

Romney supporters protested outside the O'Dome during first lady Michelle Obama's speech. See the photo story on page 8.



David Carr / Alligator Staff

First lady Michelle Obama does the Gator chomp after arriving at the lectern in front of about 11,000 people Monday afternoon at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.

First lady rallies Gators at O'Dome

JULIA GLUM and MEREDITH RUTLAND
 Alligator Staff Writers

When first lady Michelle Obama walked onstage at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center, she said one word: "Wow."

She had reason to be impressed. About 10,750 people — including UF students, Santa Fe College students and Gainesville residents of all ages — showed up to watch the first lady speak after claiming free tickets last week.

Monday afternoon, the arena buzzed with excitement. Signs dotted the red, white, and orange and blue crowd. The audience sent the wave in circles, cheering and chanting "four more years" and "It's great to be a Florida Gator."

At about 4 p.m., UF student Alex Masi introduced Obama. The crowd went wild as she took the stage, and it reached a roar as she started doing the Gator

chomp.

Obama opened by talking about her husband's character and then elaborated, touching on issues like women's rights, health care, student finances and the economy.

"When it comes time to make those tough calls and everyone's urging you to do what's easy, or what polls best, or what gets good headlines, as president, you need to be driven by the struggles, hopes and dreams of all of the people you serve," Obama said.

"Don't assume that you're registered."

Michelle Obama
 first lady

The first lady's 30-minute speech was occasionally interrupted by shouts such as "I love you, Michelle!"

She emphasized voter registration, saying that about 36 votes per precinct made the difference

SEE OBAMA, PAGE 4

LOCAL Gov. Jeb Bush's son discusses current economy with students *He spoke at The Swamp*

SHELBY WEBB
 Alligator Staff Writer

The Gators baseball cap fit snugly around his salted black hair.

George P. Bush sat in the cool air of a tour bus, chatting with reporters in a slight southern accent. Born into politics as a Bush, he has mastered the political appearance.

"I'm just pandering," he joked, touching the rim of his hat.

About 100 people came to The Swamp Restaurant's patio to see Bush, the son of former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. During his 15-minute appearance, Bush asked attendees if

they were registered to vote and spoke about concerns facing young voters.

Bush is the founder of Maverick PAC, the political action committee that is funding his bus trip through Florida. The PAC typically caters to professionals between ages 25 and 45, but it is making a new push to reach more college students.

"President Obama did a great job among younger voters," Bush said, "so what we at MavPAC are doing is trying to coordinate with entities like the College Republicans and going to hit college campuses in key battleground states."

The bus tour started Mon-

day at Florida State University and will visit the University of Tampa, Valencia Community College, Palm Beach Atlantic University and Miami Dade College during the next few days.

"For the first time in our country's history, one in four young Americans are living at home," Bush said.

Some people in the crowd said they were glad someone spoke to their concerns.

Brandon Barger, a 21-year-old business senior, said he's worried about the next four years if President Barack Obama is re-elected.

"It's good to hear someone who is concerned with young conservative voters," Barger said.

Contact Shelby Webb at swebb@alligator.org.

Grad student seriously injured in mystery incident

► POLICE HAVE NO WITNESSES.

CHRIS ALCANTARA
 Alligator Writer

University Police is investigating an incident in which a UF doctoral candidate was found unconscious on campus with serious injuries Wednesday night.

At about 6 p.m. Wednesday, UPD received a call from a pedestrian who found Zachary Lovitch, 27, a music composition doctoral candidate, unconscious across the street from the Biomedical Sciences Building on Center Drive.

Alachua County Fire Rescue took Lovitch to Shands at UF for treatment while UPD canvassed the area for evidence, said UPD spokesman Maj. Brad

Barber.

Barber said police found Lovitch's bike intact but did not find any witnesses who may have seen the incident. There were no cameras near the scene to record the incident.

The victim's father, William Rich, said Lovitch suffered fractures to his face and a broken back.

When Lovitch woke up in the hospital, he did not remember the incident, Rich said.

Lovitch was released from the hospital Sunday, he said.

The incident may have been a hit-and-run, but police are still looking for witnesses, Barber said.

Anyone with information about the incident should contact UPD at 352-392-1111.

Contact Chris Alcantara at calcantara@alligator.org

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UF students have hope in iffy theatre economy
 The Hippodrome is among the only paid jobs for actors, pg 5.
Christmas arrives early in some Gainesville stores
 Decorations are filling stores throughout the city, pg 9.



Driskel draws comparisons to Tebow:
 Quarterback Jeff Driskel's running ability reminds wide receiver Frankie Hammond Jr. of former Gators signal-caller Tim Tebow, pg. 13.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Minority Pre-Veterinary Students general body meeting
The Minority Pre-Veterinary Students is a student organization trying to encourage, retain and empower students pursuing a career in veterinary medicine. Come listen to speakers and gain valuable animal experience. The first general body meeting of the semester will be Wednesday in Rinker Hall Room 210 at 7 p.m.

Golden Key Second general body meeting
UF Golden Key will host its second general body meeting in Little Hall Room 109 Wednesday at 7 p.m.. Members will discuss upcoming events and opportunities, such as a street cleanup this weekend and the mentorship program. Teach for America will also give a presentation. Stop by the meeting to enjoy pizza and soda, and don't forget to head to Red Mango for a fundraiser after the meeting. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ufgoldenkey.

LGBT Affairs hosting networking reception
Please join LGBT Affairs for its annual faculty, staff and graduate student reception Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a light meal and a chance to network and socialize with other faculty, staff and graduate students.

Students for Big Brothers Big Sisters meeting
Students for BBBS will host its first general body meeting this semester Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in McCarty Hall A Room 2196. Come to learn more about how you can make a difference in

FORECAST

TODAY  THUNDER STORMS 86/71	WEDNESDAY  PARTLY CLOUDY 86/69	THURSDAY  THUNDER STORMS 84/69	FRIDAY  PARTLY CLOUDY 86/70	SATURDAY  THUNDER STORMS 86/69
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the lives of Alachua County children by developing one-on-one relationships through one of the most renowned mentoring programs in the U.S. Applications to become a big brother or sister will be available at the meeting. For more information, email bbb-satuf@gmail.com.

APOCALYPSE 2012

Is the world really coming to an end? What will happen in Earth's final moments? Will we know the final day of Earth's history? Find out about the end of the world through a biblical perspective, and discover the truth. Are you ready? Find out Friday at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union Room 346 and Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Reitz Union Auditorium. For more information, visit us at www.acmuf.org or www.facebook.com/acmuf.

GLAM Indie Craft Show accepting applications

Gainesville's first and only indie craft show is now accepting applications for its Dec. 2 event. Artists and crafters who make unique, giftable goods are encouraged to apply. The application deadline is Oct. 7. Apply online at www.glamcraftshow.com or apply.

Office of Academic Support annual OAS Fall Week

Upcoming events include:

Sept. 24: "Register to Vote" on the Plaza of the Americas from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Sept. 25: "Resource It Out" workshop in Matherly Hall Room 18 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sept. 26: "Casino Night" from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., location TBA
Sept. 27: OAS Open House in the Little Hall Atrium from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., kickoff at 4 p.m.
Sept. 29: OAS Talent Show in Carlton Auditorium at 6 p.m.
Visit our website for more information about OAS programs and events at www.oas.ufl.edu. Find us on Facebook and Twitter @UFOAS.

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. To ensure publication in the next day's newspaper, please submit the event before 5 p.m. Please model your submissions after above events. Improperly formatted "What's Happening" submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

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

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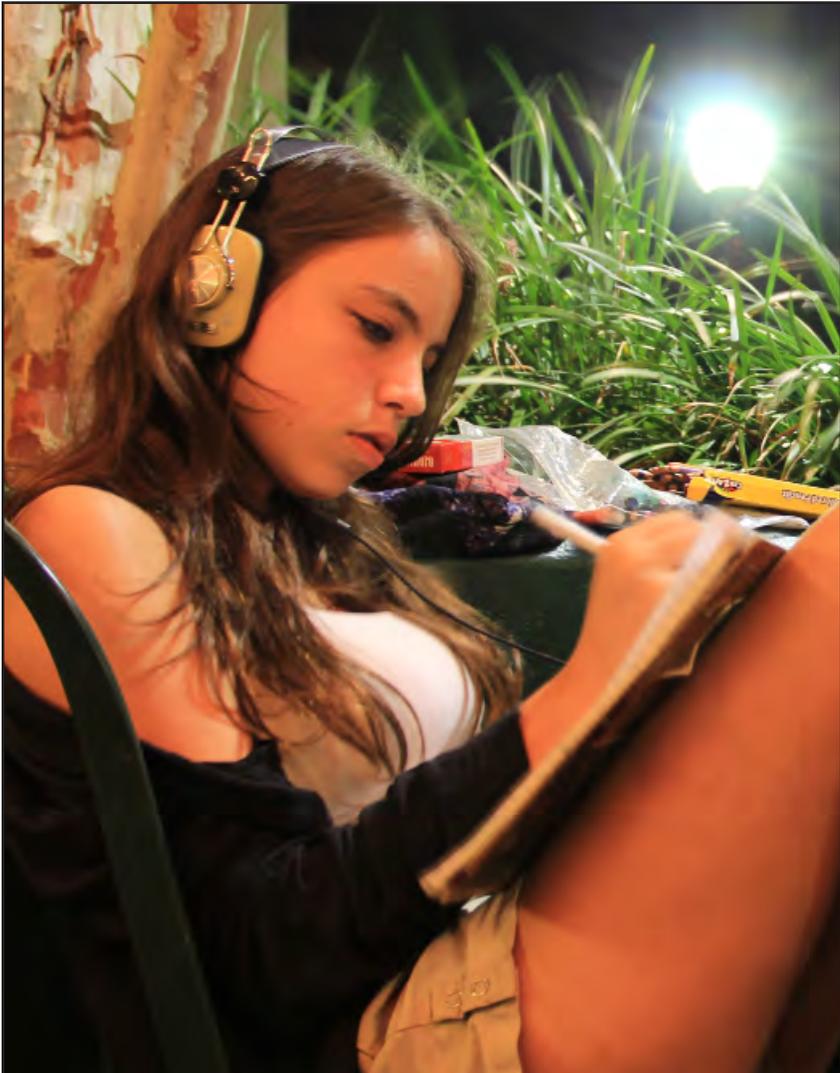
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Mellow Maude's Study Buddies

Hannah Gutman, a 19-year-old Santa Fe theater freshman, studies in front of Maude's Classic Cafe on Monday night.

PhDmoms support group encourages and brings relief

JARED GINSBURG

Alligator Contributing Writer

Hannah Siburt's life changed 13 months ago.

The 29-year-old was a second-year audiology Ph.D. student at UF when she gave birth to her son, Jacob.

Although she was thrilled, after a while, juggling classes, teaching, researching, working and scheduling family time began to leave her feeling isolated and misunderstood.

Then she met Melody Schiaffino, a health services, research, management and policy Ph.D. student and mother who had a project in mind to help them both.

Schiaffino formed PhDMoms, a support group new this semester designed to join doctoral mothers who want to share, learn, study and grow together.

The organization first met Sept. 10.

Seventeen moms attended, and Schiaffino was blown away by the results.

"Moms were from nearly a dozen departments," she said. "Some were expecting, others had newborns, others with toddlers or kindergartners and even teens."

Schiaffino's motives for establishing the group came from her own feelings of seclusion and discouragement as a single mom and student.

"A female doctoral student parent is not common in any department," she said. "I created PhDMoms to find other like-minded doctor-

al student parents and to support each other."

Her hope is that the group will support moms in every step of the doctoral program.

PhDMoms will give them a place to "rest, vent and sound off on their concerns, struggles and stresses," she said.

They'll also learn potential coping skills, find helpful resources and meet friends, Schiaffino said.

"I created PhDMoms to find other like-minded doctoral student parents and to support each other."

Melody Schiaffino
Ph.D. student

The group will meet every month at Corry Village Commons Room. Children and spouses are welcome to attend, and there's a play area for children. T

Schiaffino said she was touched to see other mothers there had similar feelings.

"There was this sense of relief that there are other mothers going through the same thing," she said.

At Siburt's household, the emotional stress has decreased a bit.

While she's not completely free of the physical and scheduling demands of motherhood and doctoral work, Siburt said the group makes her feel better, because it's nice to know she has peers that empathize.

"Only the ones that are in the situation I'm in can understand it," she said.

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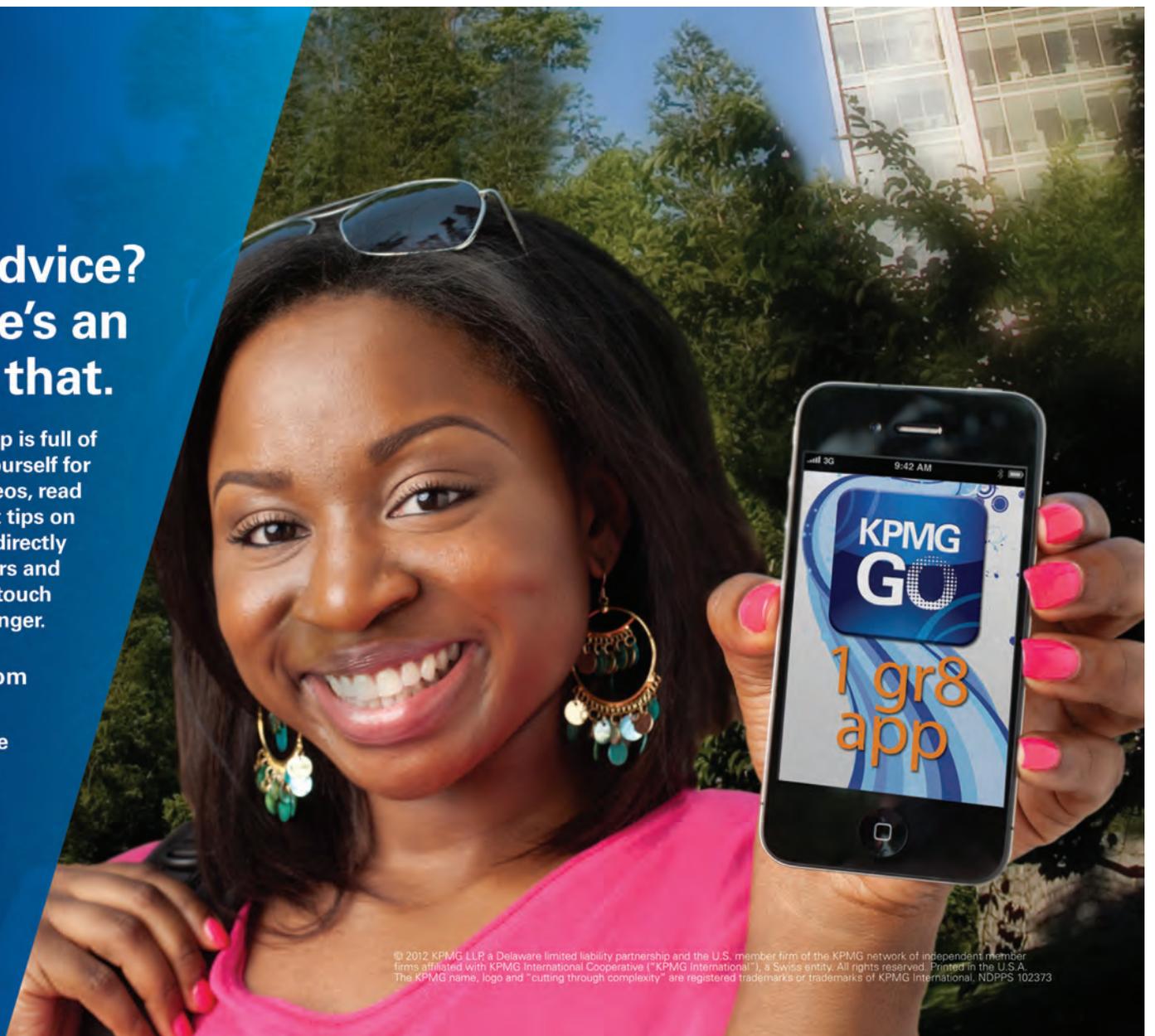
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Cantina to give out free shots as part of Twitter promotion

CHRIS KIRSCHNER
Alligator Contributing Writer

As part of a new promotion, 101 Cantina plans to give out 3,000 free shots as soon as it reaches 3,000 Twitter followers.

As of Monday night, the account had about 2,800 followers.

Located at 1632 W. University Ave., 101 Cantina uses its @101Cantina Twitter account daily to push promotions and get customer feedback about food and drinks, said Ryan Prodesky, vice president of marketing.

Nick Mighion, a 21-year-old biology senior, said he doesn't have a Twitter account, so he didn't know about the shot promotion.

However, the idea definitely worked for him, he said.

"I would make a Twitter account, so I can be a follower of Cantina just so I can know when I can get free shots," he said.

Once the company gains 3,000 followers, it will post the promotion's exact date on its Twitter page. Customers don't have to be followers to receive free shots.

Prodesky said the company has not dis-

cussed the logistics of the event, like how many shots people will be able to get or how much it will cost Cantina to give out the free shots.

Prodesky said he is expecting a large crowd for this promotion, but the bar can only hold a certain number of people. Thirsty students craving free liquor should arrive early if they want to be allowed in the building.

"I would make a Twitter account, so I can be a follower of Cantina just so I can know when I can get free shots."

Nick Mighion
UF biology senior

Prodesky said the bar understands the importance of using social media to interact with customers, and it takes into account everything customers mention — from what kind of music it plays to the ingredients in its tacos.

"Maybe one day we will be popular like Chandler Parsons and have over 50,000 followers," he said. "That's the goal."

Downtown library renovations add study areas, quiet room

► THE LAST PHASE WILL BEGIN THIS FALL.

BRANDON SHENK
Alligator Contributing Writer

Downtown library overhaul renovations are almost done after a year of work.

The library's downtown headquarters is going through a three-step renovation project, including creating a quiet reading room, installing more computer desks and adding study areas with Wi-Fi.

The downtown library, 401 E. University Ave., will celebrate the grand re-opening of its revamped third floor at 9 a.m. on Sept. 27.

The last phase of renovations starts this fall and will focus on the children's area.

"It's just another step in our ongoing renovations," said Nickie Kortus, marketing and public relations manager of the

Alachua County Library District. "We pride ourselves on being patron driven and friendly."

As part of the changes, popular books have been shifted closer for easier access, public computers have been regrouped next to the printers and walls have been repainted.

Ray Dantone, Gainesville resident, said the renovations look like they're focused on helping library patrons get more out of the services.

Library staff said a lot of attention has been given to the quiet reading room.

"I think it's necessary in terms of having a place away from the main library," said Lisely Laboy, a full-time library assistant. "It's a real positive."

Kortus said the quiet reading room is the most popular room of the library's Milhopper branch.

"Some people really cherish that absolute silence," she said.



Benjamin S. Brasch / Alligator Staff

Wicked Wickets

A member of the Gator Cricket Club plays cricket on Lake Alice Field Monday night. He is playing as the bowler, who pitches the ball to the batsman.

CAMPUS

UF is 54th best US college

AYANA STEWART
Alligator Contributing Writer

UF is the 54th best college in the country, according to U.S. News & World Report rankings.

The ranking system is based on factors including freshman retention rates, test scores, faculty-to-student ratio, reputation and graduation rates, and included 281 public and private universities. UF tied with Pepperdine University for 54th place nationally.

UF is the highest-ranking Florida public school on the list. The University of Miami ranked 44th, and Florida State University ranked 97th.

Bethany Schuster, an 18-year-old public relations junior, said she's impressed by the rankings but thinks UF should have been higher.

"The College of Journalism and Communications is one of the top in the nation," she said. "How does that

translate to 54th overall?"

Schuster said she thought UF's reputation as a party school may have also affected the ranking.

UF spokesman Steve Orlando said UF is pleased with the results.

"The university has worked very hard to keep moving forward despite a challenging budget situation, and those efforts seem to be paying off," he said.

Orlando said some people may be critical of the methodology that U.S. News & World Report uses, but students and parents pay attention to its Best Colleges list.

"Measuring an experience can be a little bit of a subjective thing sometimes," he said. "Rankings help put some sort of measurement in there."



Orlando

Occupy protests one year old

► OCCUPY GAINESVILLE WILL HOST AN EVENT LATER IN THE MONTH.

SHELBY WEBB
Alligator Staff Writer

In the early weeks of Occupy Wall Street, movements popped up across the nation and the world. Occupy Gainesville soon followed suit.

Occupy Gainesville observed the one-year anniversary of its parent movement Monday. However, the organization decided not to host an event. Instead it opted to celebrate Occupy Gainesville's one-year anniversary later this month, said Tommy Baker, a UF alumnus.

During the past year, Occupy Gainesville has been in the local spotlight for a series of arrests and protests.

Baker said the Gainesville movement has been successful overall.

"Compared to where we were a year ago, I feel a lot better about my community and that my community can come together," he said.

Here's a look at Occupy Gainesville's year:

- Oct. 5: Occupy Gainesville hosted an informational meeting on the Bo Diddley Community Plaza to start the city movement.

- Oct. 13: Occupy UF hosted a meeting to form the university movement

- Oct. 14: Several protesters, including Bo Diddley's son, were arrested for trespassing on Bo Diddley Community Plaza.

- Nov. 13: Police arrested about 20 Occupy Gainesville protesters for trespassing on Bo Diddley Community Plaza.

- Jan. 22: Best-selling author Cornel West led an Occupy Gainesville protest to the front of the Alachua County Courthouse.

Contact Shelby Webb at svebb@alligator.org.

Obama encouraged early voting

OBAMA, from page 1

in the 2008 election.

"Especially for students — if you've just moved, if you haven't reregistered, you've got to think about your situation," Obama said. "Don't assume that you're registered."

Acknowledging that Election Day hours could impede some students from getting to the polls, Obama went off-script to urge people to cast their ballots.

"Pretend I'm not the first lady," she said. "I'm like your mother. You've got to vote."

After the event, attendees flooded the streets.

Missy Goldstein, a 21-year-old Jewish studies senior, said the experience was inspiring.

"She just had everyone in the palm of her hand," she said. "The second she went up there, people were silent and ready to listen."

Materials science and engineering senior Claudia Sotomayor, 22, said she could tell Obama was passionate about the issues she addressed.

"You hear her talk, and you feel a rush of blood to your head," Sotomayor said.

Contact Julia Glum at jglum@alligator.org. Contact Meredith Rutland at mrutland@alligator.org.



Elise Giordano / Alligator

Lauren Wilkinson, 12, auditions for Gainesville Community Playhouse's rendition of "White Christmas" on Monday night.

While theater economy remains iffy in Gainesville, UF students have hope

Hippodrome hires actors

KATHRYN VARN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Gainesville may welcome art in all its forms, but its job market for professional theater is about as bad as the rest of the country's.

While UF's School of Theater + Dance graduates a steady stream of students, the Hippodrome State Theatre is the primary place to get a paying theater job in Gainesville, said Charlie Mitchell, a UF assistant professor in the School of Theater + Dance.

A survey by the Actors Equity Association showed that from 2010 to 2011, 58.3 percent of actors in the association were employed per season, a percentage that increased more than 10 percent from the 2000 to 2001 seasonal unemployment rate.

Mitchell came to teach at UF four years ago after working as an actor in New York City during the worst part of the economic recession. Barely anyone was producing shows, so he came to Florida.

"It was fortunate I got this job, because it was really sort of a desolate time," he said.

Mitchell teaches Theater Appreciation with the help of teaching assistants from all over the country, he said. They are attracted to Gainesville for the education and teaching potential rather than the acting scene.

UF acting professor Tim Altmeyer came to Gainesville from New York for the same reason.

However, he said, acting jobs in Gainesville are sparse.

"Professionally speaking, it's limited," he said. "I would say it's not a place where you want to sort of settle if you plan on just working Gainesville as an actor."

To move forward in their careers, UF graduates travel to major cities in Florida like Orlando and Miami, where there are greater theater and commercial markets, Altmeyer said.

Altmeyer and Mitchell said that the School of Theater + Dance

provides students with extensive training for the professional world.

"It's a very creative community," Altmeyer said, "so I think a lot of exciting talent is born here."

Paul Poppe, a 19-year-old theater and advertising sophomore, has been acting since fourth grade and opted for a double major to continue what he loves.

"I can pursue a passion and also something that can give me a possible career in the future," he said.

He's found a student acting outlet through the Florida Players and enjoys performing in Gainesville.

"It's a very open community to perform in," he said. "It overall helps portray the message."

Salary jobs don't come easily, Mitchell said. However, actors with a "relentless drive" can do well in the business.

"No one gets in this business because they think it's easy," Mitchell said. "They do it because they love it."

LOCAL

Event will feature painting elephant, pony rides

EMILY PADGETT

Alligator Contributing Writer

This weekend, students can see an elephant painting. No, not a painting of an elephant.

Luke the elephant will paint for an audience this weekend as part of Elephant Appreciation Day. He is one of four elephants that will participate in the event, at Two Tails Ranch, 18655 NE 81st St., Williston, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 9 and younger.

Elephant Appreciation Day will feature elephant demonstrations, a horse performance and animals such as zebras, ostriches and emus.

There will be pony rides, face painting, food and music.

Patricia Zerbin, ranch owner, said the event will raise money for the ranch and its nonprofit, All About Elephants. The organization teaches the public about wild and captive elephants, Zerbin said.

Kim Schell, a 20-year-old UF biology junior, said she's been to the ranch during a volunteer project. She thought it was "random" for elephants to roam a Florida ranch, but she enjoyed the experience.

Zerbin said she has to rely on word-of-mouth to advertise ranch events and tours, because all the money she makes goes back into the ranch.

"Hopefully, this will also alert the public a little more about the ranch," she said.

Man robs pizza shop with gun

CHRIS ALCANTARA

Alligator Writer

Curtis Hines wanted to buy drugs early Sunday morning, but when he didn't have enough money, his drug dealer suggested robbing a Domino's Pizza store.

At about 3:10 a.m. Sunday, Hines, 36, walked into the store in the 2000 block of Southwest 13th Street and demanded money from the cashier, according to a Gainesville Police arrest report.

Hines said he had a gun, and the cashier gave him \$60. He then fled to meet up with his dealer, Michael Deangelo Clayton, 25.

When officers arrived, a witness identified Hines as the person who robbed the store.

GPD arrested Hines at 1:16 a.m. on Monday and charged him with armed robbery and possession of drug paraphernalia, ac-

ording to Alachua County Jail records.

Later that morning, Hines said in an interview with GPD detectives that Clayton told him to rob the store to pay for the drug deal.

Officers found Clayton at the ABC Motel, located off Southwest 13th Street, and arrested him at about 4 a.m. Police charged Clayton with drug possession, criminal conspiracy and possession of drug paraphernalia, according to jail records.

Police booked Clayton and Hines into Alachua County Jail early Monday, where they remained later that night with bonds set at \$100,000 and \$505,000 respectively.

Contact Chris Alcantara at calcantara@alligator.org.



Hines

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Editorial

Secret Scouts Boy Scouts of America should be sorry

You know how the Boy Scouts of America officially excludes gay people from joining its organization? Yeah, that's not super.

You know what's worse?

Recent reports state that the BSA has covered up decades of alleged child molestation that occurred under its roof.

The Los Angeles Times reviewed 1,600 confidential files dating from 1970 to 1991 and "found that Scouting officials frequently urged admitted offenders to quietly resign — and helped many cover their tracks."

The organization calls them the "perversion files."

In about 80 percent of those cases, the allegations were not reported to police.

The people "suspected of abuse were allowed to leave citing bogus reasons such as business demands, 'chronic brain dysfunction' and duties at a Shakespeare festival," according to the Los Angeles Times.

Apparently, being gay is more of a crime to the BSA than is being a pedophile.

Perhaps the organization should care more about the members it does allow than the members it bans.

As a country, America teaches children to tell an adult whom they trust when something is wrong. When no action is taken against a terrible situation, what lesson are we teaching them?

The fact that so many cases, a system of files dating back to 1919, have not been reported to authorities is unsettling. They have instituted a way to cover up and shame the truth — for what purpose?

Was it to make the organization look better? Was no one supposed to uncover what has actually happened so that people would continue to put their faith and trust in the group?

Because this has done exactly the opposite.

This paper trail unearthed how awful this organization can be.

What's worse is that people will, probably while reading this piece, suggest that the entire club isn't so bad, and we shouldn't generalize a few slights to turn everyone against the club as a whole.

Well, united we stand, folks. The simple fact that this happened at all ever, anywhere is what's enough to make people angry at the club. And people should be angry.

People were already angry at the BSA for its discriminatory practices. It makes no sense to ban members due to their sexual orientations. Was the club under the impression that a homosexual person is automatically some kind of sexual predator or threat?

Because clearly it was wrong.

Actual predators were, and continue to be, right under its nose — not even hiding — and it did nothing about it.

Instead of forcing an intolerant system of rules, BSA, how about you focus on standing up for your members, no matter who they are.

Intolerance may be widely spread across our country, but child abuse acceptance should never be.

Reader response

Today's question: Have you ever been to a play at the Hippodrome Theatre?

Monday's question: Are you going to see Michelle Obama today? **32% YES**
68% NO

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LAKE MALICE By Brad Hersch, Dan Levine, and Paul Rosenberger



Column

Voter apathy is absolutely pathetic

I don't care how much you hate politics. If you are eligible, you need to vote in the upcoming presidential election.

If you are eligible to vote and choose not to, please take a moment to contact me to explain your reasoning.

I'm really interested to find out if I can empathize with anyone's choice to disregard such a privilege. Right now, I don't think I can.

I overheard responses like "Don't worry about it" and "No, excuse me" to somebody who was doing nonpartisan voter registration after he asked passersby if they were registered to vote.

I stared with my mouth agape as the last person to reject the worker ran to catch a bus that would return in another 15 minutes.

The sentiment toward our country would be so much better if everyone had that same determination regarding voting and if they rushed to cast ballots instead.

It also hurts me to know that people blatantly lie when others go out of their way to see that everyone eligible votes.

To "not like" either of the candidates or parties is not a valid excuse.

For the pessimists out there, remember that nothing in this world is perfect. It never has been, and it never will be.

Life itself is about making choices.

Each day, we have to choose between the lesser of two evils, the greater of two goods, whatever will in the end offer the greatest benefit at the least expense.

Of all the reasons and excuses I've heard defending voting avoidance, I find none of them reasonable or justifiable.

Neglecting the opportunity to vote is not only selfish but extremely ungrateful. Remember that people went to extremes to fight for this right. Even if you don't personally identify with one of those specific groups, respect the nation you live in by participating in voting.

People in places across the world do not have many of the rights, privileges and opportunities we do, let alone a say in government.

Young people especially should know that many of the platform issues in this election will affect their current and fu-



Anayo Ordu
opinions@alligator.org

ture lives as students, employees, possible parents and more.

Maybe voting should be federally required, like filing taxes.

I wonder how much voter turnout would increase by if voting were a requirement to receive Federal Pell Grants, student loans, food stamps, affordable health insurance or any other government

assistance.

It's sad and confusing that people have to coerce others into doing something that will ultimately benefit them.

I can't understand what is so scary about voting.

We should be thankful to live in a place where there are no threats made against us and no negative consequences for playing our role as informed and involved citizens.

Voting in this election is critical enough that you should take a little time out of your day to register and vote when the time comes.

The deadline to register in Florida is Oct. 9.

If you walk outside your door between now and then, I can almost guarantee you somebody will approach you about voter registration.

If your registration is nonexistent or not current (most commonly regarding your address), take advantage of the convenience, and fix it.

If you choose to stay registered in a county other than that of your current residence, be sure to request an absentee ballot, and submit it in a timely manner.

To those who understand the importance of voting, please continue to educate others, and encourage them to make their voices heard. Be persistent, although trying to persuade that one unyielding friend to cast his or her ballot can feel like pulling teeth.

To those who need a push: Stop being stubborn. Register to vote and show up to cast your ballot once the polls open.

Not everyone gets this opportunity.

Anayo Ordu is an advertising sophomore at UF. Her column appears on Tuesdays.

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

UWire

Tax society's evils, not goods we need

If you've filled up at the pump recently, you were probably reminded how much it costs to drive. But all the gas, insurance, repairs and other things you pay for are not the only driving costs. Your contribution to traffic congestion places cost on other drivers; your wear and tear on the roads puts cost on taxpayers; and cost is borne by the environment due to the pollution from your car.

These are three examples of the many external driving costs, or what economists call negative externalities.

It was first recommended in 1920 by Arthur Pigou, an economist from the University of Cambridge, that negative externalities be taxed to internalize the costs.

Pigovian taxes are a way to make individuals pay for the costs they place on others.

President Barack Obama recently announced mandates for dramatic increases in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards, but this is economically harmful.

A 2007 study published in "Economic Inquiry" found that an 11-cent increase in gas tax would conserve the same amount of fuel as a 3 mpg increase in the CAFE standards. More importantly, it found that the increased CAFE standards would have a welfare cost 14 times greater than the tax increase. Many other studies have corroborated the finding that paradoxically, gasoline taxes are the less expensive way to conserve fuel.

The problem with fuel efficiency standards is that they do not change consumer preferences.

Energy policy needs to affect consumer behavior to reduce energy usage. When the gasoline price rises, drivers get creative.

They carpool, use mass transportation, buy a more fuel-efficient vehicle, walk, bike or even move closer to work.

Derek Olson
UWire

Higher gasoline taxes are a less invasive way to alter market demand by making it a financially beneficial decision to buy a fuel-efficient car.

If consumers want more fuel-efficient cars, as they would with higher gas prices, CAFE standards become altogether futile.

America's problem with the rest of the energy crisis is similar.

The debate rages about how to force the economy to use "green" types of energy sources, and the response is often subsidies.

Because every major form of energy production is subsidized in the U.S., — oil, coal, gas, nuclear, wind and more — the net result is that all energy is less expensive.

Just as with gasoline, people consume much more energy when it is at lower prices. While there is much discourse about energy independence and its national security implications, the government is aiding and abetting the problem by promoting the use of energy.

If energy were more expensive, people would have a greater incentive to use it sparingly. Businesses would make their products more energy efficient for consumers who are watching their utility bills. It would be more profitable to research and invest in innovation for energy efficiency and conservation.

Yet, we are making energy less expensive and consequently decreasing private investment in innovative energy technology.

If you tax something, you get less of it.

This economic phenomenon should teach a simple lesson: We should focus on taxing things that are bad for society, not things that are good for society.

Our tax system largely focuses on taxing income, which is something society wants. Pigovian taxation would be even more powerful in increasing market efficiency and bipartisanship agreement if it coincided with decreased taxes on things that are good for society, such as income.

I believe that a majority of politicians would support higher gasoline taxes as proudly as the large majority of economists if not for the public affixation to measure their performance by the price at the pump.

The next time there's a spike in the price of gas, there's sure to be a lot of pessimism in the media, but economists everywhere will smile.

Derek Olson is a columnist for the Minnesota Daily at the University of Minnesota.

UWire

Testing teachers requires careful plan

On Sept. 10, 25,000 Chicago public school teachers went on strike to protest the educational reform agenda proposed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Following reforms in New York City, Emanuel pushed to extend the school day length, rescinded a promised teachers' raise and introduced a stricter teacher evaluation process that accounts for student standardized test performances.

The teachers won't have any of it.

Ultimately, the major point of contention between the mayor and the teachers is the evaluation of teacher performance based on student test scores. Emanuel's proposal is not new. Thirty-three states have created similar evaluation processes, claiming it is the most meritocratic system available. But union officials argue that this system will unfairly punish teachers whose students face personal challenges, such as socioeconomic distress, which may negatively or unfairly affect test performance.

This is a valid point to some extent — in Chicago, about 87 percent of students come from low-income families.

However, the policy also includes a provision that allows teachers to appeal their ratings, should they challenge the fairness of the evaluation.

Many reformers believe teachers unions overuse poverty as an excuse for poor performance. Recent films like "Waiting for Superman" (2010) and "Won't Back Down" (2012) further criticize unions as an impediment to educational reform by prioritizing teacher wages before a crippled education system.

In Chicago's case, the teachers are too resistant to necessary reform. With 60 percent of Chicago students graduating high school, Emanuel was right to extend the school day.

The most critical reform for struggling school districts is a more comprehensive system to evaluate teacher performance, and testing should not be taken off the table.

Granted, the current system of once-a-year exams needs to go.

Rather, students should take several exams throughout the year to show improvement, a more statistically significant measure of a teacher's effect, despite outliers. These exams should be heavily employed in elementary schools, where teachers have the most potential to positively affect students' education.

Critics argue this will inspire teachers to tailor lessons to exams. Perhaps, but is it really so bad if exams test crucial reading, writing and math skills?

Apart from exams, Chicago must soften tenure protections to ensure better evaluations. To clarify, tenure is not

**Sayeh
Gorjifard**
UWire

intended to protect against poor performance but rather to protect teachers from being fired based on arbitrary reasons like political affiliation or a principal's whim.

Educational activist and Harlem Children's Zone president Geoffrey Canada has argued that the tenure system has gone too far.

He believes that too often, school administrations use tenure as an excuse to not evaluate their teachers thoroughly.

A thorough evaluation is not only a rigorous testing regimen, though test results should not be excluded from consideration. A fair evaluation takes a lot of work and incorporates soft factors that are not as black and white as test scores.

In response to this dilemma, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has started the Measure of Effective Teaching Project to formulate a consistent evaluation system for school administrations.

According to a study conducted by Stanford University professor Linda Darling-Hammond, thorough evaluations reveal innovative and effective teaching methods better than purely test-based performance measures.

Teachers' unions need to be more reasonable in the face of reform.

They must forego some job security or protection of teachers who underperform just as administrations need to offer teachers more oversight, support and respect for effective work. Lord knows that teaching underprivileged children is not easy.

Perhaps slam poet and former school teacher Taylor Mali put it best when he said, "Instead of obsessing about our worst teachers, we need to start a new national conversation about what it takes to be a great teacher."

Yet, even the greatest of teachers cannot alone save this system.

Ultimately, our nation's public schools are facing a crisis, and we need a collaborative and open effort to reform them. Past policies have left us with overcrowded classrooms, unsafe schools, demoralized teachers (even the good ones) and egregious funding inequity, among other things. Good teachers and rigorous testing will not completely transform public education.

But for the sake of the 350,000 students in Chicago, let's save the playground fights for recess, and get classes back in session.

Sayeh Gorjifard is a columnist for The Dartmouth at Dartmouth College.



Swing State



Alex M. Sanchez / Alligator

Annabelle Cook, 9, holds up a sign supporting Mitt Romney for the 2012 election. She and other Romney supporters gathered in front of the Stephen C. O'Connell Center at noon.



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Michelle Obama points to the crowd to emphasize early voting to students and Gainesville residents Monday afternoon at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.



David Carr / Alligator Staff



Audre Larrow / Alligator Staff

Political science senior Justin Bullard and others rise up and perform the wave minutes before first lady Michelle Obama spoke.

Top Right: Members of the UF Fightin' Gator Marching Band hold up signs supporting President Barack Obama on Monday at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.

Bottom Right: A young Obama supporter eagerly waits by his father's side for the first lady to take the stage at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center.



David Carr / Alligator Staff



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Mayor Craig Lowe addresses the crowd before the first lady speaks at the O'Dome on Monday.



David Carr / Alligator Staff

First lady Michelle Obama hugs 21-year-old Alex Masi while approaching the lectern.



Rachel Crosby / Alligator

Romney supporters rally at The Swamp Restaurant on Monday, waving banners at traffic on West University Avenue.

2012

LOCAL

Christmas arrives early in stores

AYANA STEWART

Alligator Contributing Writer

It's only September, but some Gainesville retailers have already started preparing for the holiday season.

At the Kohl's on 3501 SW Archer Road, there's an ornate Christmas section near the back of the store. Rows of ornaments, snow globes and smiling Santa Claus figurines are on display. Christmas cards, stockings and fake snow are for sale — right next to Halloween decorations.

Assistant store manager Andrea Kress said retailers transition into holidays earlier than the general public. The Kohl's display has been up for a week.

"We're trying to maximize sales," Kress said.

She said people have shown interest in the items during the last few days. The display will stay up until late December.

At The Oaks Mall, stores' setups vary. Belk and Macy's have sections with Christmas merchandise. As of Friday, J.C. Penney had not decorated for Christmas, and a Sears employee said the store was setting up a display that day.

play that day.

Oaks Mall spokesman William Bivins said each store decides when to decorate for Christmas. The mall will put up its own Christmas display Nov. 10.

Steven Kirn, executive director of UF's David F. Miller Center for Retailing Education and Research, said retailers set up early to try to extend the holiday season and encourage customers to spend more.

"It's clearly the biggest-selling season of the year for retailers, and it's been creeping earlier and earlier each year," he said.

Shoppers might shop for gifts earlier if Christmas items are on sale, he said.

Kirn said store Christmas displays may appeal to people who buy gifts far in advance, and it could help shoppers realize the holiday season is closer than they had thought.

But 18-year-old psychology sophomore Arline Herrera thinks putting up Christmas decorations before Halloween is excessive.

"My family usually puts Christmas decorations up after Thanksgiving, and I think a lot of people do too," she said. "I think it's better to just leave it around that time."



Ryan Jones / Alligator

Customers can now get a head start on buying this year's Christmas stockings, trees and ornaments, which are already for sale at the Kohl's at 3501 SW Archer Road.

UF law student, athlete nominated for NCAA award

KELLY PRICE

Alligator Contributing Writer

When Grace Collins sees a report about a natural disaster on the news, she wants to get there to help out as soon as she can.

"But I guess I'm just one girl," the 22-year-old UF law student said. "I can't be everywhere."

Collins is up for the NCAA Woman of the Year award, which is given based on athletic and academic achievements, community service and leadership. Collins is among the top three finalists from Division II and will face six more candidates from divisions I and III for the award. She will attend the award banquet Oct. 14 at NCAA headquarters in Indianapolis.

Collins just started classes at UF's Levin College of Law and was nominated this summer by Barry University, from which she graduated in May.

Dennis Jezek Jr., Barry's sports information director, nominated Collins for the award. He said there was no question about who the university would nominate.

"A lot of athletes at Barry have service hours, but the thing about Grace is we have never had anyone with as much community service as her — like, ever," Jezek said. "No one's been quite like her."

During her time at Barry, she organized a campuswide effort to send packages to soldiers stationed overseas through the organization America's Moms for Soldiers.

Despite having the packed schedule of a student athlete, she went throughout campus between classes and practices and sat at tables, urging other students to sign letters for the soldiers' care packages.

When floods ravaged Nashville in 2010, Collins went to help. She volunteered at a thrift store there, moving furniture and organizing clothes. She also spent time with LP PENCIL Box, an organization that gives away free

school supplies to educators.

"You can donate stuff and never really understand your impact," she said. "But if you go there, you can really see the damages firsthand."

Collins toured Nashville and saw water damage, mold and peeling walls. The people's faces there still burn in her mind, she said.

"A lot of athletes at Barry have service hours, but the thing about Grace is we have never had anyone with as much community service as her — like, ever. No one's been quite like her."

Dennis Jezek Jr.

sports information director

"It kind of shocks you to see that — it's scary," she said. "But it brings a smile to your face, knowing they're thankful you're just there."

Collins, who played softball at Barry, was inspired by the athletic training staff there. She said giving future athletes opportunities like those the Barry staff gave her would be "a dream come true."

That dream ranked UF's law school No. 1 on Collins' list due to its role in the Southeastern Conference and opportunities for networking, she said. At UF, she plans to specialize in sports law and possibly to intern with the UF athletic department.

Collins is the eighth finalist Barry has sent since the NCAA began giving out the award in 1995, Jezek said.

Jezek said Collins was the first student athlete to win the Barry University President's Award, which is given to the school's most outstanding senior.

In the meantime, Collins said, she's humbled to get this far in the competition.

"I do these things not for the recognition, but because I like to help other people," she said. "But to say it's been easy would be a lie."

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Free Cable, W/D connection,
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10-5-12-14-2

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.

4 Roommates

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

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

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 12-5-71-5

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. 12-5-12-71-6

6 Furnishings

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 12-5-12-71-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400 Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 12-5-12-71-6

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. 12-5-7-6

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 12-5-7-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather. Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 12-5-7-6

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

DINETTE SET 5pc \$120 Brand new in box. Never used. 352-377-9846 12-5-7-6

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. 12-5-7-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 12-5-7-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 12-5-12-71-6

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
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8 Electronics

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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

●UF Surplus Equipment Auctions● are underway...bikes, computers, printers, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: surplus.ufl.edu 392-0370 12-5-12-71-10

GOATS FOR SALE
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Guitars and Musical Instruments
New, Used and Factory Refurbished
Check Us Out Before You Buy!!
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352-450-0928 Leonardos302.com
12-5-12-71-10

MUSIC STORE - Studio Percussion
●BUY ●SELL ●TRADE ●LESSONS
●NEW ●USED
Founded by UF Florida Alumni! Go Gators!
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10-4-30-10

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MCINTOSH WORLD.COM. Wewanttobeyour
Boutique.Gifts.Cards,LP's,Ladies and Mens
Clothes.Plants,Art,Shoes,Rock&Roll.15
miles South on Hwy.441 352-591-7744 open
Sat.thru Tues.We want your business. 10-
23-30-10

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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

★★★WWW.RPMMOTORCYCLES.COM★★★
FULLSERVICE MOTORCYCLE - SCOOTER
REPAIR. 12TH YEAR IN GVILLE. OEM
& AFTERMARKET PARTS. BEST TIRE
PRICES IN TOWN. 352-377-6974 12-5-
71-11



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Great Scooters, Service & Prices!
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Vespa, Genuine, GMW, & More! NS4L.com
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★★SCOOTER REPAIR★★
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Will repair any make/model. Close to UF!
Pick-ups avail. Cheap oil changes!! 336-1271
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Largest Scooter Store in Town! Run by Gator
Grads! New scooters starting at \$899. 1yr
Parts AND labor warranties included. 376-
6275 RoadRatMotors.com 12-5-12-71-11

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

Road Rat Motors-Gville's #1 service facility. We repair ALL brands of scooters & will come to YOU! Daily pickups available. Lowest labor rates & quickest turnaround time around. Run by Gator Grads! 352-376-6275 RoadRatMotors.com 12-5-12-71-11

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Now renting Buddy scooters too! 352-336-1271
www.gainesvillescooterrentals.com
12-5-12-71-11

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 12-5-71-11

12 Autos

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CARS - CARS Buy●Sell●Trade
Clean BMW, Volvo, Mercedes
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3432 N Main St. www.carrsmith.com
CARRSMITH AUTO SALES 373-1150
12-5-71-12

●●● We Buy Junk Cars ●●●
●Trucks, Vans - Titled only●
Call KT 352-281-9980 or 352-215-3191
12-5-71-12

I BUY CARS - TRUCKS
★★★★ Call Anytime - Licensed ★★★★★
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ALL VEHICLES \$0 DOWN!
NO CREDIT CHECK!!!
VEHICLES \$1000 AND UP!
352-338-1999 12-5-71-12

BUY FOR BLOWOUT
PRICES & SAVE BIG!!!
VEHICLES STARTING AT \$1000
PRICES NEGOTIABLE!!!
352-338-1999 12-5-71-12

12 Autos

97 HONDA CIVIC \$5999
99 HONDA ACCORD \$5999
98 ACURA RL \$6999
02 HONDA ACCORD \$6999
352-338-1999 12-5-71-12

01 TOYOTA CAMRY \$6999
02 TOYOTA COROLLA \$6999
00 HONDA ODYSSEY \$7999
02 VOLVO STYPE \$8999
352-338-1999 12-5-71-12

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CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS!
30 DAY WARRANTY
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99 HONDA ACCORD \$6999
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03 NISSAN SENTRA \$6999
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352-375-9090 12-5-71-12

03 HONDA CIVIC \$8999
04 TOYOTA COROLLA \$8999
03 NISSAN ALTIMA \$8999
04 TOYOTA CAMRY \$10,999
352-375-9090 12-5-71-12

13 Wanted

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 12-5-71-13

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.



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.cfoxmail.com

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 9-21-12-71-13

RESEARCH STUDY:
Have you had a positive skin test for TB (tuberculosis) and have NOT received BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin)?

This is a study comparing two forms of skin testing preparations in PPD-positive persons, 18-60 years of age.

If you think you are eligible to take part in this study, please contact Linda at 352-273-9376. 9-21-12-21-13

CUTTING-EDGE UF RESEARCH STUDY
●BOTH smokers AND never-smokers
●Periodontal (gum line) sampling only
●5 visits over 2 years; up to 1.5 hr each visit
●FREE oral exam, up to \$160 compensation
Call: 352-392-2945 or 352-641-0319 10-16-12-30-13

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\$300 A DAY POTENTIAL
No experience necessary, training provided.
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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 12-5-12-71-14

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Evening & Weekend Shifts,
Must be Articulate and Reliable
371-5888 X111 or 6020 NW 4th Pl, Ste G
9-28-31-14

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

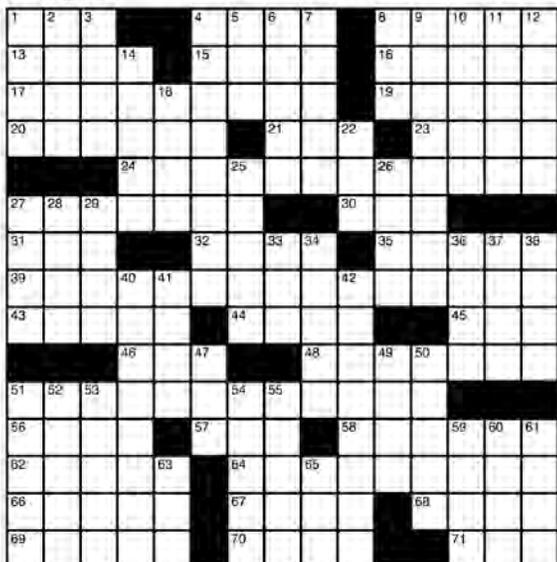
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 President after JFK
 - 4 Totally absorbed
 - 8 Made like a kangaroo
 - 13 Papers promising payment
 - 15 "The Andy Griffith Show" tyke
 - 16 Bonus
 - 17 "Keep charging drinks
 - 19 Pierces
 - 20 Rectified, with "for"
 - 21 "... a lender be"
 - 23 Comic on a roll
 - 24 "Occasion to say "Whew!"
 - 27 Biblical haircutter
 - 30 Letter between upslon and chi
 - 31 Cavity filler's org.
 - 32 Trait carrier
 - 35 Actor Milo
 - 39 "Annual April paperwork
 - 43 Greet casually, with "to"
 - 44 Affectedly dainty, to Brits
 - 45 Piddling point to pick
 - 46 Writer's undergrad deg.
 - 48 Devastates
 - 51 "Running amok
 - 56 Not yet eliminated
 - 57 PC file suffix
 - 58 Bygone Toyotas
 - 62 Collectible print, briefly
 - 64 "Overnight work assignment
 - 66 Phillies infielder Chase
 - 67 Chichén Mayan ruins
 - 68 Under sail, say
 - 69 Scholarly article reviewers
 - 70 Mopey look
 - 71 Each answer to a starred clue ends in one
- DOWN**
- 1 Old Italian coin
 - 2 Ring contest
 - 3 2007 title role for Ellen Page

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 09/18/12



By Julian Lim
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O ₁	O ₁	T ₁	T ₁	H ₄	H ₄	S ₁	
I ₁	O ₁	U ₁	G ₂	N ₁	L ₁	S ₁	
A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	M ₃	T ₁	C ₃	M ₃	
O ₁	O ₁	T ₁	T ₁	S ₁	P ₃	M ₃	

3rd Letter Triple RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

Double Word Score RACK 4

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 207

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.

09-18

14 Help Wanted

Work with the Gators!
Apply in Person - Gate 18
Ben Hill Griffin Concessions Ofc
Part-Time Opportunities
Great 2nd Job! Seasonal! 9-21-12-26-14

DOMINOS HIRING
delivery drivers & assistant managers.
Drivers earn between \$14-\$17 per hour.
Apply at gatordominos.com 9-28-12-30-14

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\$STUDENTS GET CASH ON THE SPOT\$
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Office Assistant/Checkout Person needed for busy dermatology practice. Knowledge of insurance and medical coding preferred but willing to train motivated individual. Duties include appt. scheduling, answering phones, collecting payments, and posting charges. FT, Mon.-Fri. 8-5pm with generous benefits. Prefer stable, mature individual. 2-year commitment desired. Please e-mail resume to ofmgrbeers@aol.com. 8-11-12-5-14

STUDENT WORK GREAT PAY
\$14.50 base/appt -FT/PT openings
Customer sales/service all ages 17+
CALL NOW 352-505-9105 12-5-12-70-14

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 9-28-12-27-14

STUDENTPAYOUTS.COM
Paid survey takers needed. Gainesville. 100% FREE to join. Click on Surveys 12-5-12-69-14

PROPERTY MANAGER — FT
Friendly, energetic person. Requires 5 yrs. apartment management experience, good communication skills & computer knowledge. Must be avail. weekends.
Apply in person,
Contemporary Management Concepts,
2770 NW 43rd Street, Ste. B. DFWP
12-5-12-68-14

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Experience preferred.
Leave message at (352)375-0700.
9-20-11-10-14

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AC cert. w/4 yrs. apt. maint. exp.
Must have own tools & truck. Salary commensurate with exp. Apply in person
2770 NW 43rd St., Ste. B DFWP
12-5-12-68-14

OFFICE ASST. Bookkeeping exp necessary. Quickbooks preferred. Ability & interest to learn accounting software & strong math may be ok. Computer hardware, software skills a plus. 5-20 hrs/wk. \$7.75/hr. Send resume, your specific skills, available schedule to oma.office@yahoo.com 9-28-11-14-14

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FT Vet Experience Required.
Please apply in person
Institute of Veterinary Spec
3606 NW 98th St. Suite A 9-18-5-14

14 Help Wanted

We are looking for a part time team member with exceptional people skills, a quick-learner, and multi-tasker. This is a patient-centric, busy, eye care practice. **Hours will be part time Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-6 and Fridays 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 9-18-12-5-14

CLERICAL/ORGANIZATIONAL AID sought by small private healthcare office. UF JR-SR w/car. Structured, detail-oriented, genial. P-T 6-8 hrs/wk, var. Fall term., poss. spring. \$9/hr. Fax resume to 352-377-3193. 9-25-12-9-14

Paralegal - PT - for immigration law firm. 20 hrs/wk. Must make one yr commitment. Spanish a plus. Resume to robjac@myimmigrationlaw.com. 9-19-12-5-14

Hogan's Great Sandwiches now hiring Bartenders, Deli Help. Accepting apps at both 5156 S W 34th Street and 2327 N W 13th Street Stores. Must have reliable transportation and some daytime availability. 9-18-12-4-14

Boost your resume with real work experience. Growing Tampa company looking for student brand rep. Contact info@rescuebands.com for more details 9-19-12-5-14

Gainesville Health & Fitness
...will be hosting a Job Fair
Wednesday, 9/19/12,
Thursday 9/20/12 and
Friday 9/21/12 from 10am-2pm.

Obtain valuable experience for your future. If you are hardworking & enthusiastic we want to meet you! We will be accepting applications for the following positions:
● Floor Instructors
● Houskeepers
● Kid's Club Attendants
● Front Desk
● Cafe Attendant
No prior experience necessary to apply
4820 Newberry Road
9-18-12-3-14

HoneyBaked Ham & Cafe is accepting applications for sales & sandwich prep positions. 20-25 hr/wk, \$7.75/hr. Apply in person M-F 10am-6pm 618 NW 60th St (behind McDonald's off Newberry Rd by Oaks Mall) 352-331-1253 9-24-12-6-14

DJs Wanted
Thurs, Fri & Sat. 80's & 90's music.
Downtown location. 917-690-8191 9-21-12-5-14

Seek homework coach/tutor for 3rd grader w/ADHD, weekday afternoons, flexible days, at elem school or library. Own transp required. \$15/hr. Email exp & 3 refs to ndigruttolo@bellsouth.net. 9-24-12-5-14

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION

H ₄	O ₁	T ₁	S ₁	H ₄	O ₁	T ₁	RACK 1 =	65
L ₁	O ₁	U ₁	S ₁	I ₁	N ₁	G ₂	RACK 2 =	58
C ₃	O ₁	M ₃	M ₃	I ₁	T ₁		RACK 3 =	12
T ₁	O ₁	P ₃	M ₃	O ₁	S ₁	T ₁	RACK 4 =	72
							TOTAL	207

PAR SCORE 145-155

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14 Help Wanted

ATTENTION SMOKERS!!!
Do you want to quit smoking? Smokers are needed to participate in a smoking cessation study. If interested, please call the University of Florida Smoking Laboratory and Clinic at 352-234-6640 or e-mail us at ufsmokinglabclinic@gmail.com 10-15-12-20-14

15 Services

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

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Personal and Group Training
Flexible Scheduling Exclusive Facility
Call for a free workout
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SiddiquiOnline.com
Private Experienced Affordable 12-5-71-15

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Powerwashing Package Includes:
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352-339-3910 Ron Viola
Free Estimates ● Insured
9-28-12-35-15

16 Health Services

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

THE TRUE YOU!
Lose 8-15 pounds in 4 weeks
Only \$119!
Gain muscle while you lose fat
Groups forming now. 339-2199
12-15-71-16

18 Personals

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

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Since 1977. Two blocks from U.F.
373-7070
12-5-71-18

19 Connections

Want to make a connection?
Place your ad here to look for someone to share a common interest with or for your true love

20 Event Notices

IS YOUR BUSINESS, CLUB OR ORGANIZATION HAVING AN EVENT? DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT? PLACE YOUR AD HERE AND GET IT NOTICED!

Transcendental Meditation Technique:
A free Introductory Lecture, Sunday, Sept. 30th, 1pm at the Hampton Inn, Arredondo Room, 101 S.E. 1st Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601. Questions: 352-338-1249 or abyx-be@tm.org, Allan Byxbe. 9-28-12-17-20

Once you have a baby, there's no turning back. Be as sure as you can be and consider some thoughts other than your own. "Danger! You May Become a Parent" is an ebook for people who don't always think of everything, even important things, like parenthood. The ebook is low cost at Amazon.com 9-25-7-20

20 Event Notices

FREE GRE WORKSHOP from the UF Teaching Center, M-R, Sept 24-27 from 5:00- 7:00 p.m. each day. Verbal sessions on M & W, Math on T & R. Go to teachingcenter.ufl.edu, click on "Current Test Review Schedule & Practice Exams" to register and learn the location. 9-24-5-20

21 Entertainment

Get the party started! Place your Entertainment classified today to get people up and about. Call 373-FIND.

Rocky Creek Paintball
In Gainesville ● Better Prices
Better Fields ● Better Call 371-2092
12-5-12-71-21

23 Rides

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

24 Pets

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

25 Lost & Found

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

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

Differences: 1. Light is missing. 2. Number is missing. 3. Shade is raised. 4. Sleeves are different. 5. Pocket is different. 6. Note is missing.

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Driskel drawing Tebow comparisons with rushing prowess



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Florida quarterback Jeff Driskel (6) escapes pressure on Saturday during the Gators' 37-20 victory against Tennessee at Neyland Stadium. Driskel threw for 219 yards and ran for another 81.

ADAM PINCUS
Alligator Staff Writer

Jeff Driskel looks the part, but he's not ready to compare himself to another running quarterback from Florida's past.

Still, the sophomore showed on Saturday why he is mentioned in the same conversation as Tim Tebow.

On a first-and-10 in the first quarter, Driskel and Omarius Hines muffed an exchange on a wide receiver sweep. Driskel picked up the bouncing ball in the midst of an oncoming pass rush and ran 10 yards for a first down.

His improvisation consistently extended drives for Florida.

"I've definitely heard those comparisons, even back in high school," Driskel said. "Just because of our body size and the way we can run the ball. It's nice to be compared, but I wouldn't go that far and say I try to be like him, or watch his film and try to be like him. But I guess we do play similar styles."

Driskel earned Southeastern Conference Offensive Player of the Week honors after racking up 219 passing yards, 81 rushing yards and two touchdowns against Tennessee.

Through his first three games this season, Driskel has 608 yards of total offense. His 113 rushing yards rank fourth among SEC quarterbacks.

In 2007, his first season as UF's starter, Tebow amassed 192 rushing yards through three games. He also won the Heisman Trophy.

Driskel may not belong in the same conversation as Tebow, but like the Heisman Trophy winner, he isn't afraid of an oncoming tackler.

"I try to make a vertical cut and get as many yards as possible," Driskel said. "I don't really try to get out of bounds."

"It's nice to be compared, but I wouldn't go that far and say I try to be like him, or watch his film and try to be like him. But I guess we do play similar styles."

Jeff Driskel
UF quarterback

The threat of a 6-foot-4, 237-pound running quarterback presents the same quandary for defenses that Tebow did for his three years as a starter.

Add in versatile Trey Burton, and the Gators have a deep backfield with Driskel and running back Mike Gillislee.

"A one-back set is a two-back set now," Muschamp said. "A two-back set is a three-back set. You create a lot of issues for a defense when a guy has legs at the quarterback position."

SEE DRISKEL, PAGE 14

FIRE JOE MORGAN

Burton not the go-to player coaches, fans think he is

On Saturday, the Hot Light burned brightly. Trey Burton was making doughnuts.

The night sky in Knoxville, Tenn., was filled with the sweet smell of crullers, bear claws and Boston cream as Florida celebrated its 37-20 victory against Tennessee.

Burton carried the ball three times for 91 yards and two touchdowns, including a game-tying 80-yard score late in the third quarter.

His second touchdown kicked off a string of 24 unanswered points scored by the Gators during the game's final 19 minutes.

The aroma was familiar.

Florida has enjoyed this sweetness before.

Two years ago, UF enjoyed sugar



Joe Morgan
twitter: @joe_morgan

rushes courtesy of Burton against two unranked Southeastern Conference opponents — Kentucky and Georgia. Both teams finished

the season 6-7. In those two games, Burton tallied 290 all-purpose yards.

Prior to this year, Burton has rarely fared well against ranked opponents. In nine games against Top-25 teams, Burton has averaged just 23.1 yards per contest.

Florida coach Will Muschamp has tried bringing home Krispy Kreme for dinner in the past. Suffice it to say, it

SEE JOE, PAGE 14

McCray shining in pass rush

► REDSHIRT SENIOR STARTING AT BUCK LINEBACKER FOR GATORS.

JOSH JURNOVOY
Alligator Staff Writer

Lerentee McCray's hard work is finally paying off.

In the second half of Saturday's 37-20 win against Tennessee, Florida was dominant on both sides of the ball, outgaining UT 389 to 134 during the game's final 30 minutes. McCray, a redshirt senior Buck linebacker, was a big part of the defense's success as he consistently pressured Volunteers' quarterback Tyler Bray and intercepted him on the third drive of the game.

McCray played sparingly his first three years for Florida, accumulating just 16 tackles. He suffered a shoulder injury af-

ter starting the first five games of the 2011 season and saw limited action the rest of the year.

"Just been a lot of hard work," McCray said of earning an increased role. "A lot of dedication, just trying to get better and better every day."

Coach Will Muschamp praised McCray's work ethic and said his pass-rushing skills have helped the team immensely.

"He's a threat off the edge, but he's also a heavy-handed guy," Muschamp said. "He can really get his hands on people and get them off of him. He's a guy that can convert speed to power in the rush, which is critical for a speed rusher, which is what he is."

SEE NOTES, PAGE 14



Freshman Gordon Watson of the UF men's tennis team won the Bedford Cup. See story, page 15.

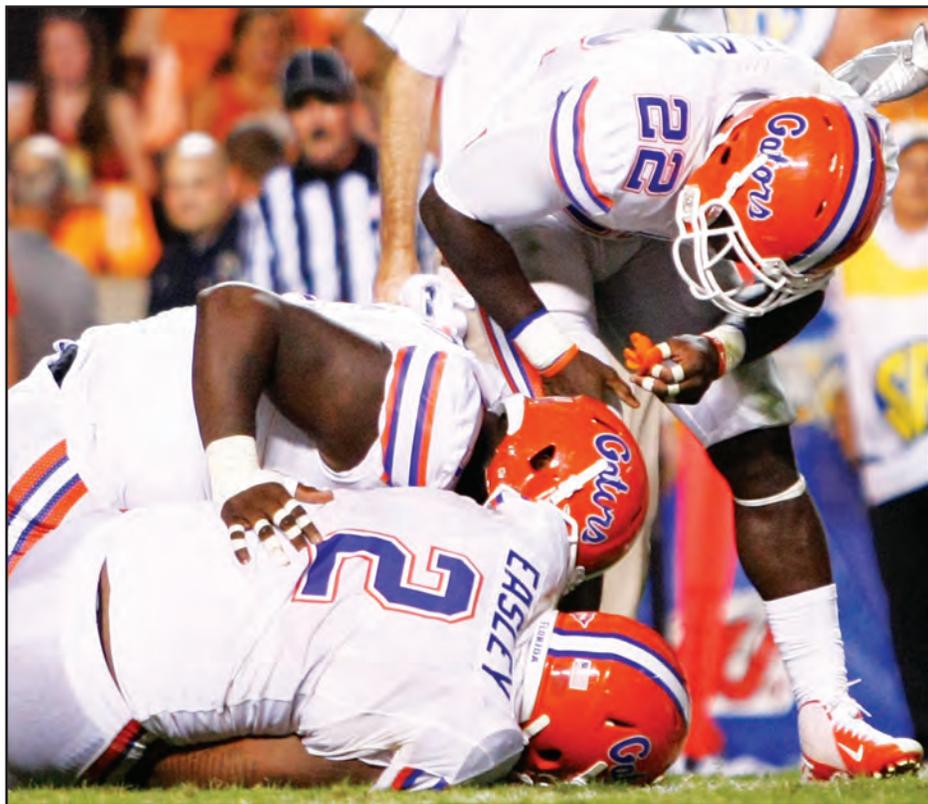
Unroe Earns SEC Award

Sophomore libero Taylor Unroe was named the Southeastern Conference Defensive Player of the Week on Monday. Unroe averaged 5.12 digs per set in two weekend wins, with a career-high 24 on Friday against Arkansas.

Hernandez Nursing Injured Ankle

Former Florida tight end Aaron Hernandez, now with the New England Patriots, will be out multiple weeks due to an injured right ankle, according to multiple reports.

Easley day-to-day, Green probable for Saturday against UK



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Defensive lineman Dominique Easley is tended to by his teammates on Saturday at Neyland Stadium. After a few minutes, Easley walked off under his own power.

NOTES, from page 13

Special Teams: The Gators' punt team effectively limited the Volunteers on Saturday, allowing just one punt return on five opportunities. Sophomore punter Kyle Christy punted from Florida's 7-yard line after UF's first drive and pinned the Volunteers on their own 38-yard line with a 55-yard kick.

"Kyle Christy flipped the field twice," Muschamp said after the game. "Normally you get to the 50. One first down, they're in field goal range."

Muschamp said on Monday that Christy's punts gave the Gators momentum. Christy was named one of the special teams players of the week.

Through its first three games, Florida has punted 15 times and has allowed just four returns for three yards.

Injuries: Right tackle Chaz Green is probable for Saturday's game against Kentucky, Muschamp said on Monday. Green left UF's game against Texas A&M with cramps and also suffered an ankle injury, which forced him to miss Saturday's game against Tennessee.

"Probably was a game-time decision in an emergency situation," Muschamp said of Green sitting against the Volunteers. "If we had had some injuries, probably could have played, but we held him."

"If we had had some injuries, probably could have played, but we held [Green]."

Will Muschamp
UF football head coach

Defensive end Dominique Easley left Florida's game against Tennessee with a knee injury. Easley suffered an ACL tear in his left knee during UF's game against FSU on Nov. 26, 2011. Muschamp said it was simply inflammation and that Easley is day-to-day. His status for Kentucky will be determined based on how he progresses throughout the week.

Muschamp also said that cornerback Cody Riggs is still out due to a broken bone in his right foot suffered against Texas A&M, while linebacker Jelani Jenkins remains out due to the broken right thumb he injured in the same game.

Muschamp said he will update the status of both Riggs and Jenkins on Wednesday.

Contact Josh Jurnovoy at jjurnovoy@alligator.org.

Rushing success setting up passing opportunities for Gators

DRISKEL, from page 13

sition and all of the zone-read opportunities and the different things that you're doing in the misdirection off the run game."

Driskel used the running game to set up his passing on Saturday. On a third-and-7 in the fourth quarter, he recognized a cornerback blitz and found receiver Frankie Hammond Jr. for a 75-yard touchdown.

Gators coach Will Muschamp mentioned the play as one example of his quarterback showing his maturity on the field.

"He made really good decisions," Muschamp said. "He got us in and out of the right runs. He got us out of some run situations versus a bad run box to the other side or to a pass, and he was able to do those things at a very high level."

UF Football

Muschamp named Driskel the starter ahead of Jacoby Brissett after a six-month quarterback competition. The experience of the past three weeks has improved Driskel's intangibles.

"It comes with the game reps and getting those live reps," Hammond said. "I'm sure the game is slowing down for him, and he's starting to read things out and just

playing quarterback and playing fast and making good decisions."

While Driskel has started to grasp the mental aspects of quarterback, his natural ability is nothing new to his teammates.

"We hated two-minute (drills) because we turn our backs, and he takes off running," senior linebacker Jon Bostic said. "Then, we've got to turn around and run and try to catch him. So, we always knew he could run. We knew he could throw. Basically, it's just putting everything together and being able to go out and help us win the ball game."

Contact Adam Pincus at apincus@alligator.org.

JOE, from page 13

did not go well.

Facing a critical fourth-and-1 during the first half of last season's loss to Florida State, UF elected to run Burton up the middle.

Overwhelmed by the Seminoles' push at the line of scrimmage, Burton ran backwards in an attempt to get outside and lost 14 yards.

In Florida's 20-17 victory against Texas A&M on Sept. 8, the Gators decided to hand off to Burton on second-and-goal on the 6-yard line.

Burton again ran backwards to avoid the stuffed defensive front, but only lost two yards due to some impressive maneuvering in a frantic attempt to get back to the line of scrimmage.

Even Urban Meyer learned the hard way that UF cannot run on Dunkin'.

John Brantley led Florida deep into Alabama territory before he was pulled for Burton.

Burton ran twice for no gain, then threw an interception on a jump pass.

Both Muschamp and offensive coordinator Brent Pease have emphatically praised Burton's versatility and intelligence.

According to the Gators offensive staff, he's the Gabby Douglas of mental gymnastics — a term Pease used during fall camp to describe the process of learning his offense.

However, UF should give the majority of touches to more effective options like Mike Gillislee, Jordan Reed and maybe even Jeff Driskel down the road.

When the going gets tough in the heart of the SEC schedule, those are the guys Florida should trust.

Burton is a good football player, but he should not be the Gators' go-to playmaker.

He is most effective in the wildcat formation, a scheme that works more as a gimmick than anything else.

No good defense would have been fooled by Burton's 80-yard run after UF ran the same play — only reversed — on his 14-yard score in the first quarter.

When you're starving, doughnuts won't cut it. They are arguably the emptiest carbs one can eat.

If the football season is a day, then Florida will finish breakfast against Kentucky this weekend.

But beyond the morning hours, doughnuts are merely dessert — an added bonus.

If the Gators want to sit at the grown-ups table, they need to eat wholesome meals.

So, keep making those doughnuts, Mr. Burton.

If the Gators eat as much as they plan to this season, they'll find a way to make some room for dessert.

Contact Joe Morgan at joemorgan@alligator.org.



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Trey Burton (8) celebrates after scoring a 14-yard touchdown on his first trip to the red zone in Florida's win against Tennessee at Neyland Stadium.

Watson making early impact

MAX MATTERN

Alligator Writer

One year ago, Southeastern Conference tennis programs such as Georgia, Mississippi State and Vanderbilt sought highly touted recruit Gordon Watson.

Watson was undecided on where he wanted to play collegiate tennis — until he visited Gainesville.

UF's campus was Watson's final visit, as he fell in love with the facilities and staff.

"It felt like home," Watson said at the time. "I really loved the other schools on my list, but I realized that I wanted to continue my training in Florida after my visits."

That Watson won his first collegiate tournament in the same city he fell in love with was only fitting.

Watson defeated North Florida's Moritz Buerchner in three sets Monday morning by a score of 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, to win the Bedford Cup.

"I got to the finals, felt pretty good," Watson said. "I knew Moritz Buerchner had tough matches [Sunday]. I decided to play steady and make him work. I knew I could outlast him if it went three sets, and it did go three sets."

Outlast is exactly what Watson did. After

splitting the first two sets, Watson was seemingly quicker, stronger and fitter than his opponent.

"Once I got my confidence going, it kept going and going," Watson said.

Watson's momentum started in neither the third set of the finals nor the semis. Watson started his march to the finals in the round of 32, when he played No. 3 seed Benjamin Lock of FSU. Watson edged Lock 6-4, 6-4.

"It really boosted my confidence getting through the second round, beating Benjamin Lock," Watson said. "It really lifted my spirits."

"Once I got my confidence going, it kept going and going,"

Gordon Watson
UF tennis player

What made his performance even more eye-opening? The Bedford Cup was only the redshirt freshman's second time competing in a collegiate tournament.

Watson making an impact as fast as he has would have been difficult to imagine when he was signing his letter of intent.

"Being a freshman, it is a great experience," Watson said. "I really didn't expect any of this coming in. It is what it is, and I wouldn't give it up for the world."



Kelly Logan / Alligator

Freshman Gordon Watson hits a forehand during Sunday's action in the Bedford Cup in Linder Stadium at the Ring Tennis Complex.

Strong showings from Hedberg, Lendl help UF

CHARLES KINGSBURY

Alligator Writer

Florida is currently second after balancing its first two rounds at the Dale McNamara Invitational on Monday.

The Gators shot a 285 (-3) in the first round but carded a 291 (+3) in the second, resulting in a four-stroke deficit to first-place Arizona State after Day 1 of the 15-team tournament.

Strong outings by sophomore Camilla Hedberg and senior Isabelle Lendl helped put the Gators in second place after the Sun Devils posted the day's lone under-par team score.

Hedberg tied a team low by carding a 67 (-5) with four birdies and an eagle against one bogey.

"Camilla and Isabelle each had a great round in the morning and afternoon, respectively," coach Emily Bastel said. "Those rounds kept us in the golf tournament."

Lendl ended her first round with a 71 (-1), carding four bogeys.

She birdied her final three holes to close out a promising showing.

She carried the momentum of her final three holes of the first round into the second, starting with another three straight birdies.

The senior posted a 67 (-5), including seven birdies.

Lendl's combined 138 (-6) was good for first place on the individual leaderboard. Hedberg to-

taled 140 (-4) on the day, tying her for second with Jayde Panos of Oklahoma State.

In spite of Lendl and Hedberg's strong performances, support from the rest of the Gators was sparse.

"Overall, it wasn't our best day, but we are looking forward to tomorrow and glad we are in the hunt," Bastel said.

Senior Mia Piccio posted a 76 (+4) in Monday's second round to bring her tourney total to 148 (+4).

UF Golf

Piccio bogeyed two holes and double-bogeyed another.

She is currently tied for 20th.

Freshman Ursa Orehek carded a 75 (+3) in the second round to bring her two-round total to 155 (+11).

Sophomore Anna Young finished the day with a score of 76 (+4) for a two-day total of 151 (+7).

Young bogeyed on three separate occasions in the second round and double-bogeyed the sixth hole.

The Gators will pick up play today for the third and final round of the invitational. Florida trails Arizona State by four strokes.

"I am proud of the girls for hanging in there on a long 36-hole day," Bastel said.

"It is, obviously, physically tiring, but even more mentally tiring. But we will be ready to go tomorrow."

CROSS COUNTRY

Strausa wins first race with Florida

TAYLOR GAINES

Alligator Writer

Junior Agata Strausa had never run a race as a member of the Gators cross country team before her victory at the Mountain Dew Invitational.

Nonetheless, no one seemed very surprised when she came across the line in first.

"Well, we knew she was talented," coach Paul Spangler said. "The girl's got skills."

Strausa was born in Riga, Latvia and attended school at Hermann-von-Helmholtz in Germany before transferring to Florida in January. The urge to become a part of Gator Nation became too much for her to resist.

"I really wanted to make the American experience, and I just fell in love with the Gators on my recruit trip," Strausa said.

"This is where I want to represent. It's a great team, great coaches — it seemed like the perfect opportunity."

Her transition to the Orange and Blue happened quicker than most would have expected. In her first track meet as a Gator in February, she placed 10th in the women's 3,000 meter.

No one would have faulted Strausa, who ran for a club team in Germany before coming to America, if she had a bit of an adjustment period.

After all, she was in a new climate, surrounded by new coaches and teammates, living in a different country.

"You're used to doing things one way and now you've got a new coach and you're doing things differently," Spangler said. "For her to come out here and have a really good race in her first one gives her a lot of confidence in what we're doing as far as training but also gives her a lot of confidence as we move later into the season."

Strausa will play an important role moving forward as the Gators try to replace Genevieve LaCaze, who graduated this spring and ran for Australia in the Olympics this summer.

"We want to go to nationals as a team and that's what we are all working to," Strausa said. "We work really hard and we look really good in practice. We just have to stay healthy."



Audre Larrow / Alligator Staff

Redshirt junior Agata Strausa runs in the Mountain Dew Invitational on Saturday morning at the Mark Bostick Golf Course.

THE RALLY

Does UF have enough playmakers to beat top-flight teams?

Josh: The biggest question about Florida entering the season was whether it would have enough effective skill players on offense.

UF lost Chris Rainey and Jeff Demps at the end of 2011 without making any significant additions.

After starting the season 3-0 and putting up 555 yards of total offense against Tennessee on Saturday, fans have to be feeling pretty good about the team's playmakers.

Frankie Hammond Jr., Trey Burton and Mike Gillislee all made explosive plays for a team that struggled in that area a year ago.

Not so fast.

This is still largely the same personnel from the 2011 offense, which finished 75th in the country in plays from scrimmage of at least 30 yards.

Until these players show the same explosiveness against one of the better defenses in the Southeastern Conference, there is no reason to believe they can make enough explosive plays for the Gators to contend for an SEC title.

Adam: Way to ruin the party, Josh.

Sure, the Gators have a quarterback with three career starts, a running back who hasn't played a full season and a rag-tag group of receivers who have never been "playmakers."

But this isn't the Florida team from a year ago.

While John Brantley focused on dumping the football to his running backs in the flats, Jeff Driskel has targeted his receivers and given them a chance.

Rainey and Demps were responsible for 19 of 52 receptions through the first three games of 2011. Gillislee, Florida's starting running back in 2012, has just one reception.

"As far as the playmakers (are concerned), we have them. We just have to get the ball out there, get the ball in our hands

and we'll do the rest," Hammond said. "The playmakers out there just have to get our opportunities and take advantage of them."

Florida generated four plays of more than 20 yards against Tennessee in 2011, all of which Rainey and Demps were responsible for.

The Gators more than doubled that total on Saturday in Knoxville, Tenn., and had five different players make a play of more than 20 yards.

This bodes well going forward. The offense isn't centered around two speed backs that can't play the north-south style Will Muschamp wants. Distributing the football and playing off the physical running of Gillislee is what makes this team go.

As Muschamp said after Saturday's game, "This is a different 3-0."

Josh: Muschamp also said that the Gators are, "not where [they] need to be but certainly better than [they] have been." Even he knows the team still needs to show improvement to be true contenders.

Sure, Florida has made significant strides, but that doesn't mean the "playmakers" will still make plays against Georgia, Florida State and LSU.

Trey Burton had the two big touchdown runs, but that was as much bad preparation on Tennessee's part as it was him doing anything right.

The Vols inexcusably didn't have either edge contained and looked like they might actually be expecting a pass from Burton, who has thrown the ball just 12 times in his career.

The best defenses in the SEC will not be caught flat-footed like that.

Adam: Why not give the Florida offense a little bit of credit?



Josh Jurnovoy
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Adam Pincus
twitter: @pincus_adam

Hammond said before the season that offensive coordinator Brent Pease has brought a more creative system to the Gators.

This isn't the one-look offense Charlie Weis ran last year. The redshirt senior receiver said it himself on UF's media day.

If Pease is making these players better, isn't that enough?

Judging from last season, the Gators' playmakers don't have anywhere to go except up, and a favorable schedule will help Florida going forward.

There isn't the ridiculous October stretch this season like there was in 2011, when the

Gators played three SEC games against top-10 defenses.

Florida has four teams on its schedule this season that were top-10 defenses in 2011.

The only true road game against those four opponents comes in Tallahassee against Florida State.

Not only is this a changed team with an easier schedule, but these playmakers have gotten better. Whether that's because of new starting quarterback Jeff Driskel or an improvement of talent remains to be seen, but the numbers don't lie.

Florida has the skill players it needs to win.

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Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Wide receiver Frankie Hammond Jr. (85) shoves aside a Tennessee defender on his way to a career-long 75-yard touchdown in UF's 37-20 win on Saturday at Neyland Stadium.

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