

KICK OFF

INSIDE

► After surviving a pair of SEC road tests, quarterback Jeff Driskel and Florida have a favorable schedule going forward.

ONLINE

► Check out alligatorSports.org for coverage of Saturday's game against UK, plus UF soccer and volleyball recaps.



FRONT-RUNNER

Running with Purpose

Patience and perseverance pay off for Gillislee

ADAM PINCUS
Alligator Staff Writer

With each carry, Mike Gillislee runs farther away from the dangers of DeLand. His cousin Kentrell Gillislee, meanwhile, deals with the perils of their hometown every day.

While Mike leads the Southeastern Conference in rushing, Kentrell is working at Captain D's Seafood Restaurant.

"I have a part-time job, but that's not what it is around here," Kentrell said. "I can't stand the area. It gets hard. If you don't get a scholarship to play football, you have to be an A+ student to get up out of here. Other than that, there's people around here that sell dope and shoot. It's not the right place for anybody."

An accusation of lewd battery in 2009 ruined Kentrell's shot at a Division I football scholarship. After receiving interest from Central Florida, Florida International and Illinois, he settled on a football scholarship to Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, but stayed for just one year.

The cousins, both 21 years old, played together at DeLand High. Football has always been part of their bond, back to the days when they would do barefoot imitations of Emmitt Smith in the middle of South Clara Avenue during their childhood.

Alfred Smith coached at DeLand from 2002-2012 and has seen the development of the cousins on and off the field. Smith remembered when he first saw Mike in the weight room. There was something different about him as a freshman.

Football was Mike's big ticket, and he knew it from a young age, Smith said.

"That kid wanted to get strong," Smith said. "He would come into the weight room and he'd bust his butt. He wouldn't be going in there laughing and playing with the other kids. He

was repping out, waiting and recovering, and went right back to work."

Smith served as offensive coordinator when Mike and Kentrell ran in the same backfield for the Bulldogs. Now he's the head coach at Crescent City High.

"When kids come out of that area (DeLand) and do good for themselves, that whole city supports them," Smith said. "They know what type of area that is."

Last year, Kentrell's 16-year-old cousin, Calvin Nealy Jr., died from the bullet of another teenager's gun. Nealy was the second young adult from DeLand shot between March 20 and April 2 of 2011.

Through it all, Mike found his way to Gainesville, where he's running with more than just the Gators in mind.

"He's trying to do this not only for himself, but for his whole city," Smith said. "He's got a lot of friends he left behind still doing wrong whose only hope is him."

On the football field, Gillislee heads into the fourth game of his senior season at Florida with the Gators' hopes for 2012 largely on his shoulders.

To this point, he hasn't disappointed.

Through three games, Gillislee has rushed for 346 yards and scored four touchdowns. His yardage total is the highest for any Florida rusher through a season's first three games since Ciatrick Fason gained 396 yards in 2004. Fason was Florida's last 1,000 yard rusher.

Gillislee's success has been a long time coming for the senior who arrived at Florida as the lone running back in Urban Meyer's 2009 recruiting class.

During the last three seasons, Gillislee took a back seat to speedsters Chris Rainey and Jeff Demps.

Injuries also kept Gillislee on the sidelines last season. He suffered a sprained ankle against LSU on Oct. 8, which limited the physical run-

ner's carries the rest of the way.

Prior to this season's opener against Bowling Green, when he ran the football 24 times, Gillislee hadn't received more than 11 carries in a game.

Although he led the Gators with a 5.9 yards per carry average in 2011, he finished with 56 attempts — well behind Demps' 98 and Rainey's 171.

He was also used mostly in garbage time, with only two of his 56 attempts coming in the second half with either team down one score or less.

Although the Gators experienced trouble running between the tackles last season, Gillislee did not see as much playing time as his high school coordinator felt he should have.

"I used to give him the ball 30 times a game," Smith said. "Heck yeah, I wanted him to have more playing time, because I knew what he had in him."

Florida finished eighth in the SEC in rushing last season. Against No. 1 LSU, Gillislee led the Gators with 56 yards. He had the talent, but his downhill running style didn't fit Charlie Weis' offense.

"Last year we had those two little fast guys that were kind of the same player, so that minimized his touches," Weis said.

A struggling Florida offensive line didn't help Gillislee, either.

"We didn't block as well as we're blocking right now," Gators coach Will Muschamp said. "Not taking anything away from Mike, because he's running really well, but we're a little differently equipped in the running game than we were a year ago."

Smith made sure his former player stayed focused, even with the public clamoring for Gillislee to get in the game.

Fans chimed in on Twitter with "#freegilly" hashtags and messages pleading for him to touch the football, which still make appearances during Gators game days in 2012.

"I kept in touch with him, because I knew it was tough on him," Smith said. "He knew he could do it and he knew a lot of people knew he could do it. It seemed like he just wasn't getting the chance. The only thing I was doing was telling him to be patient."

High school teammates took notice of how the former four-star recruit handled the lack of playing time.

"He had to wait his turn," former DeLand center Tim Sandersfield said. "A lot of people would've transferred, but Mike had his mind on the goal and took whatever it took to get there."

With touches rare, Gillislee worked on the special teams units during his first three years at Florida.

"He's a guy that never complains," Muschamp said. "He was on our kickoff return team and our punt block team last year. He never complained. I wish he would talk to some of our freshmen. We're trying to get them to understand that. He's a very unselfish player and works extremely hard. You come to our practices, and he puts in the work every day. He's a great example for our younger players."

One embattled player in particular has benefited from knowing Gillislee since their days playing pickup at Chisholm Community Center in DeLand.

De'Ante "Pop" Saunders is in his second year as Florida's starting safety, but his impact hasn't always been positive.

Saunders missed Florida's game against Alabama last October due to a violation of team



David Carr / Alligator Staff

After three seasons spent mostly on the bench, running back Mike Gillislee has taken over the starting role at UF. Through three games, he leads the SEC with 346 rushing yards.

rules. He agreed to deferred prosecution following an arrest in May on misdemeanor marijuana possession charges.

He also missed the first two games this season for undisclosed reasons.

Saunders may have gotten in some trouble at Florida, but Gillislee helped the safety land with the Gators in the first place.

"He was one of those hot heads," Kentrell said of Saunders. "He looked up to Mike, because [Saunders] was a sophomore playing on varsity. He always asked us questions and we tried to stick with him, because we knew everyone around the city does drugs. We just told him to keep on the right path, because he had the talent, too."

"He's trying to do this not only for himself, but for his whole city."

Alfred Smith
former DeLand assistant coach

Smith added: "Whenever Pop was into some crap, we'd be like 'Hey Mike, you have to go talk to him.' He'd get right on it. He was like a big brother to Pop."

Gillislee looked out for his teammates. When Sandersfield, who was named the captain of the offensive line in 2008, broke his leg before the season, Gillislee showed his center some love by visiting him.

"I felt pretty bad," Sandersfield said. "I remember Mike coming over the house sitting there playing Xbox with me. Not even talking about football. Just hanging out with me."

His selfless attitude extended beyond one-on-one situations.

"I know Mike was from a low-income area, but he always took care of his teammates," Sandersfield said. "I remember going out to dinner and him covering me. He always had that heart about him."

Gillislee didn't have much. Kentrell can attest to that. The cousins would help their grandfather mow lawns just to make an extra buck.

Sandersfield recalls sitting on the sidelines in the midst of DeLand's 0-10 season, Gillislee's junior year, when the running back's work ethic was evident.

"I didn't get to play one game and I told Mike on the bench, 'Look man, I never thought it'd be like this,'" Sandersfield said. "He looked at me and said, 'I can't believe it either, but I know one day it'll be different.'"

Gillislee's life on the football field has changed for the better. DeLand went 5-6 his senior season and after three years of sitting on

the bench, Gillislee leads the SEC in rushing.

"I'm glad he's there (at Florida)," Smith said. "I'm glad he's playing big-time football, because he deserves it. He came up from a rough area and he was never one of those kids who stayed out on the streets. He seemed like he always wanted to do something with it."

Contact Adam Pincus at apincus@alligator.org.

UK INJURY REPORT

PROBABLE
OT Darrian Miller (ankle)
QB Maxwell Smith (shoulder)

QUESTIONABLE
CB Cartier Rice (quadriceps)
OT Trevino Woods (ankle)

DOUBTFUL
S Josh Forrest (hip)
RB CoShik Williams (hip)

OUT
TE Gabe Correll (hip flexor)
RB Josh Clemons (knee)

FLORIDA INJURY REPORT

PROBABLE
RB Mike Gillislee (groin)
OT Chaz Green (ankle)

QUESTIONABLE
DE Dominique Easley (knee)

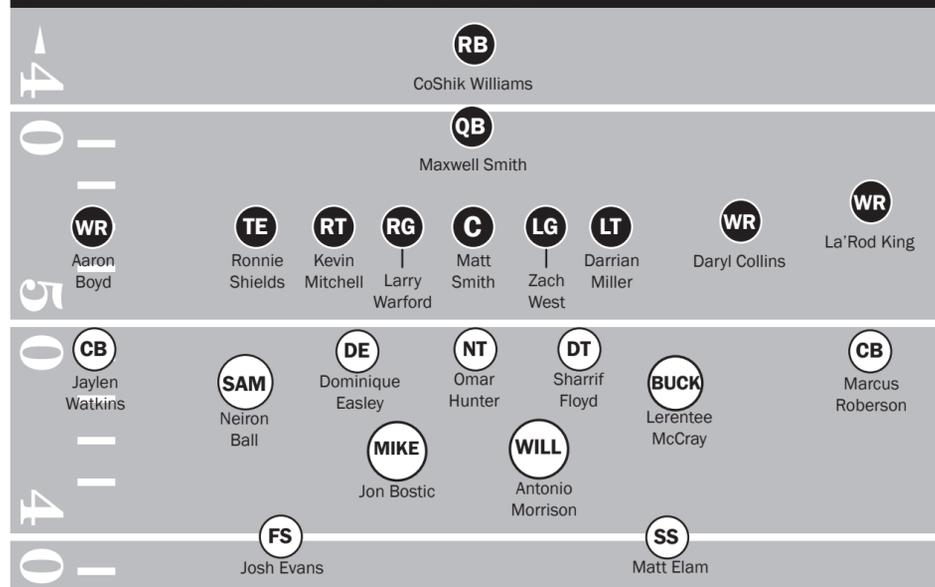
OUT
LS Drew Ferris (clavicle)
LB Jelani Jenkins (thumb)
DE Kedric Johnson (knee)
WR Michael McNeely (foot)
OT Matt Patchan (pectoral muscle)
DE/LB Ronald Powell (knee)
CB Cody Riggs (foot)
TE Colin Thompson (foot)



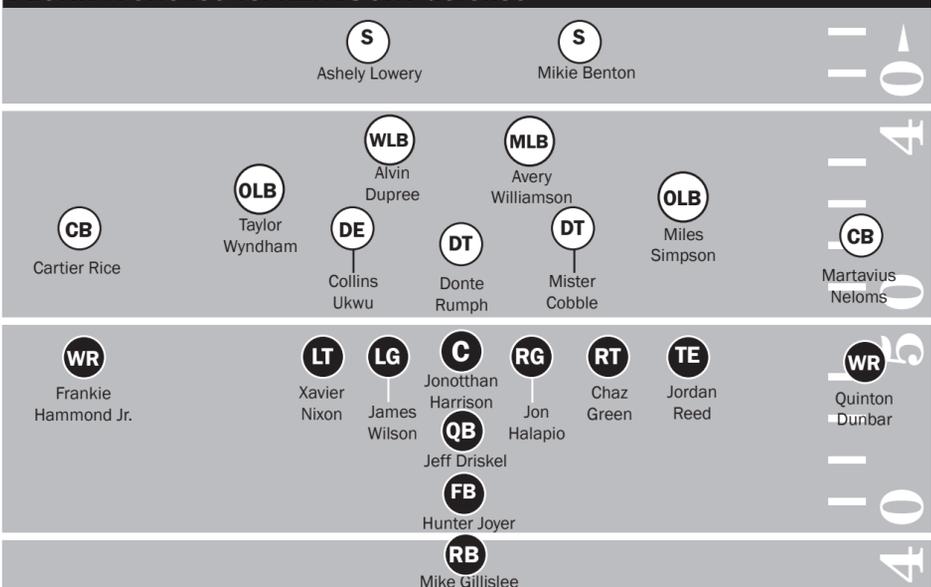
David Carr / Alligator Staff

Mike Gillislee (23) has earned a reputation as one of Florida's hardest workers after coming from an area of DeLand known for drugs, violence and hardship.

FLORIDA defense vs. KENTUCKY offense



FLORIDA offense vs. KENTUCKY defense



Erika Tymrak and the Florida soccer team host Southeastern Conference rivals Tennessee and Georgia at home this weekend.
 See story, page 13.



Students, faculty march in response to hate crime



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Students march down Buckman Drive during March Against Hate on Thursday afternoon in response to last week's hate crime against a UF Levin College of Law professor. Several UF student organizations joined together for the demonstration.

► THE CRIME HAPPENED LAST WEEK AT THE LAW SCHOOL.

KATHRYN VARN
 Alligator Contributing Writer

Santa Fe College history student Jeremiah Cleghorn carried a sign that read, "We won't wait for full equality." UF alumna Diana Moreno walked a bike with a giant rainbow flag billowing at its rear. Other marchers held balloons decorated with "Queer + Proud" and "Go Gaytors" messages.

Students, faculty members and alumni participated Thursday in March Against Hate, a demonstration organized by UF Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Affairs, Pride Student Union and the Gators Coalition for an Inclusive Campus.

The march was a response to last week's hate crime against a UF Levin College of Law professor, said Bridget Siegel, Pride president.

"It was something we knew we had to do right away," she said.

About 75 students gathered at Peabody Hall to walk through campus chanting, clapping and following a solidarity banner signed by LGBT supporters.

By the time the march ended on Turlington Plaza, the group had amassed more than 100 people.

UF President Bernie Machen left a Board of Trustees retreat at Lake Wauburg to speak to members of the march.

He addressed the crowd, denouncing the hate

SEE MARCH, PAGE 4

County health department: Keep calm and wear bug spray

KELCEE GRIFFIS
 Alligator Contributing Writer

West Nile has migrated to Alachua County. The virus was found in two chickens, the city announced Thursday night. While no human cases have been reported, the Alachua County Health Department encourages people to wear bug spray and to drain standing water.

"The risk of disease transmission to humans and animals has increased," Anthony Dennis, environmental health director of the Alachua County Health Department, wrote in a press release. "Citizens are encouraged to avoid exposure to mosquitoes."

After one person died of the West Nile virus in Pensacola Wednesday, 23-year-old graduate student Laura Gorham said she started paying more attention to mosquitos.

"Yeah it's still five hours away, but disease can spread with a snap of a finger," she said.

County Disease Control staff member Isabel Anasco said the county tests chickens weekly, because the presence of West Nile virus in the

birds can indicate the presence of the disease in the community.

Anasco said the county mosquito control unit also routinely sprays chemicals to reduce the mosquito population countywide.

"... but disease can spread with a snap of a finger."

Laura Gorham
 graduate student

She said protecting yourself can be as easy as turning over empty flowerpots and containers collecting standing water in residential areas, wearing mosquito repellent and avoiding going outdoors at dusk.

The last documented incident of a mosquito-borne illness in Alachua County was during summer, when a chicken tested positive for Eastern equine encephalitis, according to a press release issued by the Alachua County Health Department July 16.

The symptoms of West Nile are headache, a high fever and flu-like symptoms, Anasco said. In rare cases, infected people develop neurological symptoms such as memory loss.

Sister Hazel performs tonight

KELCEE GRIFFIS
 Alligator Contributing Writer

For rock group Sister Hazel's guitarist and vocalist Drew Copeland, taking the stage at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts is not just another gig.

"It's like a second home to us," Copeland said in a phone interview.

The band's affinity for appearing on campus traces back more than 20 years. Four of the five members were UF students when the band got together, Copeland said.

"We were true 'Gainesville-ians,'" said Copeland, who graduated with a degree in building construction and met his wife at the Swamp Restaurant.

The catalyst for the band's formation occurred at a Florida vs. Tennessee tailgate party in 1990, where Copeland was introduced to Ken Block.

Copeland said Block began singing a cover of "Peaceful Easy Feeling" by

the Eagles, and Copeland accompanied him with acoustic guitar and harmony vocals.

"Ya'll need to go make some money doing that!" bystanders told the duo.

Copeland and Block took the advice. This March, the two will have been singing together for 22 years.



Copeland

The pair played its first show in 1991 at a cafe on Tower Road. They performed as an acoustic duo for three years before adding a bassist, drummer and lead guitarist to form the full-fledged band Sister Hazel.

The band's name was inspired by Gainesville resident Sister Hazel Williams, who ran a soup kitchen serving the city's homeless in the '90s.

"She was a light lots of people could turn to who needed a fresh start,"

SEE SISTER HAZEL, PAGE 4

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Machen discusses Morrill Act, rankings at Trustees retreat
 UF's Board of Trustees met at Lake Wauburg, pg 5.
UF police vigilant after week of bomb threats at colleges
 UF Police has responded to four threats since 2008, pg 8.



Science-themed bar stays in business with help from donors
 Summer months diminished bar's budget, pg. 3.



News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Potluck and movie night

EdiblePlantProject.org, a volunteer-driven nonprofit edible nursery, will host a potluck dinner, plant workshop and movie night Saturday from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Civic Media Center, at 433 S. Main St. "Taking Root" tells the story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai about how planting trees grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights and defend democracy.

Orthodox Christian Fellowship general body meeting

The Orthodox Christian Fellowship will meet Sunday in the Reitz Union Room 272 at 5:30 p.m. OCF is a UF-sponsored organization that promotes Eastern Orthodoxy through discussion, prayer and activities. For more information, contact Corin Agoris at ravens1058@aim.com.

GLAM Indie Craft Show is 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.glam-craftshow.com/apply.

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? Friday at 7 p.m. in Reitz rooms 346 and 347, and Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Reitz Auditorium. For more information, visit www.acmuf.org or www.facebook.com/acmuf.

FORECAST

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
THUNDER STORMS 87/69	THUNDER STORMS 88/69	THUNDER STORMS 88/67	PARTLY CLOUDY 86/68	PARTLY CLOUDY 85/68

Living History storytelling event

Join LGBT Affairs, the Wild Iris Bookstore and the PCCNCF on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Wild Iris Bookstore to hear real-life stories of community members and students in a celebration of the oral tradition.

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 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 www.oas.uafl.edu/ for more information about OAS programs and events, or find it on Facebook and Twitter, @UFOAS.

Gay Movie Night: "Going Down in LA-LA Land"

The Pride Community Center, at 3131 NW 13th St., is hosting Gay Movie Night on Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. It is a candid, sexy dramedy about a young, buff and ambitious actor who arrives in Los Angeles with dreams of becoming a star, but he soon finds himself lost in a seamy Hollywood underworld. Gay Movie Night is on the last Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. A \$2 donation is

requested to cover the cost of snacks. For more information, visit www.gainesvillepride.org/gay-movie-night/.

The American Heart Association Alachua Heart Walk

The walk will be Sept. 29 at North Florida Regional Medical Center Duck Pond, and activities will begin at 7:30 a.m. To start a team to raise money to fight cardiovascular diseases and stroke, visit www.alachuaheartwalk.org. Find a company, and create a new team under "UF Groups," or join any team as a walk-on. All groups are welcome. Register your fraternity or sorority under "UF Groups" to be eligible to win great prizes in the UF Fraternity/Sorority Challenge. For more information, email Alachua@heart.org or call 800-257-6941, ext. 8024.

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.

the independent florida alligator

VOLUME 107 ISSUE 22 ISSN 0889-2423

Not officially associated with the University of Florida
Published by Campus Communications Inc., of Gainesville, Florida

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

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

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

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

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Science-themed bar stays in business with help from donors

► **THE SLOW SUMMER MONTHS DIMINISHED THE BUSINESS' BUDGET.**

BRITTANY ANN MORRISEY
Alligator Contributing Writer

Electricity will continue to flow through the neon lights of The Laboratory thanks to donations from community members.

The bar, at 818 W. University Ave., suffered a "horribly wretched" summer that left Larry Bruce, the owner, about \$1,500 in debt.

Bruce, 42, said he had budgeted for the summer. He knew about the inevitable summer slump when students clear out of Gainesville.

But this summer was slower than the past two years, and the electricity bill was higher than usual, he said. His summer budget was gone by May.

"Don't own a small business during a recession," he joked.

To make up the difference, he reached out to patrons for donations and set up an online contribution site. Now, he said, he has enough money to pay the electric bill.

"We've had such a positive feedback from customers and friends," he said. "There is great

sense of community."

The online donations page has since been taken down, because the electric bill has been paid, Bruce said.

He said he's seen several restaurants come and go in the area, especially because the block gets skipped over for business when people head to Midtown or down-

town.

The bar was still about \$600 short of being fully restocked Wednesday. Some of the money for the electricity bill came out of

the money that is set aside for food and beer, Bruce said.

At the start of a fundraiser Wednesday night, the bar was already out of food, and had a few eight-packs of beer left. Bruce said he's making ends meet and plans to host a themed night at the bar Saturday.

"(It's) one of the only places in Gainesville like it."

Hanna Esty

Santa Fe theater sophomore

Hanna Esty, a 23-year-old Santa Fe College theater sophomore, said she's been a patron of The Lab since it opened in 2010.

She said she's a big fan of the bar's nachos, which she described as "freaking amazing," but she said she enjoys the overall atmosphere at the bar.

"It's amazing," she said. "(It's) one of the only places in Gainesville like it."

John Stoltz, 22-year-old Santa Fe College music sophomore, and his band played at the bar Wednesday night as part of a fundraiser.

He said he loved how the bar has so many theme nights with different styles of music, such as goth and postpunk music.

"Nowhere else does that," he said.



Aundre Larrow / Alligator Staff

Product Development Engineer Derek Tabor, 30, enjoys a beer at The Laboratory, 818 W. University Ave. The bar reached out to patrons for donations after a rough summer drained its savings.

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New iOS 6 update brings new map, 'Do Not Disturb' features

► THE UPDATE INCLUDES AN INTEGRATED FACEBOOK APPLICATION.

DRAKE CASTANEDA
Alligator Contributing Writer

While Apple fanatics across the globe are raving about the release of the iPhone 5, there are mixed feelings about its accompanying update, iOS 6.

One of iOS 6's main features includes

changes to maps, such as eliminating Google maps.

Marcus Keyes, an Apple product professional at the UF Bookstore, said he likes the new Apple map feature.

"iPhone finally has turn-by-turn directions," he said.

Catie Nowak, a 19-year-old anthropology sophomore, said she owns an iPhone 4 but isn't too excited about the update.

"I've read through all of the specs that are noted with the update on my phone,

"Everyone who has it is saying it's so awesome, but I think it's mainly a bunch of hype like many of Apple's new products."

Catie Nowak
anthropology sophomore

and none of them seem so great to me," she said. "Everyone who has it is saying it's so awesome, but I think it's mainly a bunch of hype like many of Apple's new products."

Some of iOS 6's new features are general upgrades to Siri, additional Facebook integration and a new YouTube app.

The new "Do Not Disturb" function gives users the ability to schedule specific times to turn off all incoming calls and notifications.

Apple's iOS 6 is available for download for the iPhone 3GS, the iPhone 4 and the iPhone 4S. It is also available for the fourth and fifth generation iPod touches, as well as the iPad 2 and the third-generation iPad.

Attendees said progress has been made, but there's more work to do

MARCH, from page 1

crime.

"I think it's good for the community to speak up about this so there's no doubt about where we stand," Machen said later that day. "I just wanted to be there to tell them I was proud of them, I identify with what they're doing, and I agree with them."

"That's what today is about — the queer students not backing down in the face of hostility."

Jess Clawson
College of Education graduate student

College of Education graduate student Jess Clawson said UF has dealt with more than a century of discrimination.

"That's what today is about — the queer students not backing down in the face of hostility," she said.

Kim Emery, an associate professor in the English department, spoke soon after, calling last week's crime cruel and criticizing the white dancing couple statue on the Plaza of the Americas.

"Where is our giant statue of black dykes in each other's arms?" she asked the crowd.

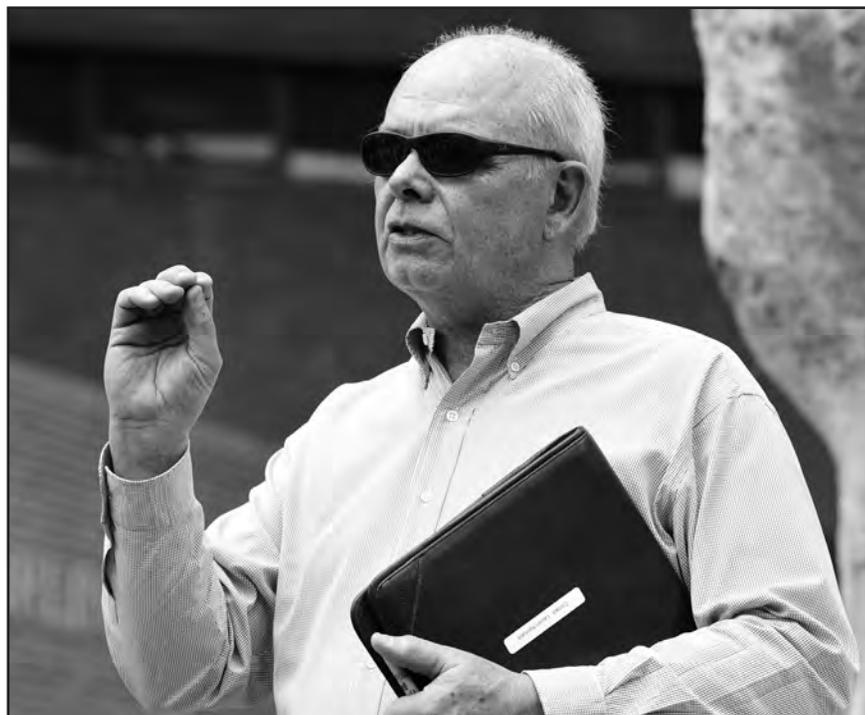
After the march, students stood in the plaza, blotting sweat from their foreheads, shaking hands, hugging.

"It was great to see so much support from students and make something positive out of something so horrible," said Marla Munro, an LGBT Affairs intern and president of Gators Coalition for an Inclusive Campus.

Clare Walsh, a 52-year-old sociology graduate student who's been at UF for six years, was one of the last to walk away from the march.

"It's a lot easier to say you're a queer person now than it was even six years ago," she said. "Progress is being made."

Alligator staff writer Julia Glum also contributed to this report.



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

UF President Bernie Machen speaks at March Against Hate on Turlington Plaza on Thursday afternoon. More than 100 students joined the march.

The band was named after a nun who fed Gainesville's hungry

SISTER HAZEL, from page 1

Copeland said.

The impression the nun made on the band outlasted her name recognition as time elapsed.

"When we started the band, she was in Haiti," Copeland said. "We didn't know she was still alive."

When Williams returned to the U.S., Copeland said she noticed her name appearing on billboards. She contacted Block and said, "I see my name in all these different places. I



Williams

think we need to have a talk."

Once Williams understood how her name connected to the band's music, she gave the OK to rock on.

"We were somebody everybody could connect to," Copeland said. "We had that in common with her. Regardless of race, religion, background, she was accepting of everyone."

Copeland said life in Gainesville has influenced the band's music as well as his own. He said the song "A Lit-

tle Like Heaven" on his 2004 solo album, with lyrics set at Paynes Prairie and Hogtown Creek, points to a deeply personal love for the area.

"There's always something going on — a feeling of youth and regeneration because of the university," Copeland said. "Gainesville is a very special place."

The at-home relationship at UF that Copeland said the band enjoys is reciprocated by Michael Blachly, director of UF Performing Arts.

"Sister Hazel is my 'house band,'" Blachly wrote in an email. "They're simply part of Gainesville's musical DNA."

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ADMINISTRATION

Machen discusses Morrill Act, rankings at Trustees retreat

JULIA GLUM

Alligator Staff Writer

UF's Board of Trustees discussed how UF's mission relates to the university's past, present and future at the first day of its Fall retreat Thursday.

UF President Bernie Machen acknowledged the Morrill Act's role in establishing UF and addressed the university's U.S. News and World Report rankings.

The university was recently ranked 54th among the best national universities and 17th among the public uni-



Machen

versities.

The rankings evaluate factors like the average freshman retention rate (for UF, 96 percent), the percent of classes with fewer than 20 students (45 for UF) and the student to faculty ratio (21 to 1).

"If you look at the student variables, we are right in the mix right now," Machen said. "It is the resource variables where we fall out."

Machen said the national tuition average is higher than

UF's, and if the university charged a higher rate, more money could be spent on faculty.

"I really think a number of about \$30 million recurring would put us in a very competitive situation to be in the top tier," he said.

Provost Joe Glover mentioned how skewed the rankings can be, especially because the numbers are self-reported by each university.

"There are lots of little factors that can goose this thing up or down," Glover said.

Contact Julia Glum at jglum@alligator.org.

Students fight for clean politics

Six schools joined UF

TATILA BROCK
AND RACHEL JONES

Alligator Contributing Writers

Students petitioned for clean and green politics on the Plaza of the Americas on Thursday, and all they had to do was have their pictures taken.

Neon green signs attracted students to stop, fill out a "Power Vote" pledge card and have their pictures taken with signs that read, "I am a voter and I want clean and green politics."

The pictures will be sent to political candidates to show that young voters want clean energy solutions, said Heather Dean, a 21-year-old political science senior and event orga-

nizer.

"We want candidates to put people over profits," she said.

Power Vote tries to mobilize young voters to build momentum toward clean-energy solutions and to get "dirty money" from big-spending, polluting corporations out of politics.

The campaign held its National Day of Action on Thursday, and UF was one of seven Florida campuses that participated.

"We want to go viral that the environment and climate change is a top issue for young voters," said Cara Cooper. "We want candidates to start addressing it if they want to get our vote."

Cooper, with the Southern Energy Network, is working on the "Power Vote" campaign throughout the state.

Volunteers asked passers-by to use social media to contact CNN's Candy Crowley, who will host the second presidential debate.

"It's important to tell our congressmen and women what young people want, and I like the clean air idea," said 18-year-old food science and human nutrition freshman Christa Torrence.

Nineteen-year-old Camille Mekwinski, an environmental engineering sophomore, filled out a pledge card and petitioned with a picture.

"I feel like we owe it to the community to give back to it," she said.



Rachel Jones / Alligator

Brittany Bowen, 18, left, fills out a pledge card while Janine Monfries, 21, helps with the "Power Vote" campaign on the Plaza of the Americas on Thursday.



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COMPANY OF OTHER DESERT CITIES PHOTO BY MICHAEL A. EADY

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Editorial

We were bombarded this week by two things: rain and voter registration volunteers. One was an annoying pest and the other could actually be relevant to your life as a citizen of this country. Between rain boots, football wins and looming exams, it's definitely Fall at UF. Don't forget to study like you should vote: early and often.

This brings us to the birds-of-a-feather-should-avoid-this-weather edition of:

Darts & Laurels

Are you really proud of your facial hair, you beard aficionados? Then be careful if you travel to Ohio and find yourself in Amish Country. Members of that society have taken punishment into their own hands. Sixteen men and women are convicted of hate crimes "for a series of hair- and beard-cutting attacks on fellow sect members." We give a that-probably-hurt-since-they-don't-use-electricity **DART** to those not-so-peaceful Amish.

We were so happy to hear this week that Chick-fil-A will stop donating to anti-gay/anti-marriage equality groups. (Mostly because that means we can eat there again; life isn't worth living if there's no waffle fries in it.) But now we're hearing that the company is still donating to fundraisers like "Ride for the Family," a bike ride supported by both the WinShape Foundation and the Marriage and Family Foundation. We give a quit-playing-games-with-our-hearts **LART** (a combination of a dart and a laurel) to **Chick-fil-A**. Make up your mind already, jeez.

Meet Valerie Spruill. She was raised by her grandparents in Akron, Ohio. She married a man named Percy, and she learned something interesting about him six years after his death. Spruill learned that Percy was her biological father. Even though she heard rumors that he might be her dad, she waited until after he died to run a DNA test. We give a this-only-happens-in-Ohio-we-hope **DART** to **Valerie Spruill**. She also has three children and eight grandchildren, in case you needed more nightmare fuel.

New meme alert! Do you think Mitt Romney loves this country a lot? Then we've got a Tumblr for you. Visit romcom2012.tumblr.com — there you'll find popular romantic comedy movie posters with Romney's face transposed into them. It's just a man who loves his country; nothing weird with that. We give an at-least-it's-not-Little-Face-Mitt **LAUREL** to **RomCom2012**.

Lindsay Lohan and Amanda Bynes were in a minor Twitter feud this week. Lohan said, "Why did I get put in jail, and a nickelodeon star has had NO punishment(s) so far?" But then, she was arrested for a hit-and-run incident. Bynes is now, apparently, telling friends that Lohan deserved to be arrested because of karma. Quite frankly, if she tweeted something with the word "car-ma," we might have more respect for her. As it is, neither of these two women should be allowed in public. We give a remember-when-you-used-to-make-good-movies-yeah-neither-do-we **DART** to **Amandsay Lohynes**.

Now for your yogurt news of the day: Turns out that long-term eaters of yogurt also saw a reduced systolic blood pressure and less risk of high blood pressure. Results of the study showed that "31 percent of volunteers were less likely to develop high blood pressure when at least 2 percent of their daily caloric intake was yogurt, equivalent to at least one six-ounce cup of low-fat yogurt every three days." We give a good-because-we've-only-been-eating-it-for-the-fiber **LAUREL** to **yogurt**.

Stay cool at the game tomorrow, and have a safe weekend!

Reader response

Today's question: Do you listen to Sister Hazel?

Thursday's question: Are you going to get a flu shot?

33% YES
67% NO
58 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

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SON of a GATOR By Andre R. Frattino



Column

Romney's 47 percent remarks misleading

Of all the seemingly shocking statistics that Conservatives love to sputter in defense of their regressive tax policies, their favorite must be that 47 percent of Americans pay no federal income tax. Astounding, isn't it? How can those pinko-commie hippies at Occupy Wall Street complain about tax cuts for the rich, when almost half the nation doesn't pay taxes?

By now, chances are you've seen or heard about the secret video taken at a \$50,000-a-plate fundraiser for Mitt Romney last May, recently released by Mother Jones magazine, during which he grumbled to attendees about this very segment of the population:

"There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe that government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you name it ... And they will vote for this president no matter what."

Uh, seriously?

Aside from the fact that Romney blatantly insulted half the nation — nice one, Willard — his comment was disingenuous for the same reason that any mention of this fact by the Right is disingenuous: These almost 147 million citizens, for whom Romney evidently holds such contempt, are actually too poor, too elderly or too young to pay income taxes.

Of the 47 percent who pay no income tax, about half don't earn enough to even qualify for the lowest tax bracket and still pay several other taxes, including payroll taxes, state and local sales taxes, excise or sin taxes, and gas taxes.

The threshold below which a family of four is exempt from paying income tax was \$26,400 last year, and it goes without saying that the other taxes such a household is required to pay are more than substantial.

The other half of citizens with no income tax liability consists of households that benefit from tax credits for senior citizens, students or the working poor.

Any time anti-tax conservatives and right-libertarians cite the 47 percent statistic, all they're doing is misleading average middle-class Americans into favoring their brand of



Moises Reyes
opinions@alligator.org

deficit-exploding supply-side economics, the cornerstone of which is counterproductive tax cuts for the wealthy.

Despite the fact that businesses typically make their decisions based solely on whether those decisions will result in profit, supply-siders justify slashing tax rates for the rich by portraying them as

"job creators," as if businesses will magically hire new workers simply because they're swimming in money.

If this were the case, we wouldn't have the unemployment crisis we're experiencing now. Tax cuts for the rich yield only two outcomes: increased income inequality, which is already higher than at any time since the Gilded Age of the late 19th century, and drastic worsening of our budget deficit.

Now Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan are running on the same supply-side policy positions that have crashed our economy and given rise to a new Gilded Age in which the 400 wealthiest people in the U.S. own more wealth than the bottom half of all Americans combined — more than 150 million people. Of course, a politician is perfectly capable of advocating these ludicrous positions without needlessly bashing more than 140 million Americans.

One would think that after the considerable number of blunders Romney has already made on the campaign trail ("Corporations are people, my friend!"), he'd probably want to avoid painting half the nation as blind freeloaders.

But the truth is, he was simply feeding the robber barons at the fundraiser exactly what they wanted to hear.

When Romney tells a room of rich individuals they are the responsible, productive class while everyone else is a lazy parasite, he's drawing on decades of right-wing rhetoric meant to dupe working people into voting against their own economic self-interests.

Apparently, this is how Romney aims to win the election. Don't be fooled.

Moises Reyes is a journalism graduate student. His column appears on Fridays.

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

Letter to the Editor

Dear Ryan,

I really enjoyed reading your column in the Alligator on Wednesday. Your example with the mountain really hits the spot. I have used the same idea in other areas besides religion and agree that various religions are different paths climbing toward the top.

Here is where our opinions differ a bit. Agnosticism (nonreligion) and even atheism are paths people follow in their quest for something more noble — with great success

I might add. If we modify your example a bit, I think we can get a better idea of what is really going on.

I will not put God on the top of the mountain; I will put the “good” person there.

By “good,” I mean that inherent notion that every being carries within. (I know this sounds naive, but I am a mathematician, and my skills with words are limited.) The path will then be our efforts to become that ideal person.

Religions help you get there (that should be at least part of their agenda), but they are not the only way. I, like you, believe that human beings are not capable of achieving that true noble goal. At least I am not capable of becoming that ideal person, but that is OK. The point is to try to climb up that mountain every day, any way you can. Help others around you, not by showing them the path you are taking, but by promising them that the view from up there is awesome. Help

those in need, forgive and ask for forgiveness when you do something wrong, because you will do something wrong. Help others better themselves, and ultimately, love each other.

I am Thanos Gentimis, I am agnostic and I support this message (without the typos and the bad grammar).

Athanasios Gentimis, Ph.D.
UF Department Of Mathematics

UWire

Don't get creeped out easily if you want to meet new people

Someone I barely know contacted me the other day, and it creeped me out a little bit. I had just met her a few days earlier, and she said “Hi” to me on Facebook.

Immediately I thought she was crazy.

Ironically, not two weeks before this, I sent a Facebook message to someone I had only talked to a few times in person, to share something I thought she would potentially find interesting. A mutual friend told me the next day that the person I had messaged thought it was weird, because I did not normally talk to her.

Looking back, I find both situations hilariously unnecessary.

Despite how they began, each led to me and the other person becoming better friends.

If it makes getting to know someone so much more difficult, why do we get creeped out so easily?

When we are not familiar with a person, we have no idea what that person's intentions are. So any time someone we do not know very well wants to talk to us, we are on guard. Naturally we have to protect ourselves from all the lunatics out there. But most of the time when

we are weirded out by someone, we have more of a connection than we think.

Feeling iffy about complete strangers makes sense; we have no reason to trust their intentions. When the person is someone we know through a friend or talked to at a party, however, we could stand to be more open to communication.

A few days after I was unexpectedly messaged by that girl on Facebook, I decided to respond to her. It felt stupid to think she was weird because she said hello.

But responding to her still made

Alexander Maxwell
UWire

me feel a bit uncomfortable in a way, as if I was not supposed to

let her talk to me just because she started the conversation. Of course, once we actually started talking more, those feelings went away, and I discovered she was not actually creepy.

Until you're sure of someone's intentions, they will always seem like they may be slightly creepy. The article “Trust Building Among

Strangers,” published in “Management Science,” stated that being open-minded enough to learn a person's intentions was the key factor in how much people trusted people they did not know.

We do not have to be friends with everyone, but we can miss out on a lot if we are too quick to judge how creepy someone actually is.

Sure, there are actual creeps out there, but probably a lot fewer than we let ourselves believe.

Alexander Maxwell is a columnist for the Iowa State Daily at Iowa State University.

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UF police vigilant after week of bomb threats on college campuses

► UF POLICE HAS RESPONDED TO FOUR THREATS SINCE 2008.

CHRIS ALCANTARA
Alligator Writer

UF police said they are monitoring a string of bomb threats that led to mass evacuations at college campuses nationwide in the last week.

The University of Texas at Austin and North Dakota State University received bomb threats by telephone Sept. 14. School officials and police ordered thousands of students, faculty and administrators at both colleges to stay away as officers canvassed the campuses.

Students and faculty at Hiram College, in northeast Ohio, were also forced to evacuate later that day following a bomb threat via email.

On Monday, Louisiana State University was evacuated after 911 dispatch received a call from a man who said he had placed multiple bombs on campus. The school shut down for the rest of the day while police searched for the devices.

Students at an Arkansas State University dormitory were evacuated Tuesday afternoon following a bomb threat.

Police at the five institutions did not find explosives, and the incidents do not appear to be related.

Although these bomb threats occurred outside Florida, UF — like all institutions — could receive a threat at any moment.

On Aug. 14, two people claimed they hid a bomb on the third floor of Shands Hospital for Children at UF, according

to Alligator archives. Police traced the call and later arrested the suspects.

In the Spring, there was a bomb threat to the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. Police did not find any devices during the search.

Following UF's 2009 Homecoming Parade, a maintenance worker found an unattended backpack in the Reitz Union loading dock and called police. After a six-hour investigation, police discovered the backpack had been filled with sand and used as a tire wedge.

"UF Alert system is our primary means of discussing with the community what is taking place."

Maj. Brad Barber
UPD spokesman

In 2008, UPD responded to a threat in which someone called the Alachua County 911 dispatch and said a bomb would go off in the Florida Gym. After searching for two hours, police did not find any suspicious materials inside or outside the building.

UPD spokesman Maj. Brad Barber said the department has to be prepared for all possibilities. According to Florida law, a bomb threat is a threat to throw, project, place or discharge a destructive device.

Bomb threats are typically made by phone, Barber said.

But there have been instances, like at Hiram College, in which a bomb threat was made via email.

If a bomb threat of any kind is made to campus, Barber said, UPD establishes a site location and assesses a number of factors

to verify the credibility of the threat. These factors include time, location, potential target and if there is an event happening.

Once a threat is verified, UPD updates students and faculty members on the situation through the UF Alert system, which includes text messages, emails, tweets and posts on UPD's website.

"UF Alert system is our primary means of discussing with the community what is taking place," Barber said.

In the updates, police address the incident location as well as instructions to either evacuate or avoid the area, depending on each case.

"It is very situationally dependent," Barber said.

Barber said if officers cannot determine what is inside an unattended package, they treat it like a bomb. UPD then calls a bomb disposal team, usually from the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, to see what is inside.

"We would not put our officers and/or members of the university community in harm's way when it comes to any kind of suspicious package," Barber said.

Lt. J.J. Moran, commander of ASO's Bomb Disposal Team, said the team would respond with whatever equipment UPD requested, which could include a robot used to remotely inspect a potential explosive device.

"We also have additional investigative options that allow us to inspect potential suspicious devices while keeping at a safe distance," Moran wrote in an email.

Depending on the situation, bomb threats on campus can suspend classes or daily building operations. Incidents can last for hours until police give an all clear.

Read the rest of the story at alligator.org.

Contact Chris Alcantara at calcantara@alligator.org.

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Elise Giordano / Alligator

The Godfather

Tea Party activist Herman Cain speaks at Emerson Alumni Hall on Thursday night. The visit was a stop in his college Truth Tour.

Cell reception on campus will improve

The Swamp will be first

RACHEL CROSBY
Alligator Contributing Writer

Throughout the past few seasons, Gators football fans have learned to cope with fumbles, incomplete passes and bad cellphone reception.

But the situation in the Swamp is changing.

UF recently installed a system of more than 300 antennas in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium that works to triangulate cellphone signals and pinpoint users' calls, said John Madey, manager of telecommunications and network infrastructure for UF Information Technology.

The stadium's system has finished installation, but Madey said AT&T is still working to improve it.

The Distributed Antenna System improves reception, call quality and data rates within the stadium during home football games.

During home games, AT&T en-

gineers watch the cellphone traffic and make adjustments in real time to maximize coverage. A syncing issue is currently preventing full optimization, Madey said.

"Reception in the stadium had always been so bad."

Bahar Pourshariati
psychology junior

The project does not cost UF anything, Madey said. AT&T is providing the funding for the campus-wide project. It was awarded the roughly \$15 million contract in May 2011. Leading carriers like Verizon, Sprint and T-Mobile are expected to join in next year.

Until then, only AT&T users will see the benefits of the new system, Madey said.

The only time the system can be accurately tested is during a home football game, and with technical tweaks still to be made, he said it won't be fully func-

tional for another two to three home games.

"Yes, reception is better," Madey said. "But we expect it to get even better."

Psychology junior Bahar Pourshariati noticed the update at the Bowling Green game Sept. 1.

The 19-year-old was surprised when her text message sent successfully and quickly.

"Reception in the stadium had always been so bad," Pourshariati said. "I didn't expect to be able to text until at least the third quarter."

According to Elias Eldayrie, UF chief information officer, Shands at UF and its neighboring academic health center is the next phase of the project.

Buildings on campus like the Stephen C. O'Connell Center, Reitz Union and Library West are due to install similar systems in the next two years.

"Our goal is to have a minimum of three bars of cellphone service anywhere on campus," Eldayrie said.

Worship Guide

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church of Gainesville

Sunday services: 8:30am early worship and 11am morning worship. 14105 NW 39th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32606. www.fbcgainesville.com

EPISCOPAL

Chapel of the Incarnation

All are welcome! 1522 W University Ave. Communion: 5:30pm Wed. & Sun. ufchapelhouse.com for more info. A ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida.

JEWISH

Chabad Lubavitch Jewish Student Center

Your home away from home Friday Night Live! Services & Shabbat Dinner. 7:30pm Fall/Spring, 8:30pm Summer 352-336-5877 2021 NW 5th Ave (5 blocks north of the stadium) www.JewishGator.com

LUTHERAN

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

1700 NW 34th St. Gainesville, FL 32653 Phone: 352-376-9940 Worship: Sunday, 10:30 a.m. You are always welcome!

METHODIST

Gator Wesley Center

United Methodist Campus Min. www.gatorwesley.com Worship - Sundays @ 11:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesdays @ 7pm 1380 W. University Ave.

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church

"Commit thy way unto the Lord" Worship Services Sundays-9am Sunday School-11:00am Bible Study Tues. - Noon & 6pm 630 NW 2nd St Gainesville, Fla 32601 352-372-4872 Rev. Geraldine McClellan, Pastor Transportation Available

Trinity United Methodist Church

COFFEE TALK for young adults, Sundays at 11am. Worship: Sundays at 8:15, 9:40 & 11am. Contemporary Service: Fridays at 6:35 pm. 376-6615 | TrinityGNV.org

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Harvest Bible Chapel Gainesville

Sunday Worship: 11am Committed to proclaiming God's Word without apology, lifting high the name of Jesus in worship, believing firmly in the power of prayer, and sharing the Gospel with boldness. Small groups throughout the week. www.harvestgainesville.org

University City Church of Christ

Gators for Christ campus ministry college group meets at University City church on Sundays at 9am and Wednesdays at 7pm - practical application from God's word, plus service projects, large group events, free meals, and much more... (directions and events calendar at www.gatorsforchrist.org) For rides please call: 352-514-8261

The Chapel

Sundays: 10:00am Coffee/donuts, 10:30am Worship. Pastor Teacher: Dr. Richard Parker A church committed to enabling believers to mature in Christ and to make Him known to all peoples...with a focus on

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

expository Bible teaching. Small group studies for college students. Check out our website for directions and events: www.thechapelgainesville.com

PRESBYTERIAN

First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville

Sunday Worship - 8:30 and 10:55am. Join us for lunch after Sunday worship.

College Fellowship - Wednesday 7:30pm

Fellowship, Worship, Bible Study, and Recreation. Contact Scott Stuart at College@1stpc.org

Kanapaha Presbyterian Church

"Glorifying God through learning, living, and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ" Contemporary Worship/Free Breakfast 8:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:50 am Traditional Worship In Historic Sanctuary 11:00 am 378-9080 www.kanapaha.net

QUAKER

Gainesville Quaker Meeting

QUAKER MEETING Silent Sunday Worship at 11 at 702 NW 38th Street. Attendees sometimes speak under the guidance of their Inner Light. Various Committees which are devoted to Peace, Social Concerns, and the Environment meet during the month. www.GainesvilleQuakers.org or call 352-372-1070

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

IMAGINE a religion that embraces many different beliefs... including yours. Join us on Sunday at 11AM Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 4225 NW 34th Street Information: 377-1669 or uufg.org

For information on advertising in the Worship Guide, contact Maria Eisenhart, Alligator Advertising, 352.376.4482

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12 Autos

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04 TOYOTA COROLLA \$8999
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Collected
5 Tilting tool
10 Swift
14 Apple application no longer in use
15 Eponymous William's birthplace
16 Gospel writer
17 One who illegally brings home the bacon?
19 God in both Eddas
20 The orange kind is black
21 Tape deck button
23 Uno e due
24 Fairy tale baddie
25 Mistakes in Dickens, say?
33 Sound, perhaps
34 Insect-eating singers
35 Rapper Jon
36 Lasting impression
37 Just a bit wet
38 Stove filler
39 "American Cousin," play Lincoln was viewing when assassinated
40 Go green, in a way
41 Linney of "The Big C"
42 When to send an erotic love note?
45 English class assignment word
46 Ottoman title
47 Remote insert
50 By oneself
55 Big-screen format
56 "Something's fishy," and a hint to this puzzle's theme
58 Pantheon feature
59 "Fear Street" series author
60 Modernize
61 Tools for ancient Egyptian excursions
62 16th-century English architectural style
63 Zombie's sound

DOWN
1 Andy of comics
2 Soothing agent
3 Bird symbolizing daybreak
4 '70s TV teacher
5 Idle
6 Farm unit
7 Sports gp. with divisions
8 Garfield, for one
9 Budding
10 Blossom
11 European wheels
12 Crispy roast chicken part
13 Take care of
18 1996 Reform Party candidate
22 Messes up
24 Short tennis match
25 Biker helmet feature
26 Provoke
27 Nurse Barton
28 Willing words
29 Stand
30 Not just mentally
31 Papal topper
32 Soothe
37 Lauded
Olympian

38 One might keep you awake at night
40 Fishing gear
41 By the book
43 Prehistoric predators
44 Like Everest, vis-à-vis K2
47 Musical with the song "Another Pyramid"
48 Hebrew prophet

49 Pitch a tent, maybe
50 Enclosed in
51 TV host with a large car collection
52 Circular treat
53 Bupkis
54 David Cameron's alma mater
57 Early Beatle bassist Sutcliffe

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
HOWE EMIR HOBO
IPASS XENA APOP
SERTA PAST RIOT
CHEVROLET CRUIZE
OLEOS CLAIMED
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ROE SCATS ORE
ADS RUHR SARAN
DISROBE XACTO
PLEASE RECRUISE
LOAN RITA ROILS
USMC NLER ENVOY
STYE SYST SEND

xwordeditor@aol.com 09/21/12

By Neville L. Fogarty (c)2012 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 09/21/12

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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13 Wanted



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20 Event Notices

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

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	9	6	2	5	1	3	7	4
2	1	7	3	4	6	8	5	9
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Florida looks to avoid letdown after key wins

GREG LUCA
Alligator Staff Writer

For Florida, the sting of last season's embarrassment against

Furman is still fresh. On Nov. 19, seven days before UF was slated to play FSU, the Gators fell into an early 15-0 hole against the Paladins, an

opponent from the FCS. Although Florida eventually rallied in a 54-32 win, the shame of trailing on home turf as a 29.5-point favorite is remembered as a low point in a disappointing 7-6 season.

"We kind of looked past Furman, and they came out a great team," safety Josh Evans said. "But that's something we've definitely been talking about, too. Staying focused. We're not taking Kentucky light."

Saturday's game against the Wildcats presents the Gators with a situation similar to last year's matchup with the Paladins.

Again, Florida is at home.

Again, UF is a nearly 30-point favorite.

And again, a matchup with a highly ranked rival looms on the horizon — this time a showdown against No. 2 LSU on Oct. 6.

But this time, the Gators believe different preparation will lead to a different outcome.

This year, Florida players say they won't let up. History will not repeat itself in The Swamp.

"We've just been through too much," offensive guard Jon Halapio said. "We have too much at stake for the amount of work we put in for this season."

Said coach Will Muschamp: "You only have 12 opportunities a year. You need to prepare

well and play well, and that's what we plan on doing."

Florida has beaten Kentucky 25 consecutive times.

The last four of those meetings have been decided by an average margin of 41 points.

Still, the Gators are intent on avoiding overconfidence.

The formula is simple: practice hard and treat this week like any other.

"Whether we're playing Kentucky or LSU, it doesn't matter," nose tackle Omar Hunter

said. "Go out and practice the Gator way every

UF Football

day."

On the heels of upset road wins against Tennessee and Texas A&M, Florida is looking to keep momentum going in its favor.

"We're just going to try to go out and play like we've been playing," linebacker Jon Bostic said.

"We're not going to let down just because we've beaten them so many times."

Saturday's game precedes a bye week, making it the final opportunity before October for Florida to iron out any wrinkles.

Despite the 3-0 start, there are plenty of areas the Gators want to address.

Evans said the defense needs

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 14



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Coach Will Muschamp reacts to a referee's call during Florida's 37-20 win against Tennessee at Neyland Stadium.

Gators to face pair of SEC rivals this weekend

UF plays Tennessee and Georgia

ADAM LICHTENSTEIN
Alligator Writer

When the Gators take the field this weekend, they will have to deal with more than just a pair of Southeastern Conference rivals.

They'll have their own emotions to cope with as well.

Florida (4-3-1, 1-1 SEC) will square off against No. 23 Tennessee on Friday and Georgia on Sunday.

"It's hard to not let your emotions get the best of you," senior midfielder Erika Tymrak said. "You have to let your technique override any emotions."

Junior defender Maggie Rodgers said the team tries to look at the entire SEC as their rivals, not just Tennessee (6-1-2, 1-0-1 SEC) and Georgia (5-3-1, 1-0-1 SEC).



Rodgers

"Playing Auburn, they took the SEC tournament title from us last year, and we just come in for the huddle we're just like, 'This is revenge,'" Rodgers said. "All SEC teams are our rivals. We treat every

team like that."

Florida avenged last season's loss and defeated Auburn 2-1 on Sunday thanks to an

overtime goal from junior forward Adriana Leon.

Florida has already played one game against a traditional rival — a 1-0 loss to No. 1 Florida State on Aug. 31.

In that match, the Gators missed several opportunities to score, getting shut out despite taking 12 shots.

Tennessee comes into Friday's match with Florida after a tiring weekend. The Volunteers played in two overtime matches last weekend, winning the first in the 97th minute and playing to a two-overtime draw in the second.

Florida played 99 minutes against Auburn on Sunday, and have a 2-0-1 record in overtime matches this season.

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 14

Picks Column



SITE: The Swamp (cap. 88,548)
KICKOFF: 12:21 p.m., Saturday
TV/RADIO: SEC NETWORK / 850 AM

After two weeks on the road, we here at alligatorSports will finally spend a weekend in Gainesville. But instead of catching up with school work and cleaning up the hell holes our rooms have become during our absence, we plan on getting wasted on whatever's cheapest and introducing ourselves by our column names to numerous unimpressed females at Midtown.

Success or failure, our pride shall not be dashed. Besides, we have another two weekends in town to charm unsuspecting co-eds with our enthralling tales of life on the UF gymnastics beat.

This week, Adam Pincus and Josh Jurnovoy debate a game they will likely ignore as they clamor for the affections of a girl at the bar who will someday tear our ragtag staff apart.

Arizona (+23.5) will fill up the scoreboard against because...

Rich Rodriguez has recovered from his Michigan hack job and rekindled his high-flyin' offense.

The Ducks have been more concerned with their game day attire than playing a real opponent. Oregon hasn't shown it can hold an offense like Arizona's in check.

Look out for Arizona senior quarterback Matt Scott, who lit it up last week. Plus, have you seen the latest issue of Sports Illustrated? Oregon's bright yellow jerseys hurt my eyes.

Arizona covers!

- ADAM PINCUS

Oregon (-23.5) will waddle its way to victory because...

The flamboyantly uniformed Ducks will want to up the ante on Saturday to psych out their upstart Pac-12 rivals, who have somehow managed to equal their 3-0 start.

Oregon will emerge from the tunnel wearing uniforms that are bright green from head to toe and dotted

SEE PICKS, PAGE 14



Senior middle blocker Betsy Smith's leadership has helped the UF volleyball team overcome adversity in 2012. See story, page 15.

Poll Question

How many games will the Florida football team win this season? Vote online at alligatorSports.org.

Poll Results

Is quarterback Jeff Driskel prepared to carry Florida's offense moving forward?

96% YES
4% NO

145 total votes



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Midfielder Erika Tymrak (17) dribbles the ball against FIU during Florida's 3-0 win on Sept. 2 at James G. Pressly Stadium.

Florida set to honor alumni SOCCER, from page 13

Since 2001, eight of the 16 games between Florida and Tennessee have gone to overtime, the last being a 1-0 double-overtime UF victory in 2009.

The Gators will play in front of more than just the usual crowd this weekend.

More than 20 Florida soccer alumni, including three-time All-American Erin Baxter McCorkle, will be in the stands for Gator Soccer Alumni Weekend.

"It's definitely cool that alumni want to come back," freshman defender Christen Westphal said. "That says a lot about the program."

However, rivalries and alumni are not on coach Becky Burleigh's mind.

"The big thing is we need to get six points out of this weekend," she said.

UF plans to address issues during bye week

FOOTBALL, from page 13

improve communication and find ways to combat up-tempo attacks.

Wideout Frankie Hammond Jr. said the offense can improve in all areas — just part of the standard day-by-day process.

Jon Halapio added that issues with penalties, converting on short-yardage opportunities and offensive alignments all need to be addressed.

The bye week will give the coaches a chance to put

together photo and video packages that highlight more areas of concern, but a strong performance on Saturday would cross a few necessary fixes off the list.

"We need to gel in four quarters, all together," Halapio said.

"We need to come out stronger and faster."

If they don't, Saturday's game could turn into another Furman.

If they do, the Gators will head into the bye week unscathed 4-0.

Contact Greg Luca at gluca@alligator.org.

PICKS, from page 13

with small yellow ducks, as the home fans coordinate t-shirts in a yellow-out.

If that doesn't throw the Wildcats off their game, then De'Anthony Thomas will. Quack! Quack!

- JOSH JURNOVOY

Now, onto the picks...

Leading the pack with a 14-10 record is the Miami Herald's Matt "I love you, 7F!" Watts, who recently decided a flight from Charlotte to Tampa was his opportunity to loudly pronounce his love for an entirely uninterested passenger. Shockingly, she didn't take the bait. Who can resist a broke sportswriter with an occasional anger problem?

In a four-way tie for second with a 13-11 record is Rivals' Bryan "Winnie the Pooh can't take my Honey Boo Boo" Holt, whose obsession with TLC's newest reality show has simply become too much. When asked where the show was filmed earlier this week, Bryan answered "McIntyre, Ga.," a little too quickly. The South will rise again! Key word: "will." People like Holt are holding them back.

Next up is alligatorSports writer Adam "I like having things in my mouth" Pincus, who recently discovered the snacking joy of sunflower seeds. For Pincus, the trouble is

never what's in his mouth — it's what comes out. I guess we're not all equipped with common sense.

Then there's alligatorSports writer Josh "What the hell is Google?" Jurnovoy, who either botched the spelling or completely misfired on just about every name he included in his stories this week. Here's a hint, Josh: When you see red squiggly lines everywhere, hit spell check. You'll be better off for it.

Rounding out second place from the Associated Press is Mark "Where my tribesmen at?" Long, who used a break during a recent interview session to identify and tag all the Jewish members of the UF media contingent. Sorry, Mark, but they were never going to invite you to their Rosh Hashanah keg stand.

And tied for dead-ass last with a piss-poor record of 12-12 is Palm Beach Post writer Jason "Too grown up for the fist bump" Lieser, who coolly turned down a fist bump from Will Muschamp, offering back only an open palm and an unrelenting glare. The duo engaged in the familiar game of hand-greeting-method-switching roulette we all know too well, with Coach Boom ultimately walking away contact-less after deciding Jason wasn't worth the time. I mean, the guy doesn't even know who Mark Bavaro is. Idiot.

Also in dead-ass last with a piss-poor record of 12-12 is alligatorSports assistant editor Joe "All I want for Christmas is a pair of glasses" Morgan, who can't read anything smaller

than size-739 font or see anything more than 15 yards away, but doesn't think this problem needs to be addressed. When you edit a newspaper and watch sports for a living, clearly 'vision' isn't an important skill. Joe's only hope is that Santa brings him a shiny new pair of spectacles this holiday season, because obviously St. Nick has the necessary infrastructure to conduct an eye exam and suggest a proper prescription.

Rounding out the three-way tie for dead-ass last with a piss-poor record of 12-12 is alligatorSports editor Greg "This is a bad neighborhood!" Luca, who always harps on his passengers to lock the doors of his blue Cobalt when they exit the vehicle. Lock them yourself or get a car with power locks, Luca! Even the most thuggish carjackers take a look at your ride and decide to pass, if only out of pity.

UK @ UF (-24)	UF	UK	UF	UF
LSU @ AUB (+20.5)	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
VANDY @ UGA (-15.5)	VANDY	UGA	UGA	VANDY
MICH @ ND (-5.5)	ND	MICH	MICH	ND
KSU @ OKLA (-14)	KSU	KSU	KSU	KSU
CLEM @ FSU (-14)	FSU	FSU	FSU	FSU
ARIZ @ ORE (-23.5)	ARIZ	ORE	ORE	ARIZ
MIZZ @ USC (-10)	MIZZ	USC	USC	USC
UK @ UF (-24)	UF	UF	UF	UF
LSU @ AUB (+20.5)	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
VANDY @ UGA (-15.5)	UGA	UGA	UGA	UGA
MICH @ ND (-5.5)	ND	ND	MICH	MICH
KSU @ OKLA (-14)	KSU	KSU	KSU	KSU
CLEM @ FSU (-14)	FSU	FSU	FSU	CLEM
ARIZ @ ORE (-23.5)	ARIZ	ORE	ORE	ORE
MIZZ @ USC (-10)	USC	USC	USC	USC

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We're All Part of the Team

Smith's leadership keeps UF strong

Gators have seven freshmen

JONATHAN CZUPRYN
Alligator Writer

The Gators have had plenty of reasons to give up this season, associate head coach Dave Boos said.

Instead, Florida heads into Friday night's Southeastern Conference home opener at 7 against Missouri (10-2, 2-0) with a No. 13 ranking and a perfect SEC record.

Boos said UF (8-2, 2-0 SEC) stayed strong amid offseason losses and injuries because of the leadership of the upperclassmen.

"There's a lot of reasons for a group like this to say, 'Well, this shouldn't be our year,'" he said. "This senior group is not letting that happen. This group hasn't had that mind frame at all from the beginning."

The confidence starts with red-shirt senior and team captain Betsy

Smith. The 6-foot-2 Atlanta product has 56 kills and 18 blocks through 10 matches at middle blocker this season.

But her impact is felt off the court as well.

"We're really steady. We're composed. And from the very first serve you can tell we're ready to go. You can see the belief happening."

Dave Boos

UF volleyball associate head coach

Smith said she embraces her role as a leader for the 11 underclassmen that make up the majority of the team's roster.

"They do some goofy things," Smith said.

"I have to put myself back in their shoes like, 'OK, I would have done that four or five years ago — maybe, I guess.' So it's just like trying to fig-

ure out how they are, who they are as people, and that's been the fun part."

Freshman Dana Backlund said she has increased her knowledge and love of the game just by watching the older players compete with the same mentality in practices as in games.

"It's such a big help watching them," she said. "You learn so much in what really needs to be done. So it's a great learning experience for all of us. They've all been great leaders (and) great examples for all of us."

Boos praised Backlund and the rest of the freshman class for being so receptive and ready to follow in the footsteps of UF's veterans.

He said this attitude has given the Gators success thus far, and his team is prepared for the challenges that lie ahead.

"We're really steady," Boos said. "We're composed. And from the very first serve you can tell we're ready to go. You can see the belief happening."



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Senior Betsy Smith celebrates after scoring a point during UF's win against FAMU at the O'Connell Center on Aug. 25.

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Schedule set up favorably for Gators, Driskel going forward

Wins in hostile environments taught valuable lessons

JOSH JURNOVOY

Alligator Staff Writer

One of the worst parts of the season is already in the past for the Gators.

They haven't played the toughest teams on their schedule, and their games haven't had the highest stakes. But Florida came out of one of its tougher two-game road trips in recent memory without a blemish on its record and will only have to play one Southeastern Conference game on the road the rest of the season.

After winning their first two SEC games at Texas A&M and Tennessee, the No. 14 Gators (3-0, 2-0 SEC) return home to face Kentucky (1-2) on Saturday at 12:21 p.m.

"In both games we expected [Driskel] to play well, and he did."

Will Muschamp
UF coach

"It'll definitely be nice playing at home," said junior offensive lineman Kyle Koehne, who made his first career start at right tackle last Saturday against Tennessee. "Playing in The Swamp is a huge advantage, but yeah, I mean I think it was great training playing in such big stadiums and with such noise. It helps our communication, a bunch of things, and I think it'll just give us more of an advantage when we play at home."

For the first time in 20 years, UF has only one SEC road game remaining on its schedule after three weeks. In 1992, Florida won its opener at home against Kentucky before losing at Tennessee and Mississippi. UF then went on a seven-game winning streak during which the first three games were in The Swamp. The last was Florida's final conference away game, a 41-21 victory against Vanderbilt.

The early road games, while daunting when they first appeared on the schedule, have paid dividends for Florida.

"We played two good teams and for our kids to go in there and come out with victories, I think there's a big payoff for that,"

offensive coordinator Brent Pease said. "It builds their confidence and makes them take a bigger step of wanting to improve and knowing what the next task at hand is."

The early road success also provided new starting quarterback Jeff Driskel with valuable experience. His passer rating improved with each contest, he has yet to throw an interception and he showed increased pocket awareness against the Volunteers, as he was not sacked after taking eight sacks against the Aggies.

"In both games we expected him to play well, and he did," coach Will Muschamp said. "(He) executed extremely well. I think (he) grew from Week 1 there at A&M to Week 2 there at Tennessee. ... I'm sure it's been a nice shot of confidence for him and, more than anything, the players around him. They've played well, but they have now, instead of the uncertainty maybe of how he will play, they know he's going to play well."

Pease said Driskel benefitted from his exposure to the hostile environments of Kyle Field and Neyland Stadium. He was forced to make adjustments at the line of scrimmage while dealing with relentless noise from the opposing crowds. Considering he was up to the challenge, making the same play calls at home is not expected to be too difficult.

"He's keeping us in tempo and he's getting us going," Pease said. "We're getting the ball off. We're not getting up there and letting the defense get aligned so much and waiting and being able to look and get their cleats in the ground and their eyes to the ball as much. He's doing it much quicker and our guys are able to react and sometimes, defensively, they're out of position."

Florida's opponent is not riding the same high as Saturday approaches. Kentucky fell to 1-2 last week with a 32-31 overtime loss at home to Western Kentucky.

One of the few bright spots this season for the Wildcats has been quarterback Max Smith, who leads the SEC with 966 yards passing. He has thrown eight touchdowns and four interceptions.

Cornerback Loucheiz Purifoy said the secondary is aware of the challenges the Wildcats will present, as well as what the Gators will have to do to handle them.

"Make plays," Purifoy said. "Break up passes. They've got a good passing game. As you can tell, (they) lead the SEC in passing,

so I mean, find ways to stop them."

Purifoy and the rest of the defense should have plenty of crowd support on Saturday night. When asked if he feels like the road wins have caused more of a buzz around the team than in years past, safety Josh Evans didn't hesitate.

"Absolutely," he said.

Contact Josh Jurnovoy at jjurnovoy@alligator.org.



Brett Le Blanc / Alligator Staff

Quarterback Jeff Driskel stands in the pocket before attempting a pass against Tennessee during Florida's 37-20 win on Sept. 15 at Neyland Stadium.

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