

the independent florida alligator

Not officially associated with the University of Florida

Published by Campus Communications, Inc. of Gainesville, Florida
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Freshman guard Michael Frazier II has played a key role in helping offset Florida's injuries this season. Read the story on page 13.



VOLUME 107 ISSUE 79

WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013

RANKINGS

UF online graduate program ranks high in US

► IN THE U.S., 213 SCHOOLS HAVE AN ONLINE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM.

ALYSSA FISHER

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF's online graduate business program was named the No. 1 program in the state and

No. 4 in the nation by U.S. News & World Report Tuesday.

U.S. News publishes standings of online education programs by degrees. Based on a survey of criteria that includes graduation rates, faculty credentials and student services sent to hundreds of schools nationwide, 213 institutions were found to have an online master's degree program. Of these schools, UF's Hough Graduate School of Business came in

at No. 4.

"It's a testament to what we do here," said the school's Senior Associate Dean and Director S. Selcuk Erenguc. "When you put together the right components, like a world-class faculty, a selection process that brings in outstanding students and a very dedicated and capable technology team, you end up with a great program."

SEE RANKINGS, PAGE 4

Silver Springs spurs discussion

ANDREW KAYS

Alligator Contributing Writer

The site of "Creature from the Black Lagoon," supposedly escaped rhesus monkeys from a Tarzan film and the Ross Allen Reptile Institute are legacies of Ocala's Silver Springs. But what the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is currently concerned with preserving is the crystal-clear water.

The department presented a draft of its plans to acquire the Silver Springs nature theme park lands and turn them into a Florida state park at an open meeting Monday night.

Following a Dec. 12 meeting with about 350 attendees and a rising concern for the water levels and purity of the springs, the proposed plan aims to clean and remove old animal pens and amusement park buildings, set up environmentally sound foundations and make it more nature-focused by opening hiking trails and camping opportunities.

"Silver Springs, the attraction, has a long history of being exploited for economic benefit and not for its natural environmental benefits, and that's what I don't want to see with any plans to move forward," UF adjunct professor and founder/director of the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute Robert Knight said at the meeting.

If the plans are approved by Gov. Rick Scott and his cabinet, the FDEP will establish a timeline for changes, wrote department representative Jennifer Diaz in an email.

Some attendees Monday were worried about what the state planned to do about the employees. Others expressed concerns about the fate of the animals belonging to Palace Entertainment, the current owner of the land lease.

"Moving a lot of these animals

SEE SPRINGS, PAGE 4



Elise Giordano / Alligator Staff

Racing Down the Track

Alachua County Commissioners recently voted to start negotiations to move the Alachua County Fairgrounds near the Auto Plus Raceway at Gainesville, 11211 North County Road 225. Read the story on page 4.

UF center collects snakes for python roundup

KELCEE GRIFFIS

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF's Research and Education Center began receiving a series of unusual specimens Saturday: Burmese pythons shot by hunters in South Florida wildlife preserves.

The Ft. Lauderdale-based center is a drop-off point where contestants in the Florida Fish and

Wildlife Commission-sponsored Python Challenge can turn in their trophies.

FWC spokeswoman Diane Hirth said the challenge aims to reduce the species' presence in Florida.

During the contest, which began Saturday and lasts until Feb. 10, participants roam through four designated wildlife preserves

in South Florida to capture and kill Burmese pythons, which are considered an invasive species in Florida. As part of the contest, the FWC will give cash awards to the two hunters who bring in the longest snake and the most snakes.

As of Tuesday, the center received 11 dead snakes, said Frank Mazzotti, director of UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences'

Wildlife Ecology Department in Ft. Lauderdale.

Mazzotti is working with a team of about 12 biologists and students to perform a necropsy on each captured snake.

Within 48 hours of receiving a python carcass at the lab, Mazzotti said, one to two researchers

SEE PYTHON, PAGE 4

Today

81/57

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Sakai spam email promotes UF-based shopping site

About 10,000 students received the email, pg 3.

Lack of students during breaks slows restaurant business

Restaurants located along West University Avenue agree, pg 5.



UF grad creates anti-bullying campaign

The documentary, "Coexist," tells the stories and the grief of survivors of the 1994 Rwandan genocide, pg. 9.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Author presents about new book

At noon today, the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program will host author Billy Townsend for a presentation about his new book, "The Age of Barbarity: The Forgotten Fight for the Soul of Florida." The event will be in Pugh Hall, Room 150. Townsend's book chronicles the rise of racial conflict in the wake of World War I and Prohibition, which pitted white people against black people and Protestants against Catholics. This period saw acts of great violence against racial and religious minorities. The event is free to the public. For more information, visit www.oral.history.ufl.edu or call 352-392-7168.

Pledge 5 Foundation Foto Frenzy

Foto Frenzy is an annual picture scavenger hunt geared toward UF students. From 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. today, teams of up to five students can compete to take the best pictures next to landmarks on campus. The team that uploads the most pictures in two hours wins. Each member of the winning team will win a cruise to the Bahamas for two people. To participate, students must pledge five hours of community service at a Pledge 5 Foundation service social. Visit www.fotofrenzygainesville.com/ or www.facebook.com/events/443570285696292/ for more information.

Career Showcase

People who want to volunteer while networking with employers at Career Showcase can become Career Showcase hosts. Find out more at host interest meetings tonight at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 2 p.m. in the Career Resource Center. Contact ufshowcasehosts@gmail.com with questions or to RSVP.

FORECAST

TODAY

SUNNY
81/57

THURSDAY

RAIN
76/42

FRIDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
62/48

SATURDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
66/47

SUNDAY

PARTLY
CLOUDY
70/42

Students for Big Brothers Big Sisters meeting

Students for BBBS will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Matherly, Room 0016. Attendees will learn about how to make a difference in the lives of Alachua County children by developing one-on-one relationships through one of the most renowned mentoring programs in the United States. Applications to become a big brother or sister will be at the meeting. Start your new year off right by making a resolution to change the lives of Gainesville-area children. For more information, email bbb-satuf@gmail.com.

OAS Peer Mentor applications available

The Office of Academic Support (OAS) offers academic and personal enrichment services to UF students. It primarily serves first-generation students and students considered economically, educationally or culturally disadvantaged. Peer mentors help incoming first-generation students transition from high school to college. Applications are due Jan. 25 by 5 p.m. in Little Hall, Room 311. Visit www.oas.ua.ufl.edu/student-positions.aspx to access the application and browse a detailed description of duties.

Black student leadership conference applications

Applications are available at the Institute of Black Culture and on Application Clearinghouse: www.studentinvolvement.ufl.edu/Resources/ApplicationClearinghouse.

edu/Resources/Application Clearinghouse. The purpose of the conference is to provide current and emerging student leaders with knowledge and skills that can help them become more effective leaders on campus and beyond. Workshops will focus on topics ranging from professional etiquette to the complexities of leadership. Applications are due Jan. 28, and the conference is Feb. 2. Conference attire is business professional. For more information about the conference, please email the IBC at ibc@multicultural.ufl.edu.

CORRECTION

An article in Monday's Alligator stated that the BrowZine application provides access to more than 2,000 journals. The application provides access to more than 12,000.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to jglum@alligator.org. To ensure publication in the next day's newspaper, please submit the event before 5 p.m. Please model your submissions after above events. Improperly formatted "What's Happening" submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

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

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

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

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

CAMPUS

Sakai spam promotes UF shopping site

JACLYN ROSEN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Dianmarie De Jesus was one of about 10,000 students who received a mass email from a professor who appeared to be endorsing a new online shopping site for students called uVendors.

Little did she know, it was a concealed promotional strategy broadcast to her in a UF Sakai email by another student.

The 18-year-old co-founders, Dakota Woll and Sean Gura, were reported by their peers for soliciting via email through Sakai on Thursday night. No action has been taken against them.

"We might have taken a chance in sending the emails, but sometimes to make a start-up work, you have to take risks," said Woll, an industrial and systems engineering freshman.

Woll and Gura said they felt their unconventional, risky tactic proved to be a success.

"It said that there's this new site

that's safe and better than Craigslist. So I was like 'oh, that's a good idea.' I hate posting on Craigslist because I feel like there's always something that could go wrong," said De Jesus, a 19-year-old exploratory sophomore.

"The easiest way to describe it is a mix between Craigslist and eBay."

Dakota Woll

co-founder of uVendors

Three days later, De Jesus used the site to post her Hewlett-Packard Pavilion G4 laptop for sale. She said she plans to use the site again for future listings.

"The easiest way to describe it is a mix between Craigslist and eBay," Woll said. "It's like a Facebook group, but it's much more organized."

The site prides itself on safety, simplicity and savings.

"I originally put [my posting] on the huge textbook exchange Facebook page, but it just got buried,"

said 18-year-old mathematics and statistics freshman Kaleigh Harder.

Harder said the site's search bar and categories, which include postings for tickets, housing, motor transportation and textbooks, are two features that the Facebook pages lack.

In addition to helping students find what they're looking for at an affordable, student-determined price, the co-founders said safety is one of their main concerns.

"We're trying to make it as safe for students as possible," said Gura, a finance freshman. "When you go on the site, you have to register with your ufl.edu email. If you're not a UF student, you can't register, and you can't see the contact information for products on the site."

Gura said users can feel safe knowing that the uVendors' community is all around them — in their classes, organizations and clubs.

Gura and Woll said they hope the site will eventually create a more unified campus.

Student entrepreneurs showcase on the plaza

► THE EVENT WILL HOST STUDENT-RUN COMPANIES.

HANNAH MORSE

Alligator Contributing Writer

The Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation teamed with the student-run company and blog Hello Perfect to host the first Entrepreneurs Raid the Plaza from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. today on the Plaza of the Americas.

This event, which is cosponsored by Student Government, will give student entrepreneurs the chance to exhibit their companies to peers and passers-by.

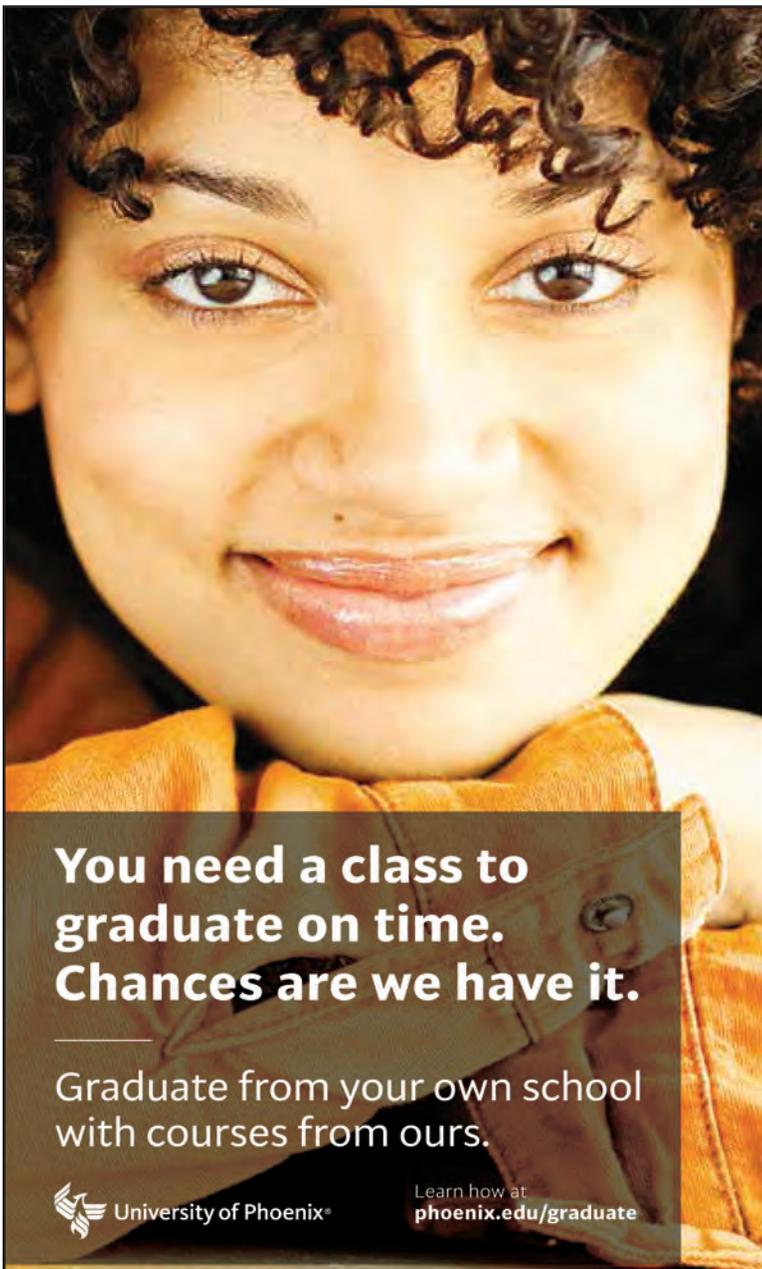
Because companies and businesses cannot promote themselves on campus without UF

affiliation, Hello Perfect founder, center ambassador and business administration senior Alexa Carlin and her business partner, public relations senior Angela Ribbler, said they wanted to find a way for student entrepreneurs to promote themselves and network with others.

In an email, Carlin wrote she hopes the event will allow people to learn about student-run UF companies and get inspired to accomplish their dreams.

"These days one can't wait for the phone to ring from employers given the economic situation," the center's director, Jamie Kraft, wrote in an email.

He also wants the event to spark "further momentum and growth in the Gainesville entrepreneurial ecosystem."



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Issue Date	Sports Coverage
Mon. 1/7	Football Season & Bowl Game Recap (Deadline: 12/07/12)
Fri. 1/18	Gymnastics, Tennis, Swimming, Women's Basketball Men's Basketball vs. Missouri, Track & Field Gator Invitational
Fri. 1/25	Gymnastics Gators Link to Pink vs. Auburn
Fri. 2/1	Men's Basketball vs. Ole Miss, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Women's Basketball
Fri. 2/8	Men's Basketball vs. Mississippi State Men's Golf Gator Invitational, Softball Preview
Fri. 2/15	Baseball Preview, Softball, Women's Basketball
Fri. 2/22	Tennis, Lacrosse, Baseball, Gymnastics Men's Basketball vs. Arkansas
Fri. 3/1	Men's Basketball vs. Alabama Softball, Baseball, Gymnastics, Men's Tennis
Mon. 3/18	Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament (Bracket)
Fri. 3/29	Men's Tennis, Baseball
Fri. 4/5	Track & Field Pepsi Florida Relays Orange & Blue Game (Approximate Date) Gymnastics NCAA Regionals
Fri. 4/12	Baseball, Men's Tennis

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Alex Catalano / Alligator Staff

Student Body President Tj Villamil calls his election commission nominee, Brett Williams, to answer senators' questions Tuesday.

Alachua County Fairgrounds could move to new location at raceway

► COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE IN TALKS WITH THE RACEWAY TO USE SOME OF ITS HUNDREDS OF ACRES FOR THE COUNTY FAIR.

BREANNA MAYE

Alligator Contributing Writer

The Alachua County Fairgrounds may get a new home after county commissioners began talk about moving it near a northeast Gainesville racetrack.

Commissioners recently voted to start negotiations with the National Hot Rod Association to have the site outside the Auto-Plus Raceway at Gainesville, also known as the Gainesville Raceway, said Mark Sexton, communications coordinator for

Alachua County.

Sexton said the raceway, 11211 North County Road 225, was chosen as the possible new site for the fairgrounds because of its rainwater systems and extra space for parking.

He added that the county would save money by having the fairgrounds near the raceway and it could use the savings to maintain the site's infrastructure.

Rich Schaefer, general manager for Auto-Plus, said the idea to move the fairgrounds to the raceway started more than a decade ago.

It recently proposed to share its extra land for the fairgrounds.

The raceway owns about 750 to 800 acres, he said.

Right now, the negotiations

include a financial aspect, Schaefer said.

It also has to look at what commitments the fairgrounds already have in place.

If the fairgrounds moves to the site, events at the racetrack won't be affected, he added.

The negotiations are in the beginning stages at this point, but more details should be worked out over the next couple of months, Schaefer said.

Sexton said that once the fairgrounds is moved to the raceway, the former site will be used as industrial space.

With talks of moving the fairgrounds farther north, getting to the site can be a problem for UF students and residents who rely on public transportation.

RTS busses do not have a route to the speedway.

Home video, comedy film festival to play in Gainesville

Tickets to the 90-minute show are \$5

JEWEL MIDELIS

Alligator Contributing Writer

They shop at thrift stores, garage sales and trash bins, scouring the 50 states for a unique item that is often unwanted and forgotten.

Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett search for abandoned home vid-

eos, so they can commentate and make fun of their findings to an audience during their Found Footage Festival tour.

For the first time, Prueher and Pickett will host the festival in Gainesville at 7:30 p.m. today at The Atlantic, 15 N. Main St.

The duo has collected VHS tapes

for the last 20 years and have gathered more than 1,000 videos since.

"We have some of the weirdest, craziest footage we have ever seen," Prueher said. "We don't have any footage from Gainesville. So if anyone has found something, bring it to the show."

The 90-minute show will in-

clude exercise tapes, classroom films from the 1970s and a video about how to take care of a ferret, he said.

Prueher said tickets to the show cost \$5 and can be purchased at the door or online at www.foundfootagefest.com.

The group began the Found Footage Festival in 2004 by showing its tape collection to patrons in New York bars.

"People seemed to dig it, and we've been touring ever since," Prueher said.

Caroline Garrity, a 19-year-old advertising sophomore, said she enjoys making funny videos with her friends and wouldn't mind submitting her tapes to the festival.

"It would be a good use of \$5 to get some laughs," she said. "I wish they would find some of my home videos, because they are spot on."

Silver Springs is part of one of the largest artesian springs in the world

SPRINGS, from page 1

is very stressful, and during that stressful time they could die, and you could be signing their death certificate, really," Silver Springs zookeeper Wayne Carr said at the meeting. "All I ask is: Take into consideration the animals that are there, even if you just keep them there until they pass."

Silver Springs is part of the St. Johns River system and is one of the largest artesian springs in the world.

Its flow and environment is influenced by the Rodman

Dam, built in 1968 to prepare for the since-scrapped Cross Florida Barge Canal.

Several argued Monday that the dam should be removed to allow the natural environment to recover.

Steven Noll, senior history lecturer at UF and author of "Ditch of Dreams: The Cross Florida Barge Canal and the Struggle for Florida's Future," disagreed.

"I think, too often, people look at these things by themselves instead of looking at the big picture and how it'll affect the area," Noll said. "It's not the panacea some people think it is."

He thinks turning the land into a state park will help, but wants to see a decline in nitrate-rich fertilizer usage, better reclaimed water usage and fewer land-use permits for golf courses and subdivisions.

Palace Entertainment plans to go forward with planned events at the park until definitive action is decided, said Mike Friscia, vice president of the water parks division.

"We will always keep an open mind about what may be the best long-term interests of the park, the surrounding community and the state of Florida in general," he said.

Researchers are gathering data

PYTHON, from page 1

stretch it out on a surgical table and cut it open. They remove the reproductive organs, digestive tract and tissue samples.

Wildlife biologist Joy Vinci, 31, said the dissections keep the center busy.

The team is collecting the data to learn more about the invasive snakes' presence. Mazzotti said gathering the genetic data is important because it allows researchers to distinguish whether a snake is part of the established python population in the wild or a released or

escaped pet.

In 2012, the federal government banned the importation and interstate sale of the pythons, Hirth said. State law prohibits their possession or sale. She said the largest captured Burmese python documented in Florida was about 17.5 feet.

Mazzotti said he can't guess how many pythons the nearly 1,000 registered participants will capture by the end of the contest.

"If one in 10 catches a snake, that would be 100 snakes, and I would be ecstatic," he said.

Program continually self-evaluates

RANKINGS, from page 1

Although he and the faculty are thrilled with the school's top ranking, they plan to look over evaluations to pinpoint what to improve.

"We pay attention when their methodology indicates that some things can be improved upon," said Associate Provost for Teaching and Technology Andy McCollough.

Also in the report was UF's online graduate program in education, which ranked first in Florida and No. 18 nationwide, while the online graduate engineering program was acknowledged as No. 26 nationally and second in Florida. Based on the quality of its online bachelor's degree programs, UF ranked 34 out of 237 American universities.

"We have worked really hard to meet the needs of today's learners," said Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Tom Dana.



Dana

The Economist awarded its highest grade of "excellent" to UF's online business program — one of only two in the world to receive it.

"I think it's affirmation of what we believe we're about, which is trying to produce excellent content with excellent faculty for excellent students," McCollough said. "It sets a standard for us: Once we have achieved excellence, we will not do anything to do less than that. Any programs that have not reached that level know what they have to do to get there."



Andrea Sarcos / Alligator

Shake It Out

Latin American studies student Korey Force, 23, dances casino-style Cuban salsa with 24-year-old Andrew Cartas, a nuclear engineering Ph.D. candidate, Tuesday night.

Lack of students during winter break slows down restaurant business

► EMPLOYEES WHO WORK ALONG WEST UNIVERSITY AVENUE SAID THE BREAK HITS HARD.

CHAD FURST

Alligator Contributing Writer

As students flocked home for the winter holidays, their monthlong migration left local restaurants with a shortage of customers.

During the winter break, employees who work at restaurants along West University Avenue said the gap between Fall and Spring semesters is a challenge.

"All of December, and even into January, is really slow for us," said Risa Sternfield, a bartender at Beef 'O' Brady's on West University Avenue. "Breakfast, lunch and dinner are all affected."

During the Fall, the restaurant can make as much as \$2,000 a night.

In December, however, Sternfield said, the restaurant makes a fraction of that amount.

David Mocilan, a bartender at the Copper Monkey Restaurant & Pub, said he can normally make about \$200 a night in tips but struggles to make half of that amount when students are out of town.

"It's usually locals — students that don't have

to go home," he said.

Some restaurants prepare for the slow business. At Leonardo's Pizza by the Slice, cooks don't prepare as much food, and employees go home early if there are no customers.

The Copper Monkey closes its doors for days at a time, including the week of Christmas and on New Year's Day.

"I can deliver for seven hours and only make \$10 in tips."

Catherine Hapler

co-manager at Papa John's

Despite the number of local residents who stayed in town during the winter break, most restaurants were still hit hard.

"Sales drop by about 40 percent," said Greg Smith, co-manager of Papa John's Pizza on West University Avenue.

Catherine Hapler, co-manager with Smith at Papa John's, said she knows how slow business can be without students on campus.

"I can deliver for seven hours and only make \$10 in tips," she said.

When classes start back up at UF, business is back to normal for the restaurants.

Chris Milligan, an employee at Wing Zone, said business with students is crucial.

"We are very UF-dependent," he said.

Hasbro uses social media to decide new Monopoly token

KATIE BURNS

Alligator Contributing Writer

The classic fight for Monopoly pieces reached a new level when Hasbro announced that the board game would change its iconic metal tokens, which identify players in the game.

Hasbro is using Facebook to decide which pieces stay and which go straight to jail without collecting \$200. The campaign runs until Feb. 5.

The company is using a specialized Facebook app through the Monopoly fan page to generate votes.



Johnson

Users can vote on which classic piece they wish to save, and which new one should take its place.

Steve Johnson, visual coordinator for the College of Journalism and Communications, has extensive experience with social media and networking.

"Social media can be used for two things: consuming and creating. So I think they're using it as someone who is trying to find

who their audience is," Johnson said. "They are using crowd-

sourcing to figure out what the masses think."

Anel Henry thinks the game is fun as it is.

"They already have so many different versions of the game, I don't see why it is necessary to change the pieces," the 18-year-old biology freshman said.

Freshman biology major Nicole Palmero, 19, doesn't see the correlation between the pieces in the first place.

"A thimble? A dog? What difference does it make — they don't make any sense as it is," she said.

It'll be a roll of the dice whether fans embrace the new changes to the timeless game.



Rachel Crosby / Alligator

Ryan Silverman, a 19-year-old sports management sophomore and UF chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity brother, speaks to Michael Buchanan, a 19-year-old economics sophomore, about Spring rush week Tuesday night at the Sigma Nu house.

Fraternity hopefuls rush this week

Events will be every night

ALEXA VOLLAND

Alligator Writer

Recruitment week is back.

Interfraternity Council rush began Monday and lasts through Friday.

Twenty-two fraternities are registered for recruitment, said Justin Shifrin, a 19-year-old accounting sophomore and director of public relations for the Interfraternity Council.

Shifrin said he hopes the students who choose to rush will gain a sense of camaraderie and networking opportunities.

"Every fraternity offers something different and has a different history," he said. "I hope students get a chance to decide to join a fraternity and gain in the experience."

For the remainder of the week, Shifrin said, recruitment begins at 11 a.m. with lunch, and then, depending on the fraternity house, dinner will be between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"Every fraternity offers something different and has a different history. I hope students get a chance to decide to join a fraternity and gain in the experience."

Justin Shifrin

director of public relations for the Interfraternity Council

Each night there will be an event, which begins at 8 p.m. and lasts till 11 p.m.

For fraternities that do not have houses, events will be at Flavel Field, Shifrin said.

He said IFC has used Facebook and Twitter to get the word out about recruitment events.

So far, Shifrin said, the turnout has been "amazing."

"From what I've been able to see, it's been going great so far," he said.

Zac Laczko, a 20-year-old political science junior and vice president of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, said he hoped students visit every house to be sure of what they want.

"Every house has great things to offer," he said.

Aiden Kocarek, an 18-year-old advertising freshman, said he rushed in the Fall but decided to try again this semester.

"I think it's a good way to get involved," he said. "I figured, why not? It can't hurt to try."

Contact Alexa Volland at avolland@alligator.org.

Opinions

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013
WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG/OPINIONS

Editorial

We Get It: You're all very angry because you can't read

Welcome, new readers! We're so glad you decided to pick up — or click on — our humble publication.

Here at the Alligator, we welcome criticism, feedback and communication from our readers.

Imagine our surprise when we gained so many new fans this week; we don't normally get such national attention from all of you. It'll take a few years to clean out our email inboxes and to cool our receptionist's phone after she fielded all of your calls.

Quite a few of you were up in arms, so to speak, over Dallin Kelson's column Monday, titled, "Loganville woman jumped the gun."

The main point of the article was not a moral discussion of whether a mother should protect her children, which is what many of you appear to believe.

We understand how you could disagree with one of our opinions columnists because, as you can imagine, everyone has a different opinion.

Could we briefly define what an opinion is for you? Thank you!

An opinion is defined as "a view or judgment formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge" or "the beliefs or views of a large number or majority of people about a particular thing."

An opinion isn't news, and it doesn't reflect the views of this newspaper.

OK, now that we've got that out of the way, we can delve into the other bigger issue surrounding the response to this column: literacy.

Literacy is defined as "the ability to read and write."

Reading can be difficult. As college students, our textbooks are often confusing and full of words and ideas that require more than one glance.

What many of you encountered is an article that may have taken you more than one reading to fully understand.

Crazy, right?

Perhaps we need to write our columns in a more linear fashion for those of you who have trouble understanding concepts.

The point of Kelson's column was to say that, perhaps if the woman had opened the door, the entire violent and physical altercation could have been avoided.

That's all.

SEE EDDY, PAGE 7

Reader response

Today's question: Do you think Silver Springs should become a state park?

Tuesday's question: Have you seen the Doritos commercial?
30% YES
70% NO
45 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Sarah Kinonen
EDITOR

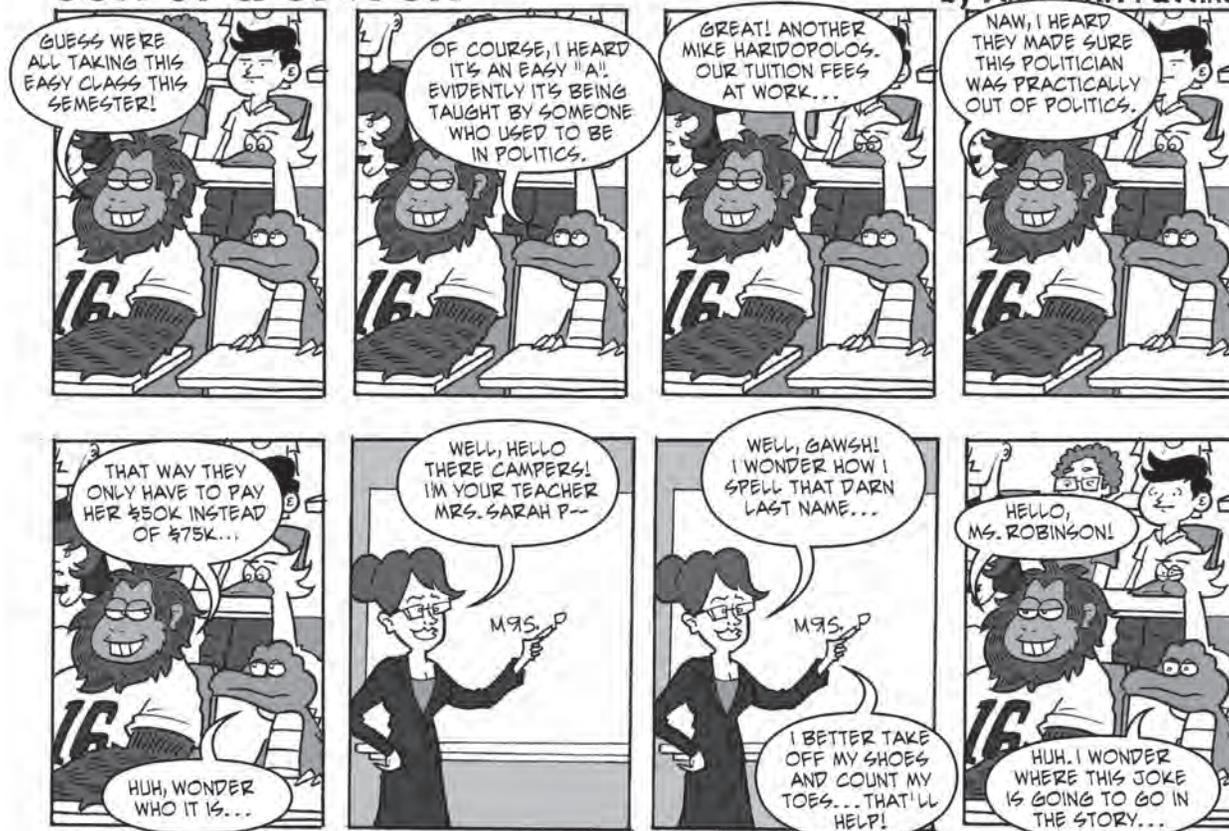
Julia Glum
MANAGING EDITOR

Sami Main
OPINIONS EDITOR

the independent florida
alligator

SON of a GATOR

by Andre R. Frattino



Column

America's age of objectivity has ended

Last Monday, Alabama rolled — quite literally — over Notre Dame, crushing the Fighting Irish 42-14, becoming the third team to win three national titles in four seasons. As a UF student, I'd like to say: Congratulations, Alabama. You've earned it — like Louisville.

I'd also like to recognize ESPN commentator Brent Musburger for saying what the rest of us would have said (or Tweeted, or Instagrammed), had we seen someone as beautiful as Katherine Webb.

Let me explain.

During the game, a camera caught sight of Alabama quarterback AJ McCarron's girlfriend, Webb, a former Miss Alabama USA, standing in the crowd, as she watched her boyfriend win Alabama's second-straight national title. Turning to his colleague Kirk Herbstreit, Musburger jocularly remarked, "You quarterbacks, you get all the good looking women. What a beautiful woman. Wow! Whoa!"

His partner added, "AJ's doing some things right down in Tuscaloosa."

Musburger playfully fired back, "So if you're a youngster at Alabama, start getting the football out, and throw it around with Pop."

Somewhere, a feminist died. Faster than LeBron James could follow the ravishing 23-year-old on Twitter, people responded to the innocuous banter with juvenile outrage. As the New York Times reported, commentary on the broadcast following the game included words like "creepy," "awkward," "uncomfortable" and "heteronormative."

The article went on to say, "It's extraordinarily inappropriate to focus on an individual's looks," said Sue Carter, a professor of journalism at Michigan State... "I think there's a generational issue, but it's incumbent on people practicing in these eras to keep up and this is not a norm."

Not a norm, huh? I wouldn't be surprised if her doctrinal thesis was titled, "Retrograde Sexual Objectification in Cultural Identity." But who am I to judge the judgmental?

As our culture embraced tolerance with open, tattooed arms, we witnessed a wave of repressive idiocy and banal demagoguery that trifles our capacity to think narrow-mindedly and objectively. This senseless shift resulted in our so-



Erik Skipper
opinions@alligator.org

ciety practicing mental gymnastics in order to accommodate the fatuous demands of the open-minded.

The age of objectivity is over. Truth is relative, all beliefs are equal and any effort to explain reality is limited by the progressive, liberal agenda that censures those who espouse truth — even if they're truthful!

College admissions decisions place more emphasis on achieving diversity than maintaining the students who exemplify superior academic qualifications. Employers are more concerned with your ability to provide an explanation that elucidates your understanding of empathy than your knowledge of the field. That's why those who call themselves tolerant lambast people like Musburger. By operating under the rubric of open-mindedness, the terrorants (tolerant + terrorists) tolerate everything — except for what they don't tolerate, which is everything!

As long as your perception of reality runs in ideological lockstep with these people, you're fine. Going on a political rant about gun control during Sunday Night Football is fine, as long as you're not on the sidelines praying to the Judeo-Christian God of the Bible or bantering about beautiful women in the crowd.

We live in a world characterized by a fundamental group who is easily offended by everything, invariably devaluing any instance of being legitimately offended. Acceptance has replaced right and wrong. Words have replaced the notion of sticks and stones.

Last Thursday, my editors at the Alligator pointed out: "There is nothing more admirable than standing up for what you truly believe in, despite what adversity you might face."

That's true — unless, of course, you don't believe in what they truly believe.

Where the hell is this country going?

Erik Skipper is an economics sophomore at UF. His column runs on Wednesdays.

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

Everyone has opinions: Columnists for the Alligator express them in this section

EDDY, from page 6

The Alligator's Opinions editor is a woman who is often home alone and, in fact, rarely answers the door unless she knows a pizza is on its way. She understands not wanting to open the door for strangers and jumps when a UPS delivery person knocks at the door — every time.

It's an assumption, admittedly, to think that if the robber in that news story had thought someone was home, he wouldn't have entered the house.

We still think of criminals as those two buffoons in "101 Dalmations" who sneak around harmlessly. Maybe the burglar in this case was a bit more menacing than those fools and would have broken in regardless of evidence that someone was home.

Did he knock on the door with his crowbar in hand? Probably not.

Burglars aren't like certain Mormon youth; there's no uniform.

However, we're allowed the benefit of the doubt when writing an opinions piece.

Would you like to know why?

It's our opinion.

Whether it's God-given or man-made, opinions are like climate change; they are real.

Opinions are like a rumbling belly; they can potentially annoy us before we do something about them.

Opinions are like dogs in a car with the windows down; they can give us a sense of fulfillment.

Opinions are like Cheeto dust on fingers; they can be something to savor.

Opinions are like gun control; they can snowball into a way bigger issue than they need to be.

In one of the dozens of emails we received this week, someone said: "I let my membership to the NRA lapse a couple of years ago. I think it is time to rejoin and maybe buy another firearm before dumbasses like you and Obama take away that right."

Sir, no one is here to take away your guns. Also, can you help us meet Obama? If we're supposed to be partners in crime with him, we'd have to be buddies first.

No one here is arguing for people to not own guns.

Wouldn't it be cool, though, if we didn't have to use them in our own homes in front of our children while we shot a man multiple times?

Now that we're on the subject of the emails we received, let's discuss literacy one more time.

Nearly all of you, while criticizing the writing of our columnist, made typos of your own.

If you're going to pick a fight with a newspaper, spell

your insults correctly.

"Your" and "you're" are two very different words.

If you think we're coming to take your guns, think again. We're coming to put you back in school. So many children seem to have been left behind, indeed.

Neal Boortz, if you're reading this, then you could have at least spelled our columnist's name correctly in your first tweet regarding this issue. We understand typing can be difficult if you're too busy fanning flames to do it correctly.

Are we perfect?

Absolutely not.

Are we entitled to our own opinion on things?

You betcha, don't cha know.

There's no need to spur on your ignorant followers to attack someone simply because you disagree with them.

"But there's no privacy on the Internet," all of you scream, with pitchforks made of iPhones and bacon gripped in your greasy hands.

However, dear new readers, there is a difference between a civil disagreement and egregious, misdirected and blind hatred.

Is it because words in the Bible are spelled funny? Is that why you can't correctly spell out your arguments?

You are hilariously misinformed if you believe, for two seconds, that our columnists — or any other decent human beings — raised the burglar in Loganville to some sort of hero-status pedestal of worship.

We're not pro-robbery. We, in fact, wish that he never tried to break into any house, ever.

The argument our columnist made was that a man wouldn't have to be shot in front of children if we didn't live in a society that runs to its gun cabinets first.

Again, this editor completely understands being too worried to open a door for a stranger and couldn't begin to fathom what she would have done in that situation.

None of you could, either. Or ...

"Oh, I'd grab my handgun," you drawl, "all while keeping up with the game on TV, as I am a red-blooded American."

Cool. Awesome.

That doesn't make us feel any better, and it perpetuates our terrible gun-first fear mongering society.

We understand that we'll never get back to a time when we can live in glorious suburbia with latchkey children (not necessarily a great time to live, anyway, if you were a woman or a minority, but that's for another time).

There's no need to attack anyone, whether it's for his or her opinion or to get into a family's home.

We get it.

Column

We don't need a 'national service' program

Isn't it about time to reinstate the draft?

I would think no one would consider such a policy reversal, but unfortunately, that's what the former commander of American forces in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, believes we should do.



Justin Hayes
opinions@alligator.org

On Sunday, McChrystal told Bob Schieffer on CBS's "Face the Nation" that he believed "national service is important for the nation, and that's having all young people serve a term of national service."

He's not exclusively calling for military service, but he believes young Americans should do something to serve their country that does not involve personal gain.

In a column for the Daily Beast, McChrystal argued, "When America needs it, national service is the personal obligation of every American." He contends that with our inalienable rights, outlined in our founding documents, Americans have "inalienable responsibilities."

From where do these inalienable responsibilities originate? He doesn't say. But don't worry. McChrystal later says, this new national service program would be "voluntary (but expected)," — whatever that means.

He fails to specify how this program, unlike an actual military draft, would be voluntary. Then again, we are told that we "voluntarily" pay our taxes as well. So this could just be Orwellian doublespeak.

Young people should be wary of politicians and public figures who call for reinstating a draft or national service program. Historically, calls to nationalism and an obligation to one's country do not turn out well.

Morally, the idea that one owes anything to the nation in which they are born by the mere accident of their birth is repugnant and contrary to the founding principles of the U.S.

When President James Madison tried to institute the draft during the War of 1812, he immediately faced opposition. In a speech delivered on the floor of the House of Representatives, Massachusetts Sen. Daniel Webster rightly asked, "Is [conscripted], Sir, consistent with the character of a free government? Is this civil liberty? Is this the real character of our Constitution? No, Sir, indeed it is not."

In other words, how is requiring national service consistent with the ideas of liberty?

During the Civil War, although most men in Union states signed up voluntarily, the draft first called to arms many men who did not wish to fight. Forcing men to fight and die against their wills while simultaneously condemning slavery defies all logic.

Regardless, the draft became a staple of American military history until the Vietnam War. The needless deaths of young men who did not wish to fight in conflicts that had nothing to do with defending American sovereignty (e.g., World War I and Vietnam) illustrates just how immoral and burdensome conscription can be when taken to its extreme.

How easy it must be for McChrystal to call upon today's youth and demand they pursue national service.

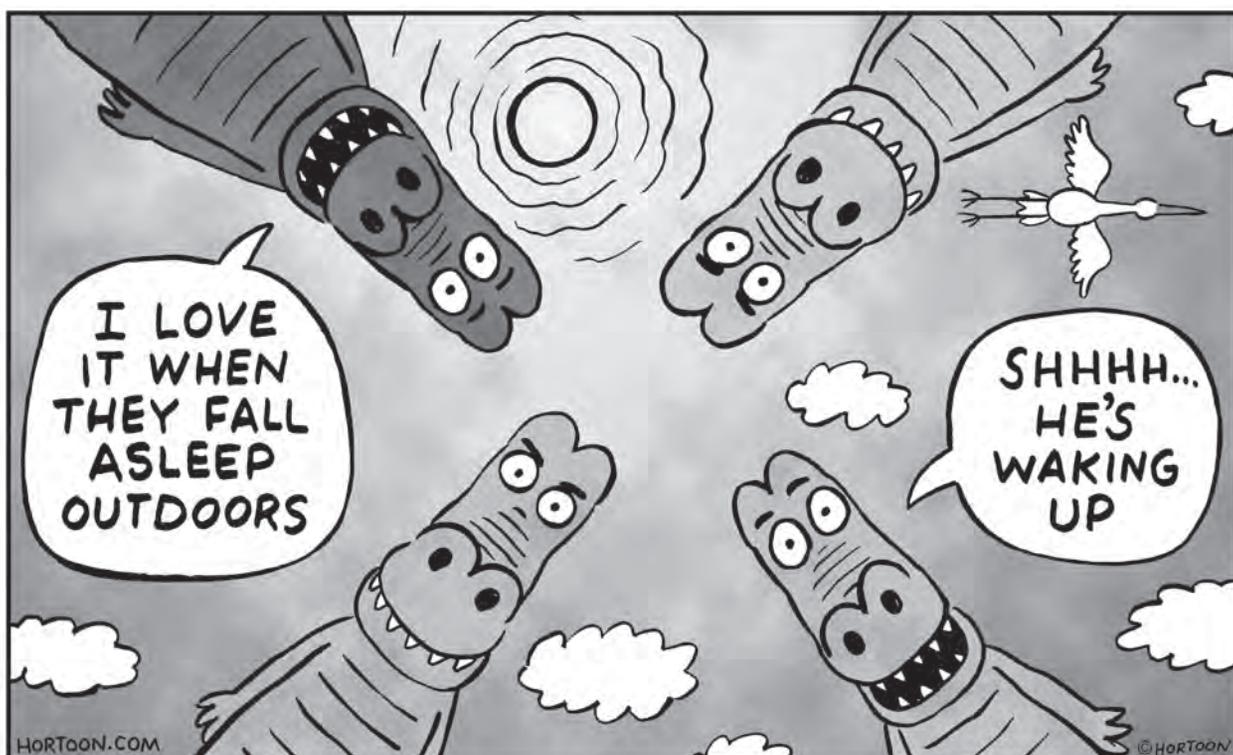
Yes, McChrystal served throughout the world for the U.S. as a long-time member of the armed services. But just because he chose a path of service does not give him the moral authority to demand everyone else also serve in some capacity.

Will public officials heed McChrystal's call for national service? Probably not.

However, it is important to reflect on how disastrous such a policy can be.

Young people should stand up to bullies who demand we sacrifice our liberty or even our lives for a government that continues to pile on the debt for us and future generations — or any government for that matter.

Justin Hayes is pursuing a master's degree in Political Communication. His column appears on Wednesdays.



International students respond to censorship

► THE NEW YEAR BROUGHT CONTROVERSY IN CHINESE NEWSPAPER.

BETHANY SCHUSTER
Alligator Contributing Writer

As a daughter of a Communist Party member, a 24-year-old Chinese UF student believes freedom of press is far from China's horizon. Her name has been withheld for security.

Southern Weekly is considered the most influential newspaper to the liberal intellectuals of mainland China, said Tianle Zhang, a 24-year-old public relations graduate student.

Each year, the paper releases a New Year's Eve issue. This year's editorial brought tumult, vexation and discourse. The editorial, "China's Dream, the Dream of Constitutionalism," was a nod to a speech by the new party leader, Xi Jinping. He spoke of putting the "Chinese Dream" into practice, which he explained to be a more democratic government. The original content supporting liberalized press endured a series of cuts until it became a political edification of the party.

Representatives of the Central Propaganda Department are assigned publications to edit. But is unusual for them to publish their edits to the content without the editors' consent, according to an article by China Media Project.

The incident snowballed into a written request from Southern Weekly journalists for the resignation of the official held responsible for the edits.

The tagline of the Guangzhou-based paper is "to understand China," but now some Chinese UF students wonder if the paper has lost its voice.

Jing Jin, a 24-year-old journalism graduate student, said when she came to America, she was excited about the free press. But she said the U.S. has its own form of censorship.

"It may not be controlled by the government, but it is controlled by big companies who have the money to invest in programs," she said.

Juan-Carlos Molleda, director of the UF Master of Art in Mass Communication - Global Strategic Communication program, said that in the past, the Chinese government controlled the flow of information by using the concept of harmony.

"For them, a society that is harmonious does not have conflict," Molleda said.

For now, Chinese censorship is viewed as an obstacle, and students have embraced that reality.

Originally from Taiwan, Ming-Yu Yen is a 23-year-old public relations graduate student who, like many Chinese 20-somethings, believes censorship won't stand in the way of information.

"If you create a wall," Yen said, "we will break it."



AP Photo

Stand-In President

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Serpico Elliott rehearses taking the oath of office as he stands in for President Barack Obama and Army Spc. Delandra Rollins stands in for the first lady during inauguration dress rehearsals.

Soldier dies in Gainesville after crash

The accident was Tuesday

CHRIS ALCANTARA
Alligator Staff Writer

A Florida National Guard soldier died Tuesday in Gainesville after he lost control of his Hummer and crashed on Highway 301 in Bradford County.

The incident happened at about 11:30 a.m., when Arandall Ladarrion

Shears, 20, of West Point, Ga., was driving in the left lane on Highway 301, north of Lawtey.

Shears lost control of his vehicle, according to a Florida Highway Patrol report. The Hummer veered into a grass median and flipped over, throwing Shears from the truck. He was not wearing a seatbelt.

Drivers near the accident stopped

and gave Shears CPR before Bradford County Sheriff's Office, Camp Blanding Joint Training Center and Florida Highway Patrol officials arrived at the scene.

National Guard spokesman Sgt. Thomas E. Kielbasa said an ambulance drove Shears to a hospital in Starke, where a helicopter flew him to Shands at UF for treatment.

Shears died from his injuries.

Contact Chris Alcantara at calcantara@alligator.org.



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Supervisor of Elections office to consolidate

► THE MOVE DEADLINE IS IN DECEMBER.

BEATRICE DUPUY
Alligator Contributing Writer

The Alachua County Supervisor of Elections will handle all its election operations under one roof if it moves to a new office later this year.

The office, which has three locations throughout Gainesville, will consolidate into one space, said Supervisor of Elections Pam Carpenter.

The deadline for the move is Dec. 1, just in time for the 2014 city elections, Carpenter said.

So far, six proposals have been submitted. The 5440 Group LLC submitted a sug-

gestion for a building on Northwest 13th Street. Saul Silber Properties LLC recommended moving into the old Sticks 'N' Stuff building at the corner of Northwest 13th Street and Northwest 23rd Avenue.

The new location would provide extra space for new voting equipment required by Florida law for the 2016 election. Residents will vote on touch-screen machines that will print out paper ballots, Carpenter said.

Alachua County Purchasing Manager Larry Sapp said the county is looking for a building that is at least 40,000 square feet, close to bus routes and has enough parking space.

The new location could also offer additional space for other county departments.

UF grad creates anti-bullying campaign

ALEXA VOLLAND
Alligator Writer

To create public conversations about reducing violence in communities, a UF graduate launched a national video anti-bullying campaign.

The documentary, "Coexist," shares stories from survivors of the 1994 Rwandan genocide, and the grief that comes with coexisting with their loved ones' murderers.

"It's important for someone to see a different path than revenge or retribution," said Coexist Director Adam Mazo.

American Public Television selected "Coexist" to be distributed to public television stations across the country, reaching a potential audience of more than 100 million.

In an effort to raise money for technical improvements before it broadcasts, Coexist launched a campaign earlier this month on www.indiegogo.com to raise \$20,000. However, if the campaign doesn't get all the donations by Feb. 3, the program

will receive no funds. As of press time, it had raised about \$7,500.

Mazo, who graduated in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in journalism, said he does not know when it will broadcast, but he expects the documentary to air by May.

He said he conceived the idea for the documentary after a trip to Rwanda in 2006 when he met Agnes, a Rwandan woman who suffered horrific attacks and lost three children.

"She decided to forgive the people who harmed her," he said. "I was so moved. I felt like I needed to get her story out to the world, and that this was the way I could contribute."

Since the premiere of the documentary in 2010, "Coexist" has been in a dozen film festivals, nominated for an Africa Movie Academy Award and used as a teaching tool by about 3,000 educators, Mazo said.



Mazo

As part of a Boston-based educational documentary film project, "Coexist" comes with a free, four-lesson teachers guide, which Mazo said helps students and adults think about issues of reconciliation and solutions to stopping those kinds of behaviors.

"Our mission became more defined to working with young people to create opportunity for public conversations about each person's role in conflict," he said. "So together, we can find solutions to bullying and violence that is embedded in our culture."

Suzanne Tzuanos, a third-year UF law student and producer of "Coexist," said it is impossible to see the film and not want to talk about it afterward.

"It's more than a documentary," she said. "Bringing mindfulness and awareness to children is so important; this gives them the tools they need to think about the future before they act."

Contact Alexa Volland at avolland@alligator.org.

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Close to UF/Shands/VA/Downtown On bus route to UF. 3BR/3BA twtns, furn & W/D avail. For students/professionals. 1448 SW 25th Pl at Bivens Forest. \$850/mo. Avail now. No children. 352-327-2931 or 376-6183
1-23-12-20-2

4BR/2BA HOUSE - 754 NW 20th St.
Walk to UF. Kitchen equipped. Indoor laundry with W/D. Central H/AC. 2200 sq ft. Available now. 332-6029. For rent or sale. 1-22-13-14-2

Shands/campus-1 block, \$550, 1 spacious bedroom, carpeted, very clean, pool, parking, quiet, prefer calm, quiet, stable, mature tenant. Available. No dogs. 352 284 3873 or post@bellsouth.net 1-25-13-15-2

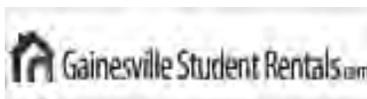
AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY PERFECT FOR GRAD STUDENT.
Large, quiet room, private bath. 5 min to UF, laundry facilities available. \$500/mo, share utilities. Call 352-284-0979 2-5-13-20-2

2BR/2BA apartment for rent off S. Tower Rd. next to Kimball Wiles Elementary School. 550 per month. 352-224-5011 1-15-13-5-2

3 bed/2 ba house at N.W. area ready for short sale or short term lease. Fenced back yard, extra space for office. Call 352-375-6754 2-6-13-20-2

Great 2 bdrm/2 bath in SW Gnv.
Rent from \$610 to \$725
www.rentmagnoliamanor.com
352-375-2436 1-24-13-10-2

2 For Rent unfurnished



----- Near UF -----
gainesvillestudentrentals.com 352-317-4408
● 2/1 Apt 204 NW 18 St. \$1200
● 4/2 house 610 NW 34 Ter \$1400
1-31-13-14-2

Available August 1. 4BR/2BA house. Large rooms, game room, washer/dryer included. Pet ok. Tile floors, \$1400/mo 2100 NW 8th Ct. Call or text 352-339-2342. Other houses at gainesvillequalityrentalhouse.com 1-18-13-5-2

3 Subleases

Don't get stuck with an extra rent payment. Advertise your subleases in the Alligator Classifieds and save yourself some cash. Call 373-FIND.

Roommate for 4-person apartment. Furnished plus shared bath, utilities, and internet. Pool, walking trails, gym. <1 mile from campus, Shands, and downtown. Perfect for students! \$510/month. 407-416-3117 1-28-33-3

1 B/R in 3/1house on SW 4th ave 1.5 blocks from campus Winter term \$400 + 1/3utility pet OK call Larry 352-224-8460 1-18-13-9-3

Furnished 1/1 Bed/Bath in 3/3 Townhouse at Oxford Manor 4 sublease. \$460/mnth plus 1/3 utilities. Balcony, Walk in closet. Pet friendly female. Call Kate at (352) 642-4288 or email: Muenstermank@yahoo.com 1-17-13-6-3

JAN. RENT FREE!
\$415 1/1 in 4/4 at Campus Lodge for spring/summer. Fully furnished. Utilities included. HBO, 24/7 gym, tanning. 727-204-4437. 1-23-9-3

1/1 in a 3/3 @ Woodlands of Gainesville. Available spring and summer semester. \$520/month plus 1/3 utilities. Pet friendly. Contact Chelsea @ 352-989-0002. 1-22-13-5-3

4 Roommates

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

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

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

Beautifully renovated, furnished condo, 1 mile from UF, \$359/MO includes cable, internet, utilities, pool + fitness room and on bus route, Female roommate needed, 352 262-2871 1-31-13-23-4

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** 4-24-72-5

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. 4-24-13-72-6

How To Place A Classified Ad:

Online: w/ Visa or MasterCard at www.alligator.org/classified

In Person:
Cash, Check, MC, or Visa
The Alligator Office
1105 W. University Ave.
M-F, 8am - 4pm
By E-mail: classifieds@alligator.org
By Fax: (352) 376-3015

By Mail:
Call 352-373-FIND for information.
Sorry, no cash by mail.
MasterCard, Visa or checks only.
By Phone: (352) 373-FIND
Payment by Visa or MasterCard ONLY.
M-F, 8am - 4pm

When Will Your Ad Run?
Ads placed by 4 pm will appear two publication days later. Ads may run for any length of time and be cancelled at any time. Sorry, but there can be no refunds or credits for cancelled ads.

Corrections and Cancellations:

Cancellations: Call 373-FIND M-F, 8am - 4pm. **No refunds or credits can be given.**
Alligator errors: Check your ad the FIRST day it runs. Call 373-FIND with any corrections before noon. **THE ALLIGATOR IS ONLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIRST DAY THE AD RUNS INCORRECTLY.** Corrected ads will be extended one day. No refunds or credits can be given after placing the ad. Corrections called in after the first day will not be further compensated.
Customer error or changes: Changes must be made BEFORE NOON for the next day's paper. There will be a \$2.00 charge for minor changes.

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1 For Rent: Furnished | 6 Furnishings | 11 Motorcycles, Mopeds | 16 Health Services | 21 Entertainment |
| 2 For Rent: Unfurnished | 7 Computers | 12 Autos | 17 Typing Services | 22 Tickets |
| 3 Sublease | 8 Electronics | 13 Wanted | 18 Personals | 23 Rides |
| 4 Roommates | 9 Bicycles | 14 Help Wanted | 19 Connections | 24 Pets |
| 5 Real Estate | 10 For Sale | 15 Services | 20 Event Notices | 25 Lost & Found |

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis. • All employment opportunities advertised herein are subject to the laws which prohibit discrimination in employment (barring legal exceptions) because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, familial status, age, or any other covered status. • This newspaper assumes no responsibility for injury or loss arising from contacts made through the type of advertising that is known as "personal" or "connections" whether or not they actually appear under those classifications. We suggest that any reader who responds to that type of advertising use caution and investigate the sincerity of the advertiser before giving out personal information. • Although this newspaper uses great care in accepting or rejecting advertising according to its suitability, we cannot verify that all advertising claims or offers are completely valid in every case and, therefore, cannot assume any responsibility for any injury or loss arising from offers and acceptance of offers of goods and/or services through any advertising contained herein.

6 Furnishings

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-24-13-72-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400
Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 4-24-13-72-6

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. 4-24-72-6

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 4-24-72-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather.
Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 4-24-72-6

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 4-24-72-6

6 Furnishings

****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. 4-24-72-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 4-24-72-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 4-24-13-72-6

Loft or Bunk Beds. Hand-crafted solid wood built to your specs by G'ville bed-maker. Unfinished, or water-based finishes. Finished beds from \$375; 10% student discount. 352-283-2865; www.BunkBedsCrafted4u.com 1-22-13-5-6

Your roommate hasn't done the dishes in How long?! Find a better dishwasher in the Alligator Classifieds.

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.

8 Electronics

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

9 Bicycles

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

SUN BIKE
Three-wheel recumbent bike. Shifters on the handlebars. Adjustable back. \$600 cash firm. 352-214-1108 1-15-3-9

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 4-24-13-72-10

GOATS FOR SALE

Charlie - 352-514-9858 4-24-72-10

Guitars and Musical Instruments
New, Used and Factory Refurbished
Check Us Out Before You Buy!!
Leonardo's Music, Micanopy, FL
352-450-0928 Leonardos302.com
4-24-13-72-10

Stop buying fake and special make up (SMU) rackets from the big stores and on-line. At EZ Tennis, we carry only original, no fake or SMU. Stop by let us talk rackets. Lowest prices 352-372-2257 2-1-10-10

Stringing as low as \$12. Polyester/polyester blend as low as \$20. EZ Tennis uses the best machine - Babolat sensor expert. Call 352-372-2257 or stop by let us talk strings and rackets. 2-1-10-10

Call EZ Tennis 352-372-2257 with the lowest price u-find on rackets - shoes - stringing - bags. We will beat it. We have express stringing done the same day for additional \$5. Stop waiting for days. In b/4 noon. 2-1-10-10

10 For Sale

Fax 352-335-5905 with the lowest price u-find. If we cannot match/beat, next time your stringing is 50% off. Call us or stop by the store. Tell your friends about EZ Tennis. 2-1-10-10

Free can of high quality tennis balls with purchase of \$50 or more. Free overgrip with any stringing - remind us please. Free stringing with purchase of any racket \$100 and over. EZ Tennis. 2-1-10-10

BOOKS: Susannah simply wanted to marry a tall, dark, handsome, strong, rich man and live in a country estate. What could go wrong? Just about everything, in Clumsy Hearts, a slightly misguided romance by Hysteria Molt. Available via Amazon.com. 1-25-13-9-10

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.

★★★★ MOTORCYCLE TIRE SALE ★★★★★
SPORT, STREET, CRUISER, OFF-ROAD.
OVER 400 TIRES IN STOCK.
MENTION THIS AD FOR \$10.00 OFF.
RPM MOTORCYCLES 352-377-697 4-24-72-11



4-24-13-72-11

★★★★NEW SCOOTERS 4 LESS★★★★
Great Scooters, Service & Prices!
118 NW 14th Ave, Ste D, 336-1271
Vespa, Genuine, GMW, & More! NS4L.com
facebook.com/newscooters4less
4-24-13-72-11

★★SCOOTER REPAIR★★
New Scooters 4 Less has LOW repair rates!
Will repair any make/model. Close to UF!
Pick-ups avail. Cheap oil changes!! 336-1271
4-24-13-72-11

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

★★★Road Rat Motors★★★
Largest Scooter Store in Town! Run by Gator Grads! New scooters starting at \$899. 1yr Parts AND labor warranties included. 376-6275 RoadRatMotors.com 4-24-13-72-11

Road Rat Motors offers FREE pickup service for any paid scooter repair. Daily pickups. LOWEST labor rate, quickest turnaround in Gville! Will repair ANY brand scooter. Free estimates. 376-6275. RoadRatMotors.com 4-24-13-72-11

★★SCOOTER RENTALS★★
Rent for a day, week, month or semester.
Now renting Buddy scooters too! 352-336-1271
www.gainesvillescooterrentals.com
4-24-13-72-11

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 4-24-72-11

12 Autos

Unload your lot. Sell your cars through Alligator Advertising for cheap. 373-FIND or place your ad online at www.alligator.org/classifieds

CARS - CARS Buy●Sell●Trade
Clean BMW, Volvo, Mercedes
Toyota, Honda, Nissan cars
3432 N Main St. www.carrsmith.com
CARRSMITH AUTO SALES 373-1150
4-24-72-12

●●● We Buy Junk Cars ●●●
●Trucks, Vans - Titled only●
Call KT 352-281-9980 or 352-215-3191
4-24-72-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES
ALL VEHICLES \$0 DOWN!
NO CREDIT CHECK!!!
VEHICLES \$1000 AND UP!
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

BUY FOR BLOWOUT
PRICES & SAVE BIG!!!
VEHICLES STARTING AT \$1000
PRICES NEGOTIABLE!!!
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

97 HONDA CIVIC \$5999
99 HONDA ACCORD \$5999
98 ACURA RL \$6999
02 HONDA ACCORD \$6999
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

01 TOYOTA CAMRY \$6999
02 TOYOTA COROLLA \$6999
00 HONDA ODYSSEY \$7999
02 VOLVO STYPE \$8999
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

95 CHEVY CAMERO \$2500
98 TOYOTA 4RUNNER \$4999
00 ISUZU RODEO \$5999
02 NISSAN XTERRA \$8999
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES
NO CREDIT CHECK!
CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS!
30 DAY WARRANTY
352-375-9090 4-24-72-12

99 HONDA ACCORD \$6999
02 TOYOTA COROLLA \$6999
03 NISSAN SENTRA \$6999
02 TOYOTA CAMRY \$7999
352-375-9090 4-24-72-12

03 HONDA CIVIC \$8999
04 TOYOTA COROLLA \$8999
03 NISSAN ALTIMA \$8999
04 TOYOTA CAMRY \$10,999
352-375-9090 4-24-72-12

CASH PAID \$300 AND UP!!!
ANY CONDITION-RUNNING OR NOT!!!
FREE TOWING & SAME DAY PICK-UP
NO TITLE NEEDED. Call Brandy 352-771-6191
4-24-13-72-12

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 "Now I understand"
6 Congressional proceedings aired
11 Much-studied flavor enhancer
14 Wilt
15 Foodie's words for subtle flavoring
16 Pint filler
17 Deal with, as a stack of dull paperwork
19 Rocky prominence
20 One may be rolled up
21 Galsworthy's "The Forsyte"
22 One of a chair pair
24 Investor's initial support
28 Very disagreeable
30 Singer Björk's birthplace
31 Cosby's "I Spy" co-star
32 Tour de France stage
33 Create an incriminating trail
39 Bring up
40 Simple beds
42 Montana neighbor
45 Defining quality
48 How long to shop, on a spree?
50 AM frequency meas.
51 Bidding site
52 Screwball behavior
54 Kitty's love in "Exodus"
55 Autumn lunar phenomenon
60 Checker on a board, say
61 French clerics
62 Duck
63 Tallahassee-to-Tampa dir.
64 Bank job
65 Flighty

DOWN

1 National econ. yardstick
2 Fla. NBA team

3 Like overly tight clothing
4 Cry of pain
5 H.S. exam for college credit
6 "Wayne's World" co-star
7 Did a smith's work
8 More, musically
9 Filmmaker Lee
10 Math degree
11 "Hakuna ___" "The Lion King" song
12 Maxwell House's "Good to the last drop," e.g.
13 Spiro's successor
18 Obedience school command
21 "Shh!"
22 Preschool song opener
23 Enlist again
25 Bank lead-in
26 Military sch.
27 Animated Le Pew
29 In an economical manner
32 Celebration before the celebration?
34 Not (a one)
35 Jackson 5 brother

36 Rebekah's eldest
37 Goes kaput
38 Make an engraving
41 "___ who?"
42 First-stringers
43 Some October babies
44 He replaced Ken as Barbie's beau from 2004 to 2006
45 Actor Borgnine

46 They're often stewed
47 Was nasty to
49 Barry and Brubeck
53 Mid 10th-century year
55 "A likely story!"
56 16th prez
57 Slugger's stat
58 Gorges oneself (on)
59 Napoleonic marshal

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/16/13

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A ₁	E ₁	O ₁	O ₁	M ₃	R ₁	T ₁						
E ₁	O ₁	U ₁	L ₁	N ₁	P ₃	L ₁						
E ₁	I ₁	C ₃	C ₃	P ₃	S ₁	T ₁						
A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	O ₁	S ₁	R ₁	V ₄						

PAR SCORE 140-150
BEST SCORE 219

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.

01-16

13 Wanted

This newspaper assumes no responsibility for injury or loss arising from contacts made through advertising. We suggest that any reader who responds to advertising use caution and investigate the sincerity of the advertiser before giving out personal information or arranging meetings or investing money.

LOCAL ARTIST NEEDS:

★ Gold ★ Diamonds ★ Gems ★ Class Rings ★ ETC ★ Top Cash \$\$\$ or Trade ★ OZZIE'S FINE JEWELRY 352-318-4009. 4-24-72-13

UF GRAD PAYS MORE

for gold jewelry, scrap gold, Rolex, diamonds, guitars, etc. Top \$\$\$. Get my offer before you sell! Call Jim 376-8090 or 222-8090 4-24-72-13

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 need of donations for their holiday meals, such as turkeys, boxed stuffing and canned vegetables.

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 1-15-13-72-13

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 1-31-13-79-13

CASH PAID \$300 AND UP!!!

ANY CONDITION-RUNNING OR NOT!!!
 FREE TOWING & SAME DAY PICK-UP
 NO TITLE NEEDED CALL 352-771-6191 4-24-13-72-13

Volunteers Needed:

HOPE - Horses Helping People, Inc. is seeking volunteers for our winter/spring semester sessions. Please email us at ridingtherapy@gmail.com to become a part of our team. www.horseshelpingpeople.org 1-15-5-14

14 Help Wanted

This newspaper assumes no responsibility for injury or loss arising from contacts made through advertising. We suggest that any reader who responds to advertising use caution and investigate the sincerity of the advertiser before giving out personal information or arranging meetings or investing money.

14 Help Wanted

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

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



What's black and white and read all over???

The Independent Florida Alligator Be part of the sales team of the largest college newspaper in the country by applying to be an

INTERN

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

BARTENDING

\$300 A DAY POTENTIAL
 No experience necessary, training provided. 800-965-6520 ext 138 4-24-13-72-14

Students in Accounting, Aviation, Business/Sales and computer science needed for various positions. Flexible schedules and competitive pay. Join our team! Learn more at www.gleim.com/employment 4-24-13-72-14

STUDENTS GET CASH ON THE SPOTS!
 For gently used clothing/accessories & furniture. No appt.necessary! - Sandy's Savvy Chic Resale Boutique 4148 NW 13th St. 372-1226 sandysresale.com 1-15-11-71-14

LW Flooring is a fast growing hardwood flooring importer and distributor looking for talented individuals to join our energetic team to grow together. Please send your resume to info@lwflooring.com. Visit lwflooring.com for more information. 1-18-13-10-14

Office Assistant - Bookkeeping knowledge, ability to use Quickbooks Accounting Software necessary. Computer software, hardware skills a plus. 5-20 hrs/wk, \$7.80/hr. Email resume, your specific skills, available schedule to oma.office@yahoo.com 1-22-13-10-14

Teachers Assistant needed at preschool. Morning and afternoon shifts We are looking for loving and caring individuals to join our team Please call 352-373-5856 1-22-13-10-14

Opus Coffee

We are searching for fun and active students to work 12 to 30 hours per week at a fast-paced coffee bar.

Starting pay is \$7.75/hour + tips. Applications downloaded at www.opuscoffee.com; click on the Employment tab. 1-18-13-9-14

Technology organization, breast cancer detection. Female RA, html, sql, database, health sciences. One page resume to: science@mammacare.com 1-22-13-10-14

352 Media Group is seeking a full-time Network Support Tech. Includes interacting with co-workers and clients. Time management skills and a passion for problem solving a must. Prior exp with Windows AD, networking, web hosting / web technologies preferred. Email resume to hr@352media.com. 1-28-13-14-14

14 Help Wanted



NOW HIRING
 Outstanding Notetakers and Editors
 SPRING 2013
 Apply online at SmokinNotes.com
 1-22-13-10-14

WEB GRAPHIC DESIGNER (part time) wanted to help faculty with course websites. Applicants must be familiar with Dreamweaver, CSS, Photoshop and Illustrator. Send resume and links to your work. Pay starts at \$10.00 per hour. jksmith@ufl.edu 1-18-13-9-14

Seeking part-time copy editor/technical writer; must have prior editorial/copy editing experience and must have completed an advanced grammar class at the college level. Rate is \$8 per hour. Please send resume to alexakos@gue.com. 1-15-13-5-14

One serious hardworking and trustworthy UF student. Gen or const help, exp w/electrical & plumbing, carpentry, chainsaw & heavy lifting. Familiar w/ Sketchup or AutoCAD. PT flex hrs. \$8 - 8.50/hr. 327-2931 or 376-6183 1-16-13-5-14

Summer Jobs
 ● \$2400
 ● Room and Board included

Get Paid to Play!
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14 Help Wanted

Freshman guard taking advantage of increased playing time

LONDON WATNICK
Alligator Writer

When Casey Prather suffered a high left ankle sprain late in the first half Saturday against LSU, Florida's depth on the wing took a blow.

But in the junior forward's absence, freshman shooting guard Michael Frazier II picked up the slack.

In a season-high 31 minutes, Frazier scored only 5 points on 1-of-5 shooting but tallied career bests with seven rebounds and three assists in the No. 10 Gators' 74-52 victory against the Tigers.

"The older guys tell [the freshmen] all the time (that) we just have to be ready to step in," Frazier said. "The coaches told us before the season that somebody might go down."

Frazier's effort on the glass helped Florida outrebound LSU 53-34 — tied for UF's second-largest rebounding margin this season.

The Tampa native entered the game with 14:40 remaining in the first half and subbed out for only three short breaks. He started the second half in Prather's spot and played the final nine minutes of the contest.

With Prather likely sidelined for 10 to 14 days, Frazier should see a bigger role in the rotation.

Frazier has usually been one of the first players to come off UF's bench. He averages 17.6 minutes per game — seventh best on the

team and highest among freshmen.

"My role is going to improve now because Casey got hurt," Frazier said. "That's why I work so hard in practice, so I'll be ready for opportunities like this."

"When we've gone with more of a conventional lineup, Michael Frazier proved to be a better rebounder than maybe anybody anticipated. Frazier has proven, when he goes to the small forward spot, he's a good rebounder. ... That's been something that has helped us."

Billy Donovan
UF coach

Frazier, who averages 5.7 points per contest, has so far pieced together an efficient season offensively.

The freshman spot-up shooter is making 42.9 percent of his shots from three-point range — second best on the team behind senior forward Erik Murphy's 43.6-percent clip.

Frazier has also made 14 of 15 free throws. He has an offensive rating of 125, which is 70th in the nation, according to KenPom.com.

The 6-foot-4 Frazier's ability to rebound at multiple positions has also been a bonus for the Gators.

He averages 3.3 rebounds per

game and his 19.2 defensive rebounding percentage is second best on the team behind junior forward Will Yeguete's 21.4 percent.

"When we've gone with more of a conventional lineup, Michael Frazier proved to be a better rebounder than maybe anybody anticipated," coach Billy Donovan said.

"Frazier has proven, when he goes to the small forward spot, he's a good rebounder. ... That's been something that has helped us."

Despite showing prowess on the boards and behind the arc, Frazier still has to improve his decision-making.

After UF's victory against LSU, Donovan pointed out a mental error the freshman made against the Tigers.

"We're up by [22 points], and it's one pass up the sideline and he takes a challenged three," Donovan said. "It leads to a run-out layup. Then five of our next [eight] possessions, we turn the ball over."

Florida will need Frazier to grab rebounds and knock down shots against Texas A&M on Thursday night and against No. 17 Missouri on Saturday afternoon.

"We're going to need him to come provide energy, defense, good decisions, just be able to run our offense the same," junior center Patric Young said.

"(We're) not telling him to be as athletic and do the things Casey does, but just to go out there and play within himself."



Ryan Jones / Alligator

Guard Michael Frazier II (20) drives toward the hoop during Florida's 77-44 win against Georgia on Jan. 9 in the O'Connell Center. Frazier leads UF freshman in minutes played this season.

Forward looking to overcome late struggles in loss to Tennessee

Missed two free throws in the final seconds of overtime

PHILLIP HEILMAN
Alligator Staff Writer

The lasting image from Florida's near upset of No. 9 Tennessee was the anguished look on the face of freshman Christin Mercer.

Mercer, who played 21 minutes in place of an injured Jennifer George during Sunday's 78-75 overtime loss to the Volunteers, had the opportunity to give the Gators the lead with nine seconds remaining in overtime.

Following coach Amanda Butler's decision to foul Tennessee's Kamiko Williams the previous possession — Williams made 1 of 2 free throws to give the Volunteers a

76-75 lead with 24 seconds left — Mercer worked herself into position near the rim and was fouled by Jasmine Jones while attempting a shot.



Mercer

But Mercer missed both attempts from the foul line, and Florida's upset bid was spoiled.

Two days later, the frustration of failure in the game's waning moments against the Volunteers was still written across Mercer's face.

However, she expressed an understanding that there was a lesson to be learned from the experience.

"Honestly, still now, the free throws kind of hurt," Mercer said.

"But I did take a step forward. I played well, especially with Jennifer out. As a team, we all progressed. By myself, I took a couple of steps forward."

Mercer made only 3 of 9 field goal attempts and shot just 1 of 4 from the free-throw line.

But the freshman showed toughness and a willingness to battle inside against Tennessee's Bashaara Graves.

Toughness in the paint is something Mercer lacked early in the season, but she is beginning to relish the responsibility.

"At first, I didn't like being a post player," Mercer said.

"[George] just helped me out by showing me what I can do and how great I can be."

Florida needs Mercer to continue her rapid development.

George suffered a second dislocation of her right shoulder with 3:56 remaining in the first half and did not return.

With no remaining eligibility after this season, George is forced to play through the pain or simply sit out and rest the injury.

Either way, George will be playing at less than 100 percent for the remainder of the season.

"Having Jennifer down is unfortunate for us, but it's definitely not something that we are hanging our heads about and thinking our season is done," redshirt

SEE MERCER, PAGE 14



Junior Mackenzie Caquatto and the UF gymnastics team are working on correcting mistakes after Friday's loss to LSU. See story, page 15.

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Rivals writer Bryan Holt and The Miami Herald's Matt Watts join columnist Greg Luca to break down Florida football's offseason news. Download on iTunes or listen online at alligatorSports.org.

Springing up

The Seattle Mariners made former UF catcher Mike Zunino one of 18 non-roster invitees to spring training. He was the No. 3 overall pick in June's MLB draft.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Senior keeping busy

ROBERT JUDIN
Alligator Writer

With shoulder pads strapped, life jackets snapped and hockey masks fit snugly, Cameron Martin and his older brother, Adam, prepared for battle in the backyard.

As one brother grasped the football, the other would gear up to make the tackle. That's how it was growing up with Adam.

"He's a pretty big influence," Cameron said. "Childhood memories were he and I competing. I definitely attribute a lot of my competitiveness to our relationship."

Adam went to UCF to play soccer. Two years later, Cameron went to UF thanks to a different talent.

Now a four-time All-American and a senior at Florida, Martin is trying not to think about graduation in May.

Instead, his focus is on finishing his last season on a high note.

"Perspective for me changed about, 'What does it mean to go hard? What does it mean to go fast?'" Martin said about his transition to swimming at Florida. "Every time we go to the blocks, we're expected to be good."

Martin said that it was a difficult decision to become a Gator because he was heavily considering attending Harvard. Florida's prestige under coach Gregg Troy made Martin's decision easier. Martin also praised UF's academic

reputation for helping him suit up in orange and blue.

"Looking back now, I appreciate the fact that I can go to school, I can get educated," he said. "(I'm) definitely glad that I made, in my opinion, the right choice."

As a freshman, he struggled to balance swimming with his schoolwork, a hurdle he wasn't used to at Clearwater Central Catholic High. Martin said he remembers sacrificing sleep to do homework, knowing he had to wake up early for practice.

When he isn't swimming, he likes to try new things. Martin said he loves arts and crafts and even learned to sew. He fashioned his own sports jacket because he wanted to save money. Martin's days as a Gators swimmer are dwindling, but he has a loose outline for what he'll do post-graduation. He said he hopes to get an internship with Nike Inc. or work for IDEO, a design and innovation-consulting firm.

Martin will cherish his time as a Gators swimmer.

"I loved every minute of it," Martin said

The men's swimming and diving team will head to Dallas on Friday for the SMU Classic.

The women host FAU on Saturday.



Martin

Mercer playing more in George's absence



Kristi Camara / Alligator

Freshman forward Christin Mercer attempts a shot during Florida's 78-75 overtime loss to Tennessee on Sunday in the O'Connell Center.

MERCER,
from page 13

sophomore Kayla Lewis said.

Mercer is averaging 5.9 points and 3.5 rebounds in 17.2 minutes per game this season but will be asked to do more to help offset the loss of George.

She is a key piece on Florida's productive bench.

In four conference games, the Gators reserves are averaging 24.5 points per game. Opponents have averaged just 6.25 points off the bench during that time.

UF outscored UT 33-3 in bench points on Sunday.

"We don't bring subs in off the bench; we bring in a new wave of attack," Butler said. "That's the way we look at it, and that's one of the reasons we don't put a lot of emphasis on who starts."

Butler and her coaching staff believe Mercer can use the down performance against Tennessee to further her development.

"Christin — even though she missed a lot of shots she wishes she had back — I think she woke up this morning knowing she took a step in the right direction," Butler said on Monday.

"(We have) a lot more confidence in her than we had to be in certain game situations. Going forward, I hope that we will see that more consistently."

Contact Phillip Heilman at heilman@alligator.org.

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IN HONOR OF THE MAN AND HIS DREAM

The Alligator will not be publishing on Monday, January 21st due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

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GYMNASTICS

UF aggressively correcting mistakes after suffering close defeat to LSU

CHUCK KINGSBURY

Alligator Writer

Inside Florida's newly renovated \$4.3 million practice facility, the gymnasts mean business.

Losing by a margin of 0.3 points to LSU on Friday in the season's first road meet left a sour taste in the team's mouth, but the loss has pushed UF to perform more aggressively.

"In practice we've been focusing on going big on everything and not holding anything back," Ashanee Dickerson said. "You can't hold back on your skills. Some people will go small just to stay on the beam, and sometimes that's where you'll make mistakes."

During Friday's meet, uncharacteristic misses by freshman Bridget Sloan and All-American Marissa King forced the Gators to count a fall towards their beam total for the first time since the 2011 NCAA Championships. Sloan was participating in the event for the first time at the college level.

The defeat was Florida's first regular-season loss since Feb. 3, 2012, against Alabama.

"It's better to have it over and done with right now because now we know that we can only go up from here," Dickerson said.

Coach Rhonda Faehn noted a rise in energy since the Gators returned to Gainesville.

"We've really had some great practices," Faehn said. "Sunday was very motivational and we studied our film footage, and of course they weren't thrilled with their performances in total. They've really trained aggressively, and yesterday was another positive training practice."

Kytra Hunter, a quiet leader, has been more vocal this week.

"We came in this week to fix little mistakes — more

stuck landings or straight legs and pointed toes," Hunter said.

Hunter also applauded the efforts of junior Mackenzie Caquatto, who suffered a fall on one of her signature events — uneven bars.

Still, Caquatto came back to record a score of 9.95 — UF's season-best total — to claim the evening's balance beam title.

Caquatto was one of three Gators to share the team's high mark of 9.95 in 2012. Both Caquatto and Alaina Johnson advanced to the NCAA bar final last season.

"In practice we've been focusing on going big on everything and not holding anything back. You can't hold back on your skills. Some people will go small just to stay on the beam and sometimes that's where you'll make mistakes."

Ashanee Dickerson
UF gymnast

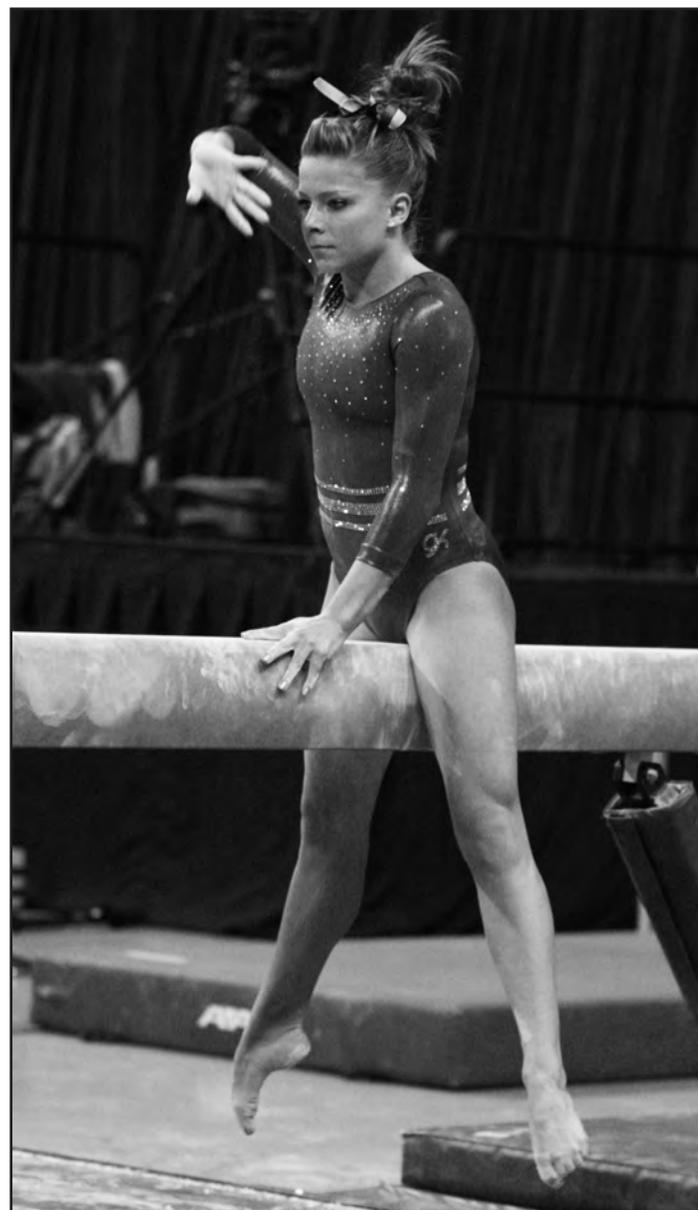
"After the meet, Rhonda was saying that mistakes like that [are] something she wants to see — us trying to be the best," Hunter said.

Faehn noted that the lack of stuck landings and handstand misses on bars contributed to Florida's loss.

The addition of HD video recorders and monitors at each work station will provide instant feedback. With a loss looming over the program, Faehn is confident the new features will be useful.

"It's amazing because our athletes are able to visualize and actually see what they did wrong, and it helps reinforce corrections," Faehn said.

Florida welcomes Southeastern Conference newcomer Missouri on Friday at 7 p.m. in the O'Connell Center.



Kelly Logan / Alligator Staff

Mackenzie Caquatto performs on the beam during UF's 196.575-190.55 win against Ball State on Jan. 4 in the O'Connell Center.

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THE RALLY

Which departing senior will Florida football miss most next season?

Greg: With fans and scouts ogling Florida's early entrants to the NFL Draft, few have noticed the players UF loses to graduation.

While mostly unspectacular, the class of 2012 was solid, and the Gators will miss many of its key players.

Although Josh Evans led the team in tackles and Mike Gillislee carried the offense, Omar Hunter will prove most difficult to replace.

At 6 feet and 313 pounds, Hunter anchored the nation's No. 4 rush defense. Although he made only 40 tackles and four tackles for loss, his ability to start every game and eat space on the line made life easier for the rest of the defense. And he did it while bearing a striking and lovable resemblance to the father figure in the animated children's show "Dinosaurs." You don't just replace that.

Adam: Hunter did have a hell of a year. He became a father late in the season and is perhaps the nicest player on the team. He's no Evans, though. Leading Florida in tackles is more impressive. The safety recorded 83 tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks and 3 interceptions. Evans approached the coaching staff in the offseason asking for help on making defensive calls.

Teamed with junior safety Matt Elam, Evans prevented plays from turning into what Muschamp calls "explosives." Florida doesn't have the same depth from at safety that it has along the defensive line. Muschamp did bring in three safeties with his latest star-studded recruiting class, but there isn't the same returning talent in the defensive backfield that the defensive line boasts. Returning players

Dante Fowler Jr., Jonathan Bullard and Dominique Easley will give quarterbacks hell for another season. There is also an early enrollee freshman named Darius "Bear"

Cummings. You try running against a bear, Luca. It just doesn't work.

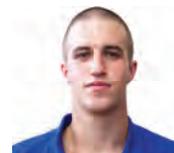
Greg: First off, if you see me fighting a bear, you better jump in and help the bear.

Just because Cummings has a cool name and weighs 305 pounds doesn't mean he's ready to anchor a Southeastern Conference defense on the majority of its snaps. The same goes for 304-pound recruit Caleb Brantley. As Muschamp is fond of saying, transitioning to the strength and physicality of the SEC is a daunting task, especially for line-of-scrimmage players.

Fowler, Bullard and Easley are all likely to become elite pass rushers. But not one of them plays tackle or weighs more than 280 pounds. Although they're great defensive linemen, they simply aren't anchor players.

The other options are 305-pound sophomore Leon Orr, who is known more for a marijuana-related arrest than anything he's done on the field, and 284-pound junior Damien Jacobs. Even if they pan out, they obviously can't play every snap.

In the secondary, depth and positional versatility aren't issues. The Gators have a wealth of talent on the back end. Cody Riggs



Adam Pincus
twitter: @AdamDPincus



Greg Luca
twitter: @gregluca

and Jaylen Watkins could both shift to safety. Marcus Roberson, Loucheiz Purifoy and incoming five-star recruit Vernon Hargreaves III will form an elite cornerback trio regardless.

Adam: Evans gave the Gators a physical safety that wasn't afraid to get in the arena and play. Sure, Texas A&M running back Ben Malena ran over Evans in College Station, Texas. See YouTube if you need a refresher. Evans didn't just add versatility, though. He also played more snaps than the defensive tackle. Hunter admitted earlier this season that he played much less in 2012 due to increased depth along the line. Florida didn't have that luxury in the secondary.

Riggs missed the season with a fractured foot. Roberson and Watkins played cornerback, and the only true safety with any playing time coming back is De'Ante Saunders — oh, wait. Brian Poole and Jabari Gorman headline a group of young players expected to earn more playing time at safety. Who says Riggs and Watkins will have an easier time at safety than Fowler and Bullard playing inside? Florida can hide the absence of a 300-pound nose tackle with blitzes and stunts. Defensive coordinator Dan Quinn has that on lock. You can't hide a hole at safety. Just look at the production Florida has coming back at the safety and nose tackle positions.

Greg: Sure, Hunter's snaps were limited in 2012. And yes, depth was key to the Gators' success. But those facts aren't knocks against Hunter.

No 300-pound player can handle the pounding of a double team for more than 60 or 70 percent of his team's defensive snaps. When Hunter was asked to do that in 2011, the rush defense noticeably suffered, ranking 40th nationally with 132.7 yards per game allowed. In 2012, Hunter had backup, and Florida's rush defense improved by 38 yards per game and 36 spots in the rankings. Without a solid two deep in the middle, the Gators could backslide on rush defense in 2013. In a league where controlling the clock and running the ball are paramount, any weakness on the defensive line could be a critical fault.

And if the Gators can't hold the point of attack, no safety play or elaborate defensive scheme will make a difference.

Adam: The SEC may be a line-of-scrimmage league, but the question here is what will the Gators miss more — a player at an invaluable position, that they have depth at, or a player in the secondary who they may not have a suitable replacement for? I loved covering Hunter and if I ever did have a kid (I hope not soon), he would probably be the one player I'd let babysit. Greg, let's just agree to disagree. Props on the Hunter "Dinosaurs" comparison, I must add. Here's a better one for you, though. Have you ever seen Frankie Muniz in "Malcolm in the Middle?"

Contact Greg Luca at gluca@alligator.org and Adam Pincus at apincus@alligator.org.

**Dear Gator Nation:**

For the last three years all of you have become my "family" as I grew as a student, an athlete and a person. On the football field, we won together, lost together and bled together. It was a very difficult decision for me to leave this great University so I could pursue my dream of playing in the National Football League. I promise that I will not be a stranger to Gainesville and will be back from time to time to visit old friends and watch the Gators win another National Championship, which I am confident Coach Muschamp will lead us to. Thanks to all the UF students, professors, coaches, and administrators. You are the best!

Sincerely,

Sharrif Floyd

Gator for Life

