.

When the news broke Monday, many students reacted positively and immediately RSVP'd to the Facebook event.

Exploratory freshman Lauren Cox, 18, saw the band in Orlando in 2010 and is looking forward to seeing them again. She's expecting

Passion Pit's UF show to be better than her first experience.

"I really liked the energy the band brought to the stage," Cox said. "They seemed really into their music."



Aundre Larrow / Alligator Staff

Passion Pit frontman Michael Angelakos sings to thousands of fans at Lollapalooza during summer 2012. Passion Pit will be performing Oct. 24 at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.

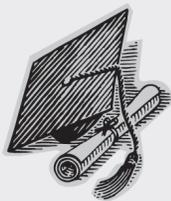
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David Carr / Alligator Staff

Injured junior Ronald Powell chats on the sideline during Florida's 27-14 win against Bowling Green on Sept. 1 at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

## Powell likely sidelined for season Had setback with ACL

**GREG LUCA**  
Alligator Staff Writer

For all of Ronald Powell's hard work in the rehab process following offseason surgery to repair a torn ACL, his return to the field will likely have to wait until 2013.

Coaches originally projected that Powell could be back on the field as early as Oct. 1, but the junior will likely receive a medical redshirt following a setback.

Will Muschamp said the Gators are unsure about the extent of Powell's injury because there is too much swelling to get an accurate reading off of his MRI.

Powell will be reassessed next week, but the outlook is far from promising.

"It's just disappointing for him, a guy that, mentally, has been a rock," Muschamp said.

"It's been amazing how he's handled the process, and he's handling it again very well."

At Florida's media day on Aug. 2, Powell talked about how the injury helped him mature and gave him a new

outlook on handling adversity and overcoming obstacles.

Every report on Powell's response to rehab had been positive.

In addition to his normal work with team trainers, Powell spent time with defensive coordinator Dan Quinn after practice to work on his pass-rushing technique.

"He worked extremely hard, as hard as our medical staff has seen anybody dedicate themselves to rehabbing an injury here at the University of Florida," Muschamp said. "We've got some folks who have been here for a long, long time."

The Gators have turned to Lerentee McCray and Dante Fowler Jr. at the Buck linebacker position to try to replace the former No. 1 overall recruiting prospect and his team-leading six sacks from 2011.

At the Buck position this season, McCray has totaled seven tackles, including a sack against Texas A&M. He also forced a fumble against the Aggies.

Splitting time between Buck

and defensive end, Fowler has recorded five tackles during the first two games of his UF career.

Florida will also be looking for replacements for Jelani Jenkins and Cody Riggs. Jenkins is expected to miss four weeks after undergoing surgery to repair a fractured thumb, while Riggs will miss four to six weeks because of a small fracture in his foot.

*"It's just disappointing for him, a guy that mentally has been a rock. It's been amazing how he's handled the process, and he's handling it again very well."*

**Will Muschamp**  
UF coach

Antonio Morrison, Mike Taylor and Darrin Kitchens are all options to replace Jenkins at weakside linebacker, with Muschamp saying the team will likely use a rotation going forward.

Taylor is fifth on the team with eight tackles, while Morrison, a freshman, ranks third with nine.

"Mike and Antonio and

**SEE INJURIES, PAGE 14**

## JURNY DUTY

### UF needs two good halves to win

Will Muschamp doesn't mind "winning ugly," but it will only get the Gators so far.

After Florida's 20-17 win at Texas A&M on Saturday, Muschamp said he felt the narrow victory justified the team's struggles against Bowling Green in the season opener.

"I know I got killed for last week, but there's a reason why we did it," Muschamp said of playing a grind-it-out style against the Falcons.

"We had a superior football team than Bowling Green. Nothing against those guys, but we needed to play that way in order to play that way this week in this ball game."

No team should aim for a performance in which it only plays well for one of the game's two halves.

Florida gained just 101 yards while allowing 269 in the first half against Texas A&M.

But, when asked if he was concerned



**Josh Jurnovoy**  
twitter: @joshjurnovoy

with Saturday's slow start, Muschamp disagreed with the assertion that the start was poor.

"We played well on offense; we scored the first pos-

session," he said.

One good drive does not constitute a good start, especially considering Florida mustered just 43 yards of offense on the following two drives and the defense was gashed throughout the first two quarters.

"Not really," linebacker Jon Bostic said when asked if he minds wins that aren't pretty.

"A win is a win. Regardless of how you get it, a win is a win. By 40 points, a point, a half a point, a win is a win."

Yes, the ultimate goal is to win every game.

**SEE JOSH, PAGE 14**

## Gators meld hitting, defense

**KATIE AGOSTIN**  
Alligator Staff Writer

It took three weeks, but for the first time this season the No. 15 Gators (6-2) are in control of both sides of the net.

During the first weekend of the 2012 season, coach Mary Wise scrambled to put together a new lineup when outside hitter Naomi Santos-Lamb suffered an ACL tear during the Orange & Blue Scrimmage on Aug. 18. This redirected the team's focus to its offense.

"We had to spend so much of our time on the offensive side: Who's going to generate points off of services in transition," Wise said. "The defense was not able to get as much attention."

Unfortunately for Florida, No. 4 Texas and No. 8 Stanford took advantage of UF's neglected back row during the Nike Big Four Classic in University Park, Pa.

However, in the last weekend before Southeastern Conference play, the

Gators showed that they have a handle on both their hitting and defense as they grabbed three wins in the Active Ankle Challenge.

Florida opened up the weekend on Friday night with a hitting showcase in a 3-0 (25-18, 25-11, 25-11) win against Jacksonville.

**UF Volleyball** With the help of Tangerine Wiggs, Ziva Recek, Betsy Smith, Gabby Mallette and Dana Backlund, the Gators hit .468, their highest hitting percentage since Oct. 2, 2011, when they hit .469 at Georgia. The five combined for 38 kills, accounted for 81 percent of the Gators points and hit .540.

"As hitters, our job is to just finish it off, and I think a lot of the praise needs to go to the passer and the setters," Wiggs said. "For our passers, it's really a reflection of how hard they work and how

**SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE 14**



All-American center back Kat Williamson is out for the season after suffering a meniscus tear.  
See story, page 15.

### UF-UK Kickoff Time Announced

Florida's next home game against Kentucky has been scheduled to kick off at 12:21 p.m. on Sept. 22. The game will be shown on the Southeastern Conference Network.

### 2013 UF Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

Redskins quarterback Rex Grossman and Olympic gold medalist Heather Mitts are among nine former Gators in the UF Hall of Fame's Class of 2013.

# Freshman Morrison making impact in increasing role

## INJURIES, from page 13

Kitchens, those guys can play," senior linebacker Jon Bostic said.

"As soon as they get in, they get the play and they're making checks, just like I am."

Morrison in particular has impressed Muschamp with his physical play since entering during spring camp as a four-star recruit out of Bolingbrook, Ill.

"He's a physical linebacker," Bostic said. "He doesn't play like a freshman. He's smart. He learns from our mistakes. That's one thing, you see him after every practice, he's beating me into the film room."

To compensate for the loss of Riggs, Muschamp said Matt Elam will see more time at safety and Jaylen Watkins will play more snaps as the team's nickel corner. Riggs was the team's second-leading tackler among defensive backs with seven stops.

Riggs has also recorded a pass breakup, playing significant time as part of a four-man rotation at cornerback that includes Watkins, Marcus Roberson and Loucheiz

Purifoy.

Luckily for the Gators, Josh Evans is expected to be fine after suffering a shoulder injury on Saturday.

De'Ante Saunders will likely return and see time at safety, nickel and dime after missing the season's first two games with what Muschamp called a hamstring injury.

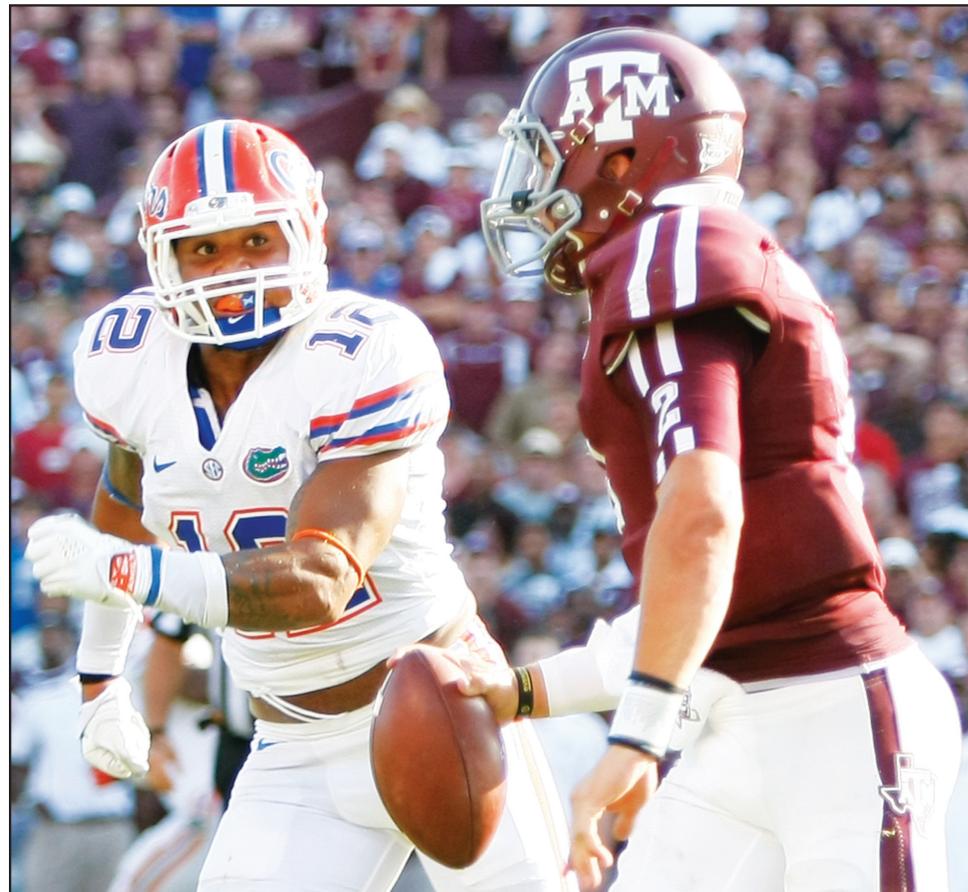
Evans leads Florida with 14 tackles despite missing a large portion of Saturday's game, while Saunders tied Elam for the team lead with two interceptions last season.

With a three-man rotation at weakside linebacker and added pieces in the secondary, Muschamp is confident in Florida's ability to handle the rash of injuries. Last season, the Gators had to cross-train players to fill needs on both sides of the ball.

"We'll be fine," Muschamp said. "Our depth is still not where it needs to be but certainly much better than it was a year ago."

"We're not having to switch guys from position to position in order to finish a game or prepare guys for a game. It certainly gives them a comfort level."

Contact Greg Luca at [gluca@alligator.org](mailto:gluca@alligator.org).



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Freshman linebacker Antonio Morrison (12) chases down Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel (2) at Kyle Field during Florida's 20-17 win against Texas A&M.

# UF reaches top form on both sides of net

## VOLLEYBALL, from page 13

hard our setters work to get us good, hittable balls."

The momentum of UF's attack continued as it faced Louisiana-Lafayette on Saturday.

Despite dropping a set, the Gators still came away with a 3-1 (25-15, 25-14, 23-25, 25-12) win, while tallying 55 kills and 7 aces.

However, it wasn't until the weekend's final match that Florida's defense came alive.

Florida relied on blocking and back row defense in a 3-1 (22-25, 25-15, 25-21, 25-22) win over Georgia Tech, UF's toughest competition so far in the O'Connell Center.

Smith, Wiggs and Chloe Mann led the team to a season-high 11 blocks, while libero Taylor Unroe racked up 17 digs.

"All the teams competed with us, but Georgia Tech really gave us a run for our money," Unroe said. "That first set we came out asleep, and they made us pay for it. We did a good job of recovering and playing hard, and that's how we won the game."

With both its offense and defense at the top of its game simultaneously, Florida feels ready to take on its first SEC opponent.

"We've talked about it all preseason that the season really starts Sept. 14 at Arkansas," Smith said. "We're really excited to take this show on the road and show the SEC what we're made of."

Contact Katie Agostin at [kagostin@alligator.org](mailto:kagostin@alligator.org).



Unroe

## JOSH, from page 13

But a 'W' in the win column doesn't mean the margin of victory is irrelevant, or that struggles should be downplayed.

Because what Florida did in the first half on Satur-

day will not cut it this week against Tennessee, a team that was 27th in the country in total defense in 2011 and has opened 2012 with two wins by a combined 52 points.

The Volunteers will be better prepared to handle the Gators than the Aggies and

Falcons were.

Much was made about what, if any, disadvantage Florida would be at because it did not have film of Texas A&M, while the Aggies could study the Gators' game against the Falcons.

That difference in preparation certainly looked like it

had an impact, as Florida appeared to be a different team in the second half on Saturday after getting a look at Texas A&M's new offensive and defensive schemes.

The only film of Florida going into Saturday was from the Bowling Green game, in which the staff admittedly did not open up the playbook.

Unlike the Aggies, the Volunteers will be able to see what the Gators did against a Southeastern Conference team.

Florida will have film of Tennessee playing only Georgia State and North Carolina State, who barely beat UConn.

While Florida will have more film to prepare with than it did last week, the Volunteers will have a better idea of how the Gators like to start games.

Given Texas A&M's early success even without that knowledge, the added study material could prove key for Tennessee.

Muschamp declined to say whether the Gators could win in Knoxville with the same first-half performance they put on in College Station.

"I just want to win," Muschamp said. "Winning is well enough."

That should be the goal, but Florida needs to play a complete game if it wants to achieve that goal on Saturday against the boys from Rocky Top.

Contact Josh Jurnovoy at [jjurnovoy@alligator.org](mailto:jjurnovoy@alligator.org).



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Florida coach Will Muschamp engages a referee during Florida's 20-17 victory against Texas A&M at Kyle Field in College Station, Texas.

# Alford, Diep claim Gators' first title of new season in doubles

► THE DUO WON THE SOUTHERN INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP ON MONDAY IN ATHENS, GA.

**ADAM LICHTENSTEIN**

Alligator Writer

Mike Alford and Florent Diep started the Florida men's tennis team's season on a high note on Monday.

The pair brought home the Gators' first title after winning the Division I Doubles Title at the Southern Intercollegiate Championships in Athens, Ga.

"We found a way to put it together," Alford said. "It went well."

Alford and Diep defeated Mississippi State's Jordan Angus and Pedro Dumont 8-3 in the semifinals and then beat No. 43 Dominique and Yannick Maden of Clemson 8-5 to win the tournament.

"[Diep] and Mike did a great job of kind of battling through a couple of tough matches early," coach Bryan Shelton said. "They found a way to win."

The pair got better as the tournament went on, but Shelton acknowledged that the doubles team still has a lot of room to improve after this early-season tournament.

This tournament was the first for Shelton as Florida's head coach. He previously coached the Georgia Tech women's tennis team for 13 seasons.

"I don't think there's a ton of differences

as far as coaching the players on the court," Shelton said. "You're always looking at game plans and how you prepare your athletes to go out there and compete."

"It was good to be out there with the guys this weekend. Obviously a lot of fun to see Mike and [Diep] finish off the tournament by winning the championship."

The Gators had six players compete in Athens this weekend, including No. 17 Bob van Overbeek. Van Overbeek advanced to the quarterfinals before losing to Virginia Tech's Andreas Bjerrehus in straight sets.

"His best tennis is still ahead of him," Shelton said. "I expect him to get better every single week. ...

## UF Tennis

When he's firing on all cylinders, he's tough to deal with out there."

Alford also advanced to the quarterfinals in singles play, where he fell to Gonzales Austin of Vanderbilt, 3-6, 6-3, 5-7.

Alford said the team needed to improve conditioning so they could go longer on the court without getting tired. According to Shelton, UF will spend more time on the track and in the pool to work on becoming a fitter team.

"We've identified those things and know that we've got to do a good job taking care of our bodies and getting ourselves to be able to go the distance," Shelton said. "Going the distance is more than just one match, it's being able to come back match after match after match."

## GOLF

# Hedberg leads strong day

**KATIE AGOSTIN**

Alligator Staff Writer

When Camilla Hedberg shot a 69 (-3) on Sunday, she was just getting started. In the second day of the Cougar Classic, Hedberg turned in a round of 66 (-6), which allowed her to move into first place.

"Camilla had a great round today," coach Emily Bastel said. "She hit the ball well and gave herself a lot of looks at birdie."

The sophomore started off the day by birdying her first hole. The only blemish on her scorecard was a bogey on her third hole, but Hedberg immediately recovered and birdied six more holes before finishing the round.

Hedberg's second-straight under-par round allowed her to replace teammate Isabelle Lendl at the top of the leaderboard. However, Lendl didn't fall too far.

Lendl carded four birdies against two bogeys for a round of 70 (-2). The senior dropped to second place, but is still seven strokes under for the tournament and only two strokes behind Hedberg.

Senior Mia Piccio was the third Gator of the day to turn in an under-par round. Like Lendl, she finished the day with a score of 70 (-2).

Florida only counted one round over par on Monday from freshman Ursa Orehek. Although Orehek wasn't under par, she wasn't too far off with a round of 73 (+1), which was a six stroke improvement from Sunday's round.

After ending the second day with a

total of 279 (-9), Florida took over the lead from Southern California and are now three strokes ahead.

"I'm proud of how our seniors have played thus far," Bastel said. "They really have been great leaders this week."

While the women were moving into the top spot, the men were maintaining their No. 1 position at The Invitational at the Ocean Course.

"We had another solid day," coach Buddy Alexander said.

The Gators were able to extend their lead from four to 20 strokes thanks to Tyler McCumber, T.J. Vogel, A.J. Crouch, Santiago Gavino and J.D. Tomlinson finishing Day 2 in the top 10.

Senior McCumber led the team once again as he turned in a round of 70 (-2), which consisted of five birdies

against a bogey and a double to keep him in second place.

Not far behind McCumber is Vogel, who finished one stroke shy of his teammate with a round of 71 (-1). Vogel's three birdies against two bogeys moved him up from a nine-way tie for fifth place to third.

Both seniors will be in the mix for the individual title as Florida wraps up the season's first tournament today.

"Our top-two, Tyler McCumber and T.J. Vogel, played some great golf today," Alexander said.

Contact Katie Agostin at [kagostin@alligator.org](mailto:kagostin@alligator.org).



Hedberg

# UF trying to replace All-American Williamson after knee injury

**LONDON WATNICK**

Alligator Writer

With their top defender out indefinitely, the Gators have big shoes to fill.

Redshirt senior Kat Williamson suffered a meniscus tear in her right knee during Florida's match against Florida International on Sept. 2. She had her knee surgically repaired on Wednesday.

"They can't give me a for-sure answer," Williamson said. "It depends on how my body heals. Obviously, I would love to come back as soon as possible. I'm going to work towards that."

Last season, the All-American center back started every match and logged a team-high 2,176 minutes for the Gators. Prior to UF's match against FIU, she did not sit out a single minute in 2012.

Williamson roamed the sidelines on crutches and with a brace on her right leg as Florida (3-2-1) battled to a 3-2 victory against New Mexico on Sunday.

"It's a huge loss," senior Holly King said. "We're trying everything we can to fill in the hole."

"We don't expect one player to come in and be Kat," coach Becky

Burleigh said. "She's an emotional leader as well as a fifth-year senior with a ton of experience. But I think we can have other players step up in other ways."

Sophomore Annie Bobbitt is one option. Against the Lobos, she started in place of Williamson and assisted on senior Erika Tymrak's equalizing goal in the 60th minute to put the game at 2-2.

*"It depends on how my body heals. Obviously, I would love to come back as soon as possible. I'm going to work towards that."*

**Kat Williamson**

UF center back

Bobbitt played for 68 minutes against New Mexico. Before Sunday, she averaged 27.8 minutes in four games and did not see time against North Carolina on Aug. 24. As a freshman, Bobbitt took on a major role at center back after Katie Kadera's career-ending ACL injury.

Bobbitt appeared alongside Williamson during 17 starts at center, but freshman Christen Westphal has started the most games alongside Williamson this season.

"Whoever steps in is the coaches' decision," Bobbitt said. "If that happens to be me, or if that happens to be any of my other teammates, I'll be cheering somebody."

Junior Maggie Rodgers is also a candidate to see some time at center back. She appeared mostly at outside back throughout last season but played some minutes at center during the Gators' 2012 spring schedule.

Rodgers saw her first action of the season Sunday, returning from a left ankle sprain to log 67 minutes off the bench.

"It's tough, because she hasn't played and then she's playing in a position she's played sparingly," Burleigh said. "That'll be something we'll have to progress with."

Burleigh hoped sophomore Karina Gutsche would fill Williamson's spot immediately, but Gutsche suffered a concussion in practice last week after a ball bounced off the crossbar and hit her head. Her status remains day-to-day.

With Southeastern Conference play looming, the coaching staff will likely decide on a starting center back to pair with Westphal

by Thursday.

"We have a lot of options of people that can play there," Burleigh said. "Certainly, we're just hoping to hold down the fort until Kat gets back. But it's a critical position for us, because we put a

lot of responsibility on that position in terms of communication.

"It's a big loss, but at the same time, in the end, we'll have someone who's gained quite a bit of experience by the time Kat gets back."



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Florida center back Kat Williamson (7) battles for the ball against FIU forward Chelsea Leiva (2) in a 3-0 win on Sept. 2 in Gainesville.

NOTEBOOK

# Reliable Sturgis wins SEC award; Gators injury updates

JOE MORGAN

Alligator Staff Writer

Caleb Sturgis watched as his 51-yard kick ricocheted off the right upright and fell to the ground. However, Texas A&M coach Kevin Sumlin gave Sturgis two chances to pull Florida within a touchdown of the lead.

Sumlin's timeout negated the first kick, so Sturgis split the uprights on his second try to make the score 17-10 shortly before halftime.

After kicking two field goals during the Gators' 20-17 victory against the Aggies, the redshirt senior placekicker was named the Southeastern Conference Special Teams Player of the Week. This is the third time Sturgis has earned the award during his college career.

"He's very accurate and very dependable," UF coach Will Muschamp said. "He never gets shook, he just lines up and does his job."

Sturgis' first kick came at a critical time for Florida. Texas A&M had scored 14 unanswered points on back-to-back drives, averaging 80 yards in length.

His 51-yard kick tallied the Gators' first points since their opening touchdown drive.

The St. Augustine native's second field goal was a 25-yard kick that cut Texas A&M's lead to 17-13 on Florida's first possession of the second half.

Sturgis' 51-yarder was his seventh career field goal measuring 50 yards or more and his second this season. Against Bowling Green in the season opener, Sturgis made a 51-yard field goal that increased Florida's lead to 27-14.

"In my two years as head coach, to have that opportunity to have a guy like him has just been a relief," Muschamp said.

**Offensive Injuries:** Despite suffering a groin strain during Saturday's victory, Mike Gillislee practiced on Monday and is expected to play against Tennessee.

So far this season, Gillislee has carried the ball 38 times for 231 yards and four touchdowns, each of which have either tied the game or given Florida a lead.

During the 2012 campaign, Gillislee has seen an increased role under new offensive coordinator Brent Pease. The senior running back's early success has raised questions regarding his limited play behind Jeff Demps

and Chris Rainey in 2011. Last season, Gillislee had just 56 carries despite averaging a team-high 5.9 yards per carry.

"We were a little different schematically, offensively, last year," Muschamp said. "There was never any lack of confidence in Mike Gillislee."

Matt Patchan's strained pectoral muscle

will keep him out for a third game. Last week, Muschamp said Patchan's rehab was ahead of schedule and the oft-injured offensive lineman could potentially play against Tennessee.

Now Muschamp is hopeful for Patchan to return next week, but said the injury may sideline the redshirt junior until the bye week at the end of September.

"I know Matt's frustrated," Muschamp said on Sept. 3. "I'm frustrated for him, because he's worked extremely hard. He had a really good offseason, so I hope it's not that much longer."

Saturday's contest against the Volunteers will mark the 30th game Patchan has missed due to injury during his career at UF. He earned a medical redshirt after missing the entire 2010 season.

Chaz Green left Saturday's game due to cramping, but there have been no further problems with the Tampa native, who returned to practice on Monday.

"Chaz Green had some cramps, probably could have returned, but Kyle Koehne came in and did a nice job for us," Muschamp said.

**Debose Absent in Passing Game:** Florida receivers have caught 26 passes from Jeff Driskel and Jacoby Brissett in 2012. Andre Debose has yet to record a reception.

When the depth chart was released on Aug. 27, Debose was listed as a backup behind Frankie Hammond Jr. at X receiver.

Brissett targeted Debose in the second quarter against Bowling Green on a deep post route, but the sophomore quarterback's pass was overthrown.

Driskel said Debose's lack of statistical contributions was not a reflection on the wide receiver's play.

"That's not him — he's not the one throwing to himself," Driskel said. "We have a bunch of playmakers. We're trying to distribute the ball evenly. Obviously you have your progressions on each play. You don't design them for certain people; you design them for certain routes. It's not anything he's done wrong."

Muschamp said he has not had an issue with Debose's play, praising his efforts in the ground game on Saturday.

"Andre Debose made a great block on the road that Gilly hit on their sideline for about 30 (yards) — an outstanding block to free us up there," Muschamp said.

The junior wideout has seen most of his game action on special teams returning kickoffs and punts. As a returner, he has amassed 107 yards on six touches with one fumble.

Contact Joe Morgan at [joemorgan@alligator.org](mailto:joemorgan@alligator.org).



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Receiver Andre Debose waits in the end zone to return a kickoff during Florida's game against Texas A&M on Saturday at Kyle Field in College Station, Texas.

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