



VOLUME 107 ISSUE 94

WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

Supreme Court strikes old ruling

COLLEEN WRIGHT

Alligator Writer

Student Government political parties can now campaign 30 days before an election.

The UF Supreme Court unanimously struck down the seven-day "campaigning" restriction Wednesday in a hearing to determine the constitutionality of the election codes.

The court ruled that the definitions of "campaigning" and "campaign activity" were too ambiguous and identical in wording.

"We are resolving the ambiguities of the law in a way that embraces the most lenient standard possible," said Chief

Justice Matt Michel during the hearing.

Students Party counsel Victor Olivieri argued that the time frames of the election codes were unlawful and restricted free speech. He said the Swamp Party and its presidential candidate, Christina Bonarrigo, were in violation of the seven-day campaigning period when she announced her candidacy on Turlington Plaza Jan. 24.

The Students Party cited five complaints to the Supreme Court. Friday, the court heard the first, which requested a cease and desist against Bonarrigo. The court ruled against the Students Party.

Contact Colleen Wright at cwright@alligator.org.



Melanie Brkich / Alligator

All For UF

Ken Block, a Sister Hazel singer and guitarist, performs Wednesday afternoon at the Streetside Studio at Weimer Hall. Sister Hazel performed during "The Conversation" radio segment on Florida's 89.1 WUFT-FM.

LOCAL

Gainesville airport asks public for input about NYC flights

KELCEE GRIFFIS

Alligator Writer

A Gainesville Regional Airport survey that gauges residents' interests in nonstop flights to New York City may result in more convenient travel to the Big Apple in the future.

The online survey, which opened Monday, had garnered about 500 responses as of Wednesday, said Laura Aguiar, an airport spokeswoman.

New York City's LaGuardia Airport is

the No. 2 destination leaving Gainesville, she said, topped by Miami and followed by Atlanta and Boston.

"New York has always been a very strong area for us, I think because of our technology-based businesses and other business travel," she said. "It's interesting to note that LaGuardia is so popular, and it's not even a direct route."

Aguiar said she's confident Gainesville has enough passengers to fill direct flights to New York City.

The challenge, she said, is to show

airline operators that offering direct flights would be profitable.

She said the survey's purpose is to confirm that Gainesville travelers could fill up the flights, if offered.

"New York has always been a very strong area for us ..."

Laura Aguiar
airport spokeswoman

"We do think it's viable, and we just need to be able to convince the airlines that this is a viable route for nonstop service,"

she said.

The survey includes 11 multiple-choice and three free-response questions that ask people if they would take a flight to the New York City area, how often they would take the flight and what flight times would be most convenient.

The survey will be open for at least another week, Aguiar said.

If an airline that already services Gainesville begins to offer a direct New York City route, Aguiar said, it will not

SEE NYC, PAGE 5

Student filed false report about Graham Oasis robbery, police say

The incident occurred in December

KATHRYN VARN

Alligator Writer

University Police filed a sworn complaint Tuesday afternoon charging a UF student and his girlfriend for allegedly staging an armed robbery at an on-campus convenience store in December.

The sworn complaint charged Steven P. Klepac, a 20-year-old

UF horticulture junior, with filing a false police report, misuse of the 911 system and theft. The complaint also charged Klepac's girlfriend, Lani Caraballo, 21, with filing a false police report and theft as an accomplice, said UPD Spokesman Maj. Brad Barber.

Klepac originally told police he was robbed at knifepoint at about 4 a.m. Dec. 9 in the Graham Oasis

convenience store, Barber said.

A UF Alert was sent out at 4:19 a.m., informing students, staff and faculty that a suspect, described as a white male with a khaki-colored jacket and gray sweatpants, had robbed the convenience store.

However, during the investigation, detectives confronted Klepac about inconsistencies they found in his story.



Klepac

Klepac confessed that the robbery was planned, Barber said. He told police that the robber was actually his girlfriend wearing a disguise.

Barber said the complaint will be reviewed by the State Attorney's Office.

Klepac said in an interview

Wednesday that the charges were dropped as part of a plea agreement for a previous arrest, but his lawyer, Stephen Bernstein, could not be reached Wednesday evening to confirm.

"This is a very serious incident that required a tremendous amount of investigative resources to resolve and, regrettably, portrayed a dangerous incident that did not in fact occur," Barber said.

Contact Kathryn Varn at kvarn@alligator.org.

Today



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New program to help combat college weight gain

About 150 students are needed for the program, pg 6.

SweetBerries: Your new slice of heaven

Read the full review at alligator.org/blogs.



National Signing Day

Coach Will Muschamp corralled the nation's fourth ranked recruiting class on Wednesday, pg 14.



News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Volunteer Organization Fair today

Discover ways to engage and serve the community at the 2013 Volunteer Organization Fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Reitz Union Colonnade. Students will meet people in health, education, arts and culture and veterans service organizations.

Sean Curran: Reflections of a Choreographer

Sean Curran will discuss his accomplishments, goals and life as a choreographer in the Friends of Music Room. He asked to meet with the LGBT community at UF in hopes of shedding light on how this community helped shape his career, choreography and personal life. The event will begin at 11 a.m., and refreshments will be provided.

Space systems seminar

The Small Satellite Design Club will host Mrinal Kumar, who will speak on the "Current Trends in Spaceflight Research." Kumar's topics will focus on the history of astrodynamics starting from the works of Brahe and Kepler, advanced interplanetary mission design, novel methods of space-craft control and uncertainty analysis and space research. The event starts at 6 p.m. in the Reitz Union, Room 282.

Oscar shorts return to Hipp Cinema

The Hippodrome continues the tradition of showing this year's Oscar-nominated short films. Live-action shorts will be screened on selected days until Wednesday, and animated shorts will be screened selected days until Thursday. Visit www.thehipp.org/cinema or call 352-375-4477 for more information.

FORECAST

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
THUNDER STORMS 80/59	CLOUDY 77/50	SUNNY 73/49	PARTLY CLOUDY 76/53	PARTLY CLOUDY 81/58

Cinema Verde: Fourth Annual Environmental Film & Arts Festival

The festival will be Saturday through Thursday at Jolie, 6 W University Ave. The mission is to raise awareness of environmental issues through the arts and to bring people together to implement sustainable solutions. The festival provides environmental education to the public through films, art, workshops, events, tours and other activities. More information, film trailers and a schedule is at www.cinemaverde.org. Contact Trish Riley at trish@cinemaverde.org or 352-327-3560, or Penny Niemann, penny@cinemaverde.org.

Dog wash/Car wash - VetMed Project HEAL

Get a car or dog wash by vet students from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the UF Vet School Veterinary Academic Building. Car washes and dog washes are only \$6, or \$10 for both (SUV/trucks \$8, or \$13 combined with dog wash). All funds raised will support a trip to Ecuador to provide free veterinary care. Please email questions to dicker-sonerin@ufl.edu.

Valentine Tails pet adoption

Looking for love this Valentine's Day? Don't go any further than Alachua County Animal Services. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, go for animals, food, raffles and silent auctions. There will be a K-9

demonstration, dog trainers and animal supply vendors. Contact Michele at acas-volunteer@gmail.com with questions.

Family Day at the Harn

The Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art will celebrate the Chinese New Year during a free, drop-in program from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The event will feature a Chinese brush painting demonstration by Ruth Sheng, performance of traditional dance by the UF Chinese American Student Association, a lantern-making art activity and family-friendly, docent-led tours of Asian galleries. A donation of \$5 a family or \$2 a child is requested if attendees would like to do the art activity. For more information, call 392-8926 or visit www.harn.ufl.edu.

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.

The Alligator strives to be accurate and clear in its news reports and editorials.

If you find an error, please call our newsroom at 352-376-4458 or email editor@alligator.org.

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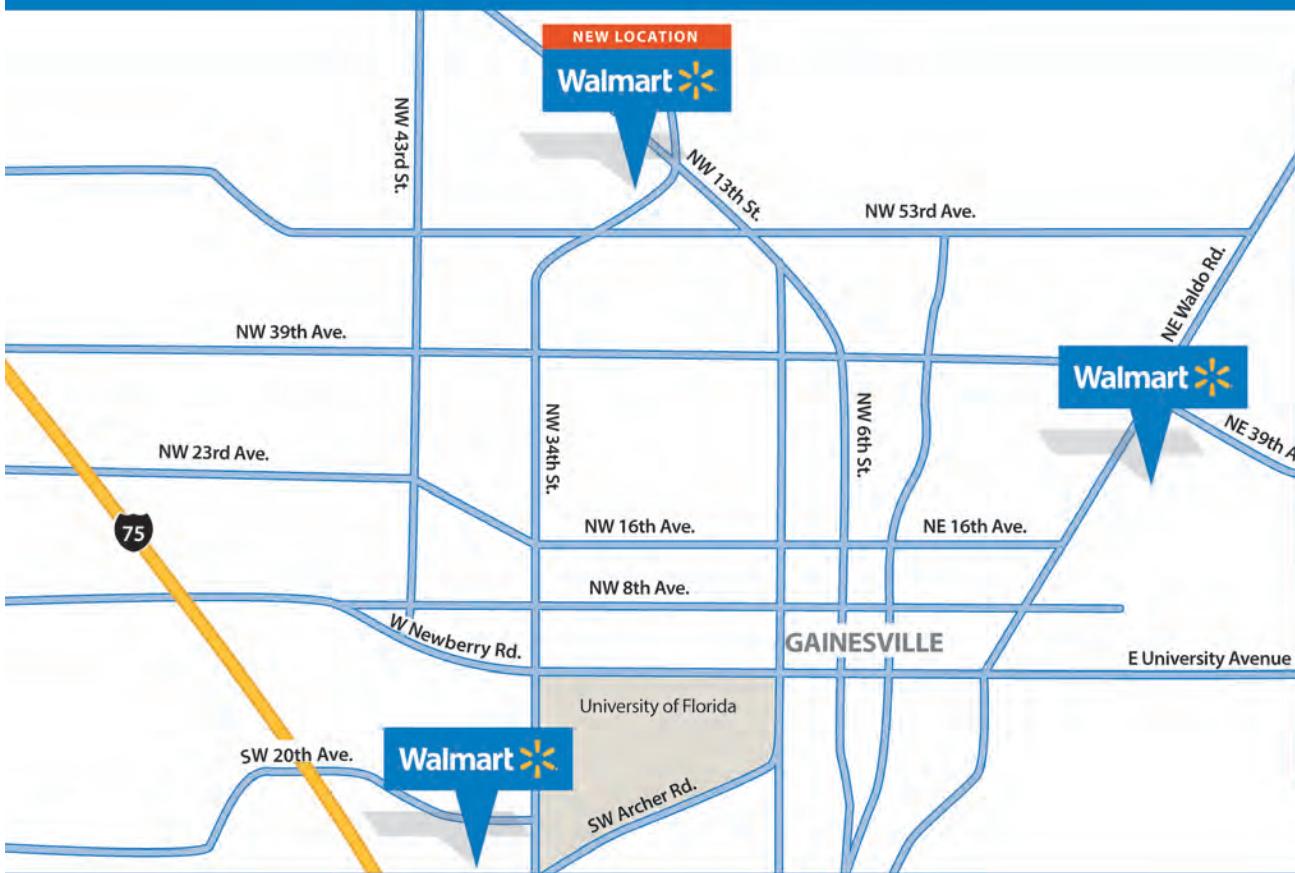
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Newnans Lake

New program to help combat college weight gain

ABOUT 150 STUDENTS ARE NEEDED FOR THE PROGRAM.

MICHELLE LEUTE

Alligator Contributing Writer

Sara Kaner knows what it's like to struggle with her weight.

"I never weighed myself," Kaner said. "I didn't want to know."

The 21-year-old UF public relations senior played two sports in high school in addition to constant workouts. Her mother even cooked for her.

When she came to college and had to schedule her own workouts and eat on a meal plan, her weight gradually increased.

A new program is starting to help students like Kaner. Kristen Medina, a doctoral student in clinical and health psychology, has started a new weight gain prevention program in the UF Weight Management Lab as her dissertation.

She said the program's purpose is to help students develop better eating and exercising habits. She got the idea when one of the girls in the Weight Management Lab did a similar study.

Medina will find about 150 undergraduate freshmen, sophomores and juniors to participate in the program. The free program will last about 10 weeks, but participants must be full-time students.

She is also trying to recruit about 10 research assistants trained in weight management to help her with the program.

The program already has some student responses.

"Every research project has its own challenges," Medina said. "We will just wait and see."

Medina has worked on similar projects with adults in rural communities, which the lab mainly focuses on. She said she is trying to tailor this new program to college students.

"We're trying to make it applicable to their lifestyle," she said.

Dorothy Berry, a 20-year-old UF zoology sophomore, said she didn't gain weight when she got to college — she lost it.

Despite that, Berry said she knows several people who gained a significant amount of weight. She thinks the program is a great idea.

Berry said she believes a lot of people rely on their parents for nutritional value. When people come to college and have so many unhealthy options, it's easy to gain weight, she said.

Or, as 19-year-old Zachary Sorrentino said, "It's definitely the beer."

The UF physics sophomore said his roommates drink alcohol frequently, and the calorie count adds up.

He said the program is an interesting idea, but he doesn't know how it will get students to exercise besides running and biking.



Kelly Logan / Alligator Staff

Did You Hear the Buzz?

UF entrepreneurship graduate student Jeff Kaplan, 27, passes out fliers on the Plaza of the Americas for the Taglit-Birthright Israel trip. Registration for the trip begins at 10 a.m. Feb. 13 and is open to all Jewish students.

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Fri. 1/25

Fri. 2/1

Fri. 2/8

Fri. 2/15

Fri. 2/22

Fri. 3/1

Mon. 3/18

Fri. 3/29

Fri. 4/5

Fri. 4/12

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Tennis, Women's Basketball

Men's Basketball vs. Mississippi State

Men's Golf Gator Invitational, Softball Preview

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Boy Scouts postpone decision to accept gay members, leaders

THE DECISION WAS PUSHED BACK TO MAY.

ANDREW KAYS

Alligator Contributing Writer

The Boy Scouts of America's National Executive Board decided Wednesday morning to postpone until May its decision about changing its policy on allowing gay members into scout troops nationwide.

The Boy Scouts' policy doesn't allow gay members and leaders into the organization.

The proposed change would leave the decision to individual troop charter holders about whether to accept gay members and leaders into their troops.

"In the past two weeks, Scouting has received an outpouring of feedback from

the American public," said BSA national spokesman Deron Smith in a statement. "It reinforces how deeply people care about Scouting and how passionate they are about the organization."

Eagle Scout Justin Bickford, board member and communications director for Scouts for Equality, said the change would be a step in the right direction.

"Long term, I truly believe it will have a positive effect," he said. "Short term, a lot of people are going to be upset they have to make the decision themselves."

In 2000, the organization won a case in the U.S. Supreme Court that allowed discrimination of sexuality if it is expressed as the organization's public or private viewpoint.

In July, the organization reaffirmed its ban on gay members and has since faced national backlash. Sponsors, including United

Way, UPS and Intel, have pulled funding.

About 2.7 million boys participate in BSA.

Of the more than 100,000 scouting units owned and operated by chartered organizations, nearly 70 percent do so through a religious organization's charter.

"Whatever decision is reached, the result is going to be a lot of people with lots of feeling and emotion about whether it is the right one."

Austin Reed
UF biochemistry junior

Educational organizations support about 8 percent, partly as a result of the Scouts' discriminatory policy, said Joseph Jackson, a UF professor of legal skills and a former

Scout.

Jackson said he believes that social attitudes have become more accepting and tolerant of people with different sexual orientations.

"I would foresee there would be greater pressure to enact a more equal national policy down the road," he said.

Austin Reed, a 20-year-old UF biochemistry junior, became an Eagle Scout in 2006.

He said he believes that Boy Scouts should be open to all males, regardless of their sexual orientation.

"I believe it's not our place, or the Boy Scouts' place, to discriminate against anybody because it is an all-male group or anything," he said. "Whatever decision is reached, the result is going to be a lot of people with lots of feeling and emotion about whether it is the right one."

The direct flight would bring more patrons to the airport



Kelsey Grentzer / Alligator

A plane takes off from Gainesville Regional Airport on Wednesday afternoon. An online survey created by the airport asked residents about their interest in nonstop flights to New York City.

NYC, from page 1

cost the airport money.

However, if the route is added, it would bring more patrons, which could clog the usually full waiting and dining areas and restrooms, she said.

She said the airport is conducting a study this year to explore expansion of the terminal to accommodate higher foot traffic.

"Our traffic numbers are up. Our terminal is full. So now, our focus really becomes on adding a destination," she said. "Maybe not a new airline, but a service."

Kelsey Reese, a 21-year-old UF marketing senior and UF Career Resource Center intern, said nonstop flights to New York City could open up better avenues for both job-seeking students and out-of-state employers who seek new hires.

"It makes it easier for the

employers to visit Gainesville and talk to students about internships," she said, "and it gives students more opportunity to get internships that aren't in Gainesville."

Nicole Larson, a 24-year-old UF agricultural education and communication senior, said she has flown to New York City three times since she's been at UF.

She said she went to tour and job hunt.

But because Gainesville didn't offer direct flights, she drove two hours south to catch a nonstop flight out of Orlando.

Larson said nonstop flights are more feasible for students and minimize the risk of lost baggage.

"As a student, I would prefer a flight out of Gainesville," she said. "For me, it's that sense of convenience."

Contact Kelcey Griffis at kgriffis@alligator.org.

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Opinions

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013
WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG/OPINIONS

Editorial

Postal Swerve: Six days a week, uh oh

"The U.S. Postal Service took another major step in its battle for fiscal viability Wednesday, announcing plans to halt Saturday delivery of first-class mail," according to an article in USA Today.

This is terrible news. There are only so many days in the week on which our mail system can bail.

Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said the service reduction is expected to save \$2 billion annually, according to the article.

We suppose the USPS is running out of ways to make money, right? We're all using email so much that we only use the USPS to ship big packages; we haven't invented that technology yet.

"It's irresponsible for us not to pursue this course," he said at an announcement at postal service headquarters in L'Enfant Plaza, according to a Washington Post article. "It's too big of a cost savings to ignore."

We should try to keep the USPS around for as long as possible. It's a part of our society's infrastructure that keeps life moving forward at a responsible pace. Without it, society might collapse. No mail system? No more roads. No more tolls. No more milk bottles delivered to our front doors. No more free Wi-Fi in fast food restaurants. No more email. See where we're going with this? Good thing another postal service is coming back to help us through these trying times.

The Postal Service, the synth-pop duo of Ben Gibbard and Jimmy Tamborello, is reuniting for the 10th anniversary of its only album, 2003's 'Give Up,'" according to an article on Billboard's website.

That's right, folks. Your favorite indie band from high school is making a comeback. Just like Destiny's Child, Justin Timberlake and the Spice Girls.

It's our time, guys. This is finally the time for the millennial generation to be happy. Lord knows we haven't been happy in quite a while.

Maybe getting rid of a day of mail delivery and pickup won't be so bad after all. Our favorite things are all reuniting to cheer us up! All we need now are some DunkAroos and some clear Pepsi to keep us going until everyone who should be reunited is, in fact, reunited.

According to an article in October's "Spinner," Ben Gibbard promised there wouldn't be a new Postal Service record.

"There are no plans to make a second record," Gibbard told Spinner. "I can't say that enough."

The band is planning to release only a deluxe record of its first album — not a whole new one. But the release of the record is definitely tied with new performances, as the band will play at Coachella.

We need this, guys. Think of the USPS workers. They need this, too. Just imagine them listening to "Such Great Heights" when they're packing up to head home Friday evening, but the popper version, not the one covered by Iron & Wine.

Keep your spirits up, USPS! Maybe all six days of your service will eventually be reunited. You might have to wait a whole decade, though.

Reader response

Today's question: Do you think Gainesville Regional Airport should add a direct flight to New York?

Wednesday's question: Do you have a scooter?
12% YES
88% NO
57 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

Sarah Kinonen
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Julia Glum
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The Alligator encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 150 words (about one letter-sized page). They must be typed, double-spaced and must include the author's name, classification and phone number. Names will be withheld if the writer shows just cause. We reserve the right to edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to opinions@alligator.org, bring them to 1105 W. University Ave., or send them to P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257.

Columns of about 450 words about original topics and editorial cartoons are also welcome. Questions? Call 352-376-4458.

FAST TIMES

BY TANNER YEA



Column

Point fingers at Go Daddy, not Beyoncé

According to one self-proclaimed spokeswoman for the mothers of America, Beyoncé is an imminent threat to female empowerment.

According to her post "Watching Beyoncé's halftime show with kids raised eyebrows, questions," Rachel Campos-Duffy, "Today Moms" blogger and former "The Real World" cast member, observed her children's bewildered reactions to the Super Bowl halftime show and, rather than change the channel and ignore her kids' questions like a normal adult, tried to make it a "teachable moment."

"I nonchalantly said, 'This isn't very pretty or empowering. Too bad she's wasting her talent.' My 8 year old declared, 'She looks weird.' Indeed."

Campos-Duffy said she then tweeted the following: "Tired of NFL & Obamas holding Beyoncé up as role model 4 girls. Totally slutty halftime show. Thanks for 'empowering' our girls!" Campos-Duffy maintained that other Twitter moms echoed her concerns with the halftime show and that she is "not a prude."

I have many issues with Campos-Duffy's pearl-clutching criticisms, and not just that her only supporting quote is from her 8-year-old son (who is learning at an early age that it's OK to mock women's appearances if you don't agree with their artistic choices).

My most pressing issue, however, is how this "concerned mother" so easily tears down Beyoncé's indisputably powerful performance in fewer than 140 characters, yet didn't mention the endless spew of Go Daddy commercials, which viewers have suffered through for years.

I don't know what kind of moron is offended by Beyoncé's muscular thighs but not 10-second bites of soft-core porn during every other commercial break.

How misguided can you be to let your kids watch a model play tonsil hockey with a pockmarked "nerd" and say nothing, but the second a wildly talented, successful female artist dares to wear a jumpsuit, your fingers get busy telling everyone how "slutty" she is?

Beyoncé has sold 75 million records and won 16 Grammys. Her thighs could crush a grown man's head. She is at the helm of her own empire, and she could "do what I want"



Chloe Finch
opinions@alligator.org

since she was 30, she told GQ in a recent interview. Her manic-perfectionist discipline with her career is nothing short of admirable. So why is she being reduced to a "slutty halftime show" by every mommy with a superiority complex and a Twitter?

Such is the nature of our "raunch culture," defined by New York Magazine writer Ariel Levy in her book "Female Chauvinist Pigs," about the rise of modern media's cartoonish portrait of female sexuality and the men and women who both pretend to fight and contribute to it.

"Female chauvinist pigs don't bother to question the criteria on which women are judged," Levy writes. "They are too busy judging other women themselves."

Female chauvinist pigs, women like Campos-Duffy who use their influence as "concerned mothers," are not actually fighting for a "family-friendly" halftime show.

They're contributing to a culture that vilifies women for being in command of their sexuality while ignoring the larger, tougher issue of men commanding women's sexuality.

Beyoncé defies the raunch-culture model of female sexuality. There's nothing cartoonish or contrived about her. After reading every magazine article and watching every TV feature, one can rest assured that the Beyoncé on stage at the halftime show Sunday was 100 percent Sasha Fierce. Unlike the Go Daddy commercials, there is no man in the background pulling the strings to sell a product. I will make a bold claim and say that, in the modern music industry, Beyoncé is the highest authority on female empowerment.

Perhaps I am, after all this, not qualified to pass advice onto a parent.

However, if you want to seriously educate your children on female empowerment, don't persecute successful women who happen to use sex as art. Persecute those who use false ideals of female sexuality to sell technology services.

Chloe Finch is a journalism sophomore at UF. Her column runs on Thursdays.

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

Fall Out Boy Wentz, now it's backz: Why you should (and shouldn't) care

ALYSSA HOLCOMB

Avenue Writer

If you lived through what we music aficionados call the "emo movement" from 2005-2006, you'd know that the re-emergence of era leaders Fall Out Boy last week caused an interweb riot, to say the least.

But before you rummage through your closet for your Hot Topic skinnys, let's think this over.

Sure, Fall Out Boy has made some great music that got us through the awkward middle school years.

However, will this type of music be able to withstand today's music industry that has not only moved onto more electronic-fueled sales, but generally seems to hold artist comebacks at an arm's length?



Wentz

The Pros: New Stuff

The new material (which was announced Monday) is good — seriously. If you're a FOB fan, this is what you've been waiting to hear.

The first single "My Songs Know What You Did In The Dark (Light 'Em Up)" is just as catchy as their old stuff. Plus it's complete with a video featuring 2 Chainz.

The Boys are up to their old tricks, mixing their fast-paced pop-rock with visible nods to their supposed street cred in the biz.

Along with the single, the band announced a new record, "Save Rock and Roll," and a coinciding summer tour.

Die-hard fans who have waited for fresh tracks shouldn't be disappointed — this is exactly what the band did three years ago.

The Cons: "New Stuff"

All of these announcements — which bassist Pete Wentz had been adamantly denying in the press up until the release date — should be taken with caution.

There's no telling how well the new material will be embraced by the industry. As much as we might not want to admit it, that's just how it works.

Today's music business seems to be dominated by electro-pop fusion artists. It's a trend, just like emo rock was in the mid-2000s.

What makes this all tricky for FOB is how the band will maneuver the new trends. Lots of artists trying to make comebacks are falling flat with very few exceptions.

I'm not saying Fall Out Boy won't be successful, but in a few short years, the industry has changed. It needs to figure out a way to make its old sounds new again.



Follow the Avenue on Twitter: @AlligatorAvenue
Like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/AlligatorAvenue

Online exclusive:

Netflix released its first instant-streaming show, "House of Cards." Find out what our resident "Hidden Gems of Netflix" expert thought about the series at www.alligator.org/the_avenue.



Andrea Sarcos / Alligator

Hayden Kemp, a 20-year-old UF political science junior, and Tiffany Chacon, a 24-year-old UF alumna, gaze at "Cat Shrine" Monday night, a collaboration piece at the "Just Cats" exhibit in the Reitz Union gallery.

Animal adoption: the hottest accessory

Runway show benefits cause

VONECIA CARSWELL

Avenue Writer

Greyhounds will stride alongside models, but not because of their long legs and slim build.

The models will carry rabbits in pretty totes, but not because they're cute and petite.

It's all to find the animals a new home.

The third annual Runways and Rescues fashion show, created by Jacquelyn Brooks of Jacquelyn Brooks Designs, will incorporate adoptable animals with fashion to promote the animal rescues and two fashion lines.

This semiformal, pink-carpet event will be from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday at Haile Plantation Country Club, 9905 SW 44th Ave.

Participants can sip champagne, take photographs in front of Hollywood-inspired backdrops, chow down on a dinner at the clubhouse and watch the models glide down the runway in smoky lavender, chartreuse, floral and '60s-inspired attire.

"I thought it'd be nice to have

something a little more upscale for pets," Brooks said. "A lot of formal charity events are health-related."

All ticket sales and event proceeds benefit Gold Coast Greyhound Adoptions and Gainesville Rabbit Rescue, which are providing the animals.

"We're completely honored that Jacquelyn picked us," said Ann-Marie Brown, adoption coordinator of Gold Coast Greyhound Adoptions. "We don't get a tremendous amount of publicity."

There will be six to eight adoptable greyhounds and several rabbits in the show. All except one animal that participated in last year's show were adopted.

"It's going to be really hard to get through this event without adopting one," said Brooks, who owns a dog, JoJo, and two cats, Maverick and Tucker.

Heather Jones, a model in last year's show, said she struggles

with the same thing.

"I just wanted to adopt all of the dogs," said the 28-year-old who will model in the show again this year. She also owns a miniature poodle named Benjamin. "I was in heaven."

The models will meet the animals Saturday to get acquainted with them before the show. Jones said she is excited to work with greyhounds for the first time.

"They don't have the 'puppyhood' that normal dogs have. They're treated like professional athletes," Brown said. "It's neat because they're getting new puppy experiences. And it's going to be really neat to see all the fashion that Jacquelyn put together."

Both organizations will set up booths for people interested in adopting the soon-to-be glamorized animals.

"I always love seeing the animals," Brooks said. "It's a lot like planning a wedding — kind of stressful, but it's a lot of fun."

Online sales ended Monday, but general admission tickets can be purchased at the door for \$45.

For more information, visit www.runwaysandrescues.com.

What's inside:

Justin Timberlake's return to music, **page 9**

Mediocre Advice, **page 10**

"How I Met Your Mother" gets final season, **page 10**



Elise Giordano / Alligator Staff

My walk in the woods

A 500-mile journey through the Appalachian Trail

ELISE GIORDANO

Avenue Contributing Writer

Sweat covers your entire body — so much so, that drops have begun to accumulate on your arms and are beginning to creep down toward your fingertips. They splash onto the dirt.

Every joint, every muscle, every inch of your body has screamed out at some point — sometimes all at once — begging you to stop and take a break, and just sit down and rest awhile.

Bedtime consists of sleeping bags and inch-thick mats in wooden shelters, which are riddled with mouse droppings. You lie awake, unable to sleep because the pain makes getting comfortable impossible.

Welcome to your life for the next six months, thru-hiker.

The Appalachian Trail is not for the faint-of-heart, -mind or -body. It is 2,000-plus miles of rugged trail in the heart of dense foliage. It is known by many as the green tunnel.

It is the biggest adventure of your life. You are on a pilgrimage. You are walking where thousands of others have walked, but it is a journey all your own.

You will cry, you will scream and you will laugh. But not once will you regret your decision to walk.

I had the pleasure of backpacking about 500 miles this summer. It was the best decision I have ever made. Through the rain and the pain, I found in myself a love for nature and backpacking that I never knew existed.

A stranger invited me into the great unknown. After a month getting to know each other, we set off with 65 pounds on our backs and no experience.

Our first day consisted of a whop-

ping four miles on the approach trail. And boy, did we feel accomplished. We slept in a small clearing on top of Frosty Mountain, not even making it to Springer Mountain, the actual start of the trail.

Within the first week, my legs were covered in bug bites, and my nails were laden with dirt. My trail name was "Bellows," as I was successful at bringing fire to life. We'd sent home boxes of things we realized we would never use, lightening our load tremendously.

Our first official trail town was Hiawassee, Ga. We successfully hitchhiked into town and received the most ridiculous trail magic any backpacker could hope for: a roof over our heads, a barbecue salmon dinner, a boat ride on a lake, the house to ourselves and the keys to a car — all from complete strangers.

The mountains are full of magic.

We embarked on our first night-hike as we departed from the Great

Smoky Mountains. We found ourselves hiking not only in the wee hours of the morning but also through a lightning storm.

Steam fogged up our headlamps, and weariness had set in miles earlier. After a 23.4-mile day, we found ourselves setting up camp in the rain at 1 a.m. without any dinner. Sleep was trying to set in, only to be eluded by a bear crashing down the mountain and finding itself outside our tent — Nothing some heavy hand clapping couldn't handle.

We slept next to, beneath and even inside fire towers and were able to look out onto the Appalachians and see the mountains from where we had come. On one such tower, we were so high up, a propeller plane flew below us. We had

a sense of accomplishment in that moment.

We stopped at ponds and caught fish with poles made from sticks, using flower petals as makeshift lures.

We whitewater rafted on the Nantahala River and dove into the icy water below. I lost my sunglasses when my trail partner pushed me out of our raft.

We fought rattlesnakes that blocked our paths. We made fires and read by the

light of the flickering flames.

We lived without a care. Time wasn't important. Mileage wasn't an issue. We were simply living for the moment and embracing every second of it.

Every mile was filled with emotion. Every step was filled with accomplishment. Every day we became more human and less affected by the pains of modern life. Every day we got closer to living, and we will never be the same.

Getting off-trail was one of the hardest things I've had to do. The woods had become my home. The ground was a welcome bed and the moonlight was my night light. Our last day was unexpected. My new reality ended and it hit me like a ton of bricks.

I slept on the floor of my room for days, not used to the softness of a bed. I craved cold mountain water and its crisp, pure taste. I had to sleep with a pillow over my eyes, as nothing is quite like the darkness of the woods.

And I cried. I cried for the woods I had left behind, for the simplicity I knew was now over, and for an experience I knew would one day



Elise Giordano / Alligator Staff

A look into a tunnel of trees while hiking through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park during the summer months.

seem merely like a dream.

Getting back into the swing of things happened quickly. Social media has a way of pulling you in, even if you don't want it to. It has helped me keep in touch with trail friends and share photos of memories now long over. But the trail is ever-present and continually calling me back. It is a place, it is a love, it is a passion, it is a hurdle and it is a home to which you can always return.

Sometimes while walking on the Plaza of the Americas or moseying around Turlington, I'll close my eyes, and for a second, I'm back in the woods.

I'm surrounded by the sounds and smells of the trail. I'm sweating and exhausted. My heart is pounding and my breathing is heavy. But I'm focused, and I am calm because I'm where I'm supposed to be. I'm, once again, deep inside the heart of the green tunnel.

What Not To Pack

When hiking on the trail, it can be difficult to know what types of situations you'll encounter.

To avoid having to send home belongings on your journey, follow this list of what not to bring (Remember, you're trying to stay as lightweight as possible):

- Cotton clothes or jeans
- A lantern
- More food than you could need
- A shovel, for your bathroom breaks
- Jewelry
- Sunblock
- An axe or hatchet — just no.
- A towel
- Excessive toiletries
- Solar panel charger
- Anything that starts with "but what if ..."

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music ♪

Justin Timberlake's return to music: will it work after 7 years?

ANGELA SKANE

Avenue Contributing Writer

Fangirls everywhere can finish crying a river. Justin Timberlake is back.

Timberlake dropped his first solo single, "Suit & Tie," in almost seven years this month. This new tune is part of JT's upcoming album, "The 20/20 Experience," which is set to drop March 19, according to Billboard.com.

But, of course, JT could never

drop an album and just let it be. This project also involves a style collaboration with suit designer Tom Ford. After all, his single is all about, well, being clad in a suit and tie.

Timberlake wore the designer head-to-toe at the SAG Awards and a custom-designed suit at his wedding to Jessica Biel in October. The artwork for the single features a Tom Ford tuxedo, shirt and satin bow tie.

As part of his grand re-en-



Timberlake

trance into music, Timberlake will perform at the Grammy Awards Sunday. Chances are he will perform his new single while wearing a suit and tie.

But the thing is, I don't think this song is Grammy-worthy. I love JT and his many talents, but his time in music is up.

The song has a very odd intro, and the rest of the song hurts to listen to. It is overly auto-tuned, monotonous and outright bad. He's trying way too hard, and it shows.

The lyrics are simple and don't mean much. Jay-Z is a rap god, and even he couldn't save this song from being terrible.

All these big announcements and moves make me think he knew how awful this song was, and he needed to distract his fans.

Poor Timberlake. He is like the Will Schuester of the music industry — a man in his 30s still trying to make it big and perform on stage. Just like Mr. Schue needs to give up the awkward solos and dance pieces he does in "Glee," JT should move past the music industry.

JT is a great actor and businessman, but I'm doubtful music is still his thing. He already brought sexy back in 2006, but only time will tell if he can do it again.

THE GUIDE TO

DINING OUT



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Gainesville's only Golden Spoon Award recipient serving the best food in Gainesville.
www.mildredsbigcityfood.com

New Deal Cafe

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Tupelo Grill

Best Kept Secret in Gainesville. Tupelo offers variety in our locally and regionally sourced ingredients, prepared in house, to bring you the best food in Gainesville. Try our conch fritters, pulled pork nachos, jerk chicken, famous fruita salad, seared duck breast with port wine-cherry glaze, smoked eggplant-portobello panini, smoked turkey rachel, shrimp & grits, bourbon-mushroom New York strip, grilled veggie skewers on red quinoa pilaf, ribs, brisket, daily lunch specials, hand-crafted desserts. Try our brunch on Sat & Sun. We have something for everyone. Relax on our patio, or watch the game at the bar. Happy Hour M-F 4-7pm. Open for lunch through dinner Tues-Sun. Locally owned and operated. Be part of the buzz! www.tupelognv.com
4401 NW 25th Place
(across from Thornebrook)
352-372-7070

Asian

Bento Cafe

Offering a wide variety of Bento boxes, bowls, sushi, and boba tea. Bento Cafe has two locations to serve you high quality Pan-Asian Cuisine at an unbeatable price. Check out the daily specials at Bento Blue (3832 W Newberry Rd 377-8686), or bring larger parties to Bento Red (3841 SW Archer Road 224-5123). Dine in, take-out, or delivery (gatorfood.com, and 2dollar.delivery.com) available for your convenience. To keep up with the latest news, like us on Facebook at Facebook.com/bentocafesushi.gville, and follow us on twitter & instagram @BentoCafeGville

BBQ

David's BBQ

Come try one of Gainesville's best locally owned and operated BBQ joints. We now have two convenient locations to serve you better. David's West is about 5 minutes from Santa Fe College and David's East is about 5 minutes from UF Campus. Every Tuesday night is College Night. Enjoy BOGO sandwiches with a valid Student ID. Beer Specials. www.davidsbbq.com
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352-373-2002 "Slow Smoked BBQ as Fast as You Want it!"

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Bagels & Noodles

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352-872-5789

Chinese

Golden Buddha

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372-4282 or 380-9076

Coffee

Maude's Classic Cafe

A Gourmet coffee shoppe with a wide array of desserts and treats made daily. We also serve beer & wine. Bring your own CLEAN 12oz. cup and get a daily brew for a buck. Indoor and outdoor seating available, free wireless and parking behind building. Now Serving Gluten Free!
Downtown Gainesville. 336-9646

Frozen Treats

Karma Cream

We serve the only 100% organic ice cream in town! We also have an impressive selection of organic vegan ice cream, baked goods, sandwiches, fair trade coffee, tea, organic beer and free WiFi. Mon-Fri 9am-2am Sat & Sun 12pm-2am

Mochi Frozen Yogurt

Mochi Frozen Yogurt is a healthy dessert alternative. Our tart frozen yogurt is all natural and non-fat with eight times more live and active cultures than normal yogurt. With over 30 different topping options — including an assortment of fresh fruit — customers can make every experience unique. At just 49¢ per ounce, Mochi is frozen yogurt your weigh!

Sandwiches

Hiro Asian Sandwich Bistro

Come visit the newest restaurant from the creators of Bento, Mochi, & Sushi Chao. Hiro Asian Sandwich Bistro is located next to Bento Red on Archer Rd, and offers a wide variety of gourmet sandwiches, salads, and soups with fresh ingredients. Hiro takes a boring sandwich and puts a unique Asian-inspired twist on the flavors. We have sandwiches you will get excited about — try it today! 3841 SW Archer Rd. 727-4646 for pick-up or 2dollar.delivery.com. Like us on Facebook.com/HiroSandwiches for specials and updates.

Southern Style

Blue Gill Quality Food

Offering great food for lunch and dinner, a UF favorite and convenient to campus. We also have the best bourbon and tequila in town!
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Sushi

Sushi Chao

Chao down your weigh... for 45¢ an oz, get as much or as little as you'd like of freshly prepared Pan Asian dishes. Our sushi chefs make your rolls and don bowls fresh to order. Located conveniently across from campus next to 101 Cantina for a quick lunch or study break. Dine in, take-out or order delivery.
373-2277 1620 W. University Ave.

For information on advertising in the Guide to Dining Out, contact Candice Ford, Alligator Advertising, 352.376.4482

Mediocre Advice

Dear Mediocre Advice,
I know you are unadventurous when it comes to threesomes, but what do you think are the best places to bang on campus?

Dear not-my-friend,
I think you meant "realistic" when you said "unadventurous." I'm not sure about the best places to bang on campus, but I can definitely tell you the worst places: on the blanket where the people at Krishna lunch sing, any bike lane, a live lecture recording, next to the guy on Turlington who yells at the sinners and holds the "JESUS SAVES" sign, with anyone who is trying to hand you a pamphlet, and — if it's same-sex intercourse — in the Hub at Chick-fil-A.

Dear Mediocre Advice,
How do I hint to my boyfriend that I don't want a tacky teddy bear for Valentine's Day without sounding like a b---h?

Dear Friend,
Many have decided Valentine's Day is a curse on humanity. So, you may not get the teddy bear you dread so much. I have an idea that will be a gift for both of you. Tell him not to get you anything. He won't have to stroll the aisles of CVS looking for what he thinks summarizes your relationship. Whatever you get, you're going to overanalyze anyway. You'll somehow figure that if he gets you a dancing tiger that lights up and sings, "Hero," by Enrique Iglesias, then he's crazy about you. But if he gets you a box of chocolates that look thoughtless, you'll think he doesn't care about you. All you need are rose petals to throw on a mattress. It's cheap and will fulfill your exercise needs for the week. Make love, not accusations about the future of your relationship.

Dear Mediocre Advice,
I've been dating this guy for about a month, but all we do is make out. How do I let him know I want to take things to the next level without being too aggressive?

Dear Friend,
Communicate by saying the magical words, "I want to have sex." The guy you've been seeing has been on board with this idea since he learned what the real use for socks and banana peels are. You do not need to worry about scaring him off with your outrageous demand.

Vegetarianism lowers risk of disease

CHAD FURST and COURTNEY VICTORIA

Alligator Contributing Writers

A salad a day keeps heart disease away.

Vegetarians are 32 percent less likely to be hospitalized or die from heart disease than nonvegetarians, according to a recent study published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

Researchers at the University of Oxford in England found that the lower risk of heart disease for vegetarians is likely due to their lower cholesterol and blood pressure levels compared to meat and fish eaters.

The study followed 44,561 participants, 34 percent of whom have been vegetarian for more than 10 years.

Mitchell Knutson, a UF associate professor of nutritional biochemistry and 30-year vegetarian, said he wasn't surprised by the results.

"Being a vegetarian will decrease your risk of many diseases:

heart disease, cancer, obesity," he said.

Jerry MacDougall, manager and owner of Harvest Health & Whole Foods in Alachua, said he's been a vegetarian since 1972.

He said eating a meatless diet helps cut down on cholesterol and fat intake. "A lot of the clogging of the arteries comes from meat-based proteins," he said.

Patty Alvarenga, a 20-year-old UF marketing sophomore, said she became a vegetarian in 2012 after she became concerned with her family history of high cholesterol.

"I have high cholesterol and decided to first cut out red meat from my diet and then, everything else just followed," she said. "I know that I'm contributing to my future health."

While vegetarians can rejoice at the study's findings, some meat eaters aren't convinced.



Although Lindsay Patenaude, a 20-year-old UF psychology and business administration junior, knows that heart disease is a serious matter, she said she wouldn't give up meat.

"There's other ways to combat heart disease," she said. "I can exercise to keep my heart healthy."

While some students can't cut the carnivorous habit, Gainesville food shops such as Reggae Shack Cafe, The Top and Civilization support the lifestyle by highlighting meat-free options on their menus.

UF was also named the second-most vegan-friendly large university by PETA's Most Vegan-Friendly college contest in 2011, according to Alligator archives.

Karma Cream, an organic ice cream cafe, 1025 W University Ave., labels items in the food shop that are vegetarian- and vegan-friendly to help customers with dietary restrictions. "Pretty much every restaurant has a lot of options," said Kyle Fick, co-owner of Karma Cream. "It's all about choices."

Sole search: Finding the right footwear for your exercise needs

Not all shoes are crafted equal

JENNIFER HERNANDEZ

Avenue Contributing Writer

When 19-year-old Nicola Gregory visited Fit2Run for the first time, she was already prepared for her exercise film debut. The store tapes its customers running to determine the best shoe for their bodies' movements.

"They put you on a treadmill and see your running," said Gregory, a UF advertising freshman and avid runner. "They saw the form that I run in and found a shoe that helped my knees and legs."

An infographic created for Greatist, a health and fitness website, titled "Choosing the Right Shoe for Any Type of Exercise," il-

lustrates footwear options for different workouts.

Whether it's an initiative to stay active in the new year or a preparation for Spring Break, a fitness routine's success can depend on the type of shoe people slip into.

When looking for a running shoe, the graphic suggests something with stability, a stiffer heel, arch support and a cushion that provides shock absorption.

Dr. Scott Koppel specializes in conditions of the foot and ankle at Gainesville's Family Podiatry and Vein Care. He said a person needs more support than what the foot can give naturally when running on cement.

"You need a shoe that's going to hold your

foot in place and provide you with more support to cradle the arch," he said.

Nicholas Lietz, 21, is a manager at the Fit2Run in The Oaks Mall and a UF biology senior. He said the main thing to remember when buying running shoes is your mileage.

For strength and conditioning programs, like CrossFit, Lietz recommends Inov-8's F-Lite or Bare-XF sneakers, which include guards on the inside of the shoe to prevent ropeburn.

If you enjoy biking or spinning, Greatist recommends a shoe that breathes and has hard soles so that it doesn't slip off the pedals.

Hikers should choose between sandals,

which breathe better and put less pressure on feet, or a variety of ankle-cut boots suitable for different types of hiking excursions.

Deme Panos, a 22-year-old UF wildlife ecology and conservation senior and a leader for TRiP, the Travel and Recreation Program at UF, recommends Vasque boots, because they are durable and give ankle support, or Chaco sandals, because they are easy to walk in.

For weightlifting, being barefoot can strengthen muscles and gives the body stability. Some gyms don't allow this because of sanitation concerns, so minimalist shoes give benefits similar to going barefoot.

No matter what your physical activity is, enhance your performance and protect yourself from injury with comfortable and appropriate footwear.

This column is provided by Ariel Barnes, a 21-year-old majoring in international studies. Would you like to get some Mediocre Advice? Visit <http://mediocreAdviceGators.tumblr.com/ask>



Ariel Barnes

Final season may reveal how Ted met their mother

CBS CONFIRMED A FINAL SEASON JAN. 30.

BOBBY DESMOND

Avenue Writer

Throughout the past eight years, "How I Met Your Mother" fans have attempted to uncover the identity of Ted Mosby's baby-mama to no avail.

Luckily, television's best-kept secret may be unveiled in the show's final season.

In fall, rumors began to circulate that this season would be Jason Segel's last, which left the fate of the show in question.

Segel's representatives promptly replied by saying the rumors were misconstrued and "lost in translation" during an interview with an Austrian website.

Last week, Nina Tassler, president of CBS Entertainment,

confirmed Jason Segel and the rest of the cast would return for a ninth and final season.

Tassler admitted her excitement for "this amazing cast to tell the final chapter and reveal television's most mysterious mother to some of TV's most passionate fans."

But that's not the only secret to be revealed next year.

"I'm excited to see how the writers tie up the story lines," said Grace Kranstover, a 19-year-old UF political science sophomore, "like if Marshall ends up as a judge, if Lily takes up art again, and what ends up of Barney and Robin since I suspect their wedding will be this season's finale."



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No matter what your physical activity is, enhance your performance and protect yourself from injury with comfortable and appropriate footwear.

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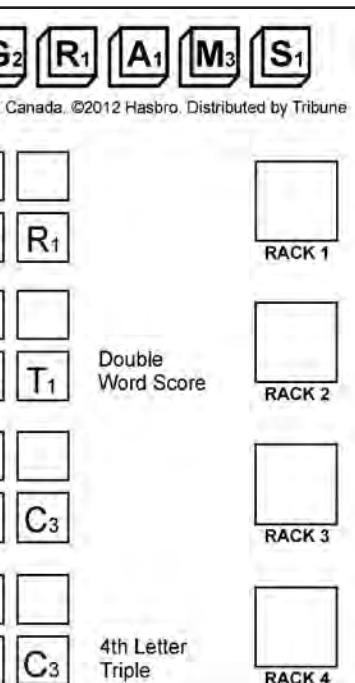
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14 Help Wanted

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14 Help Wanted

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K A L L I G A T O R S C P L I

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Alligators	Fish	Locks	Snakes
Boats	Geese	Minnows	Trash
Dams	Heron	Otter	Turtles
Ducks	Hippopotamus	Silt	



Muschamp finalizes nation's No. 4 recruiting class

JOE MORGAN

Alligator Staff Writer

According to Will Muschamp, coaching is not "add water, instant player."

But with the prospect haul he pulled in on National Signing Day, Muschamp may not need much more than water.

Florida received 20 letters of intent on Wednesday, filling out a 27-member class ranked No. 4 nationally by Rivals. The Gators' 2012 class ranked third, a nine-spot jump from Muschamp's first recruiting class at UF.

"A lot of these guys were guys that have been committed to us a long time and never took other visits. There wasn't a lot of flash in their recruiting process, and that's the kind of guys you want."

Will Muschamp
UF coach

But unlike the past two years, National Signing Day 2013 was mostly uneventful for Florida. Only two commits waited until Wednesday to pick UF, and the Gators have seven newcomers already enrolled.

"It's a very committed class," Muschamp said. "A lot of these guys were guys that have been committed to us a long time and never took other visits. There wasn't a lot of

flash in their recruiting process, and that's the kind of guys you want."

In addition to nabbing some of the nation's highest-ranked prospects, Florida succeeded in addressing needs at linebacker, wide receiver and defensive tackle. The Gators signed at least three players with four-star rankings or better at each position.

Linebacker Alex Anzalone is one of two five-star prospects to sign with UF.

"Those guys want to come in and understand that there's going to be competition at Florida," Muschamp said. "I always tell them, 'We're going to promise you an opportunity. I'm not going to promise you anything past that.'"

The Gators added five wide receivers, a group headlined by four-star prospects Demarcus Robinson and Ahmad Fulwood. Florida's top five returning wide receivers combined for 44 receptions and four touchdown catches last season.

"We've improved our depth, and I think we've improved our talent," Muschamp said. "(There are) some guys that can come in and compete."

One position the Gators failed to bolster was quarterback. Following Jacoby Brissett's transfer to NC State, returning starter Jeff Driskel is the lone Florida signal-caller with game experience.

UF inked three-star quarterback Max Staver but came up short in its pursuit of

three-star JUCO transfer Tanner McEvoy, who committed to Wisconsin on Monday. Junior Tyler Murphy will likely serve as UF's backup quarterback in 2013.

"I don't have a very high comfort level, obviously," Muschamp said of the Gators'

depth at quarterback. "Those guys haven't played a lot, but they're going to get opportunities this spring to continue to develop within what we do."

Contact Joe Morgan at joemorgan@alligator.org.



Kelly Logan / Alligator Staff

Florida coach Will Muschamp speaks with reporters during his National Signing Day press conference on Wednesday at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

Gators nab No. 2 overall recruit

► **VERNON HARGREAVES III IS A FIVE-STAR RECRUITING PROSPECT.**

PHILLIP HEILMAN

Alligator Staff Writer

TAMPA — Vernon Hargreaves III remains uninterested in national attention, regardless of how much his play warrants it.

Hargreaves, the top-ranked defensive back in the Class of 2013 and a consensus five-star prospect, is unlike many elite high school athletes. He has never relished the limelight, instead preferring to quietly handle his business.

For many players, National Signing Day is an opportunity to not only choose where they will attend college, but a chance to use their decision as leverage for time in the spotlight.

Hargreaves chose a different approach, signing with the Gators at Tampa Wharton High in front of a small group of friends, family and faculty a few minutes after 9 a.m. on Wednesday.

"Once you take all your official (visits), you know where you want to go," Hargreaves said. "Recruits just like to play games and keep all the attention, but there is no need for that. I knew where I wanted to go."

The 5-foot-11, 185-pound cornerback is the gem of coach Will Muschamp's class.

Rivals rates Hargreaves the nation's No. 2 overall prospect. He recorded 110 tackles, five interceptions and five forced fumbles during his senior season at Wharton.

He continued to impress after the season, notching five tackles, two pass breakups and an interception en route to being named MVP of the Under Armour All-America Game on January 4.

"Vernon is a great player," Wharton coach David Mitchell said. "He's stayed straight on his path. The things you see from him came from his parents."

Vernon's father, Vernon Hargreaves II, was named linebackers coach at Houston on Tuesday after working as the special teams coordinator and defensive ends coach at USF.

The elder Vernon has played an important role throughout his son's recruitment process, which began when schools started contacting Hargreaves when he was in seventh grade.

"He never wavered one minute during the whole process," Hargreaves II said. "Hopefully that single-mindedness will carry him through the rest of his career."

Hargreaves verbally committed to Florida

SEE HARGREAVES, PAGE 15

THE ADAM BOMB

Ditch National Signing Day

National Signing Day needs to go.

Recruiting lasts year round. It never stops.

Players change their cell phone numbers and waste hours talking to reporters. That time would be better spent trying to get a prom date.

For a day, though, recruiting takes over the airwaves.

ESPN emanated from Florida's campus and ran nearly 12 hours of programming about recruiting on Wednesday.

Coach Will Muschamp held a news conference to comment on UF's 27 new players. Seven have been on campus since January.

Rankings are finalized and hats are chosen.

The pageantry has reached a new level.

Former Georgia running back Isaiah Crowell brought a bulldog puppy on stage during his signing in 2011.

After a felony weapons charge, he plays for Alabama State.

There's the problem with recruiting.

Half of Florida's 2011 class has either transferred or stopped playing.

A third of the 2010 class suffered the same fate.

Nobody remembers when a kid signed a letter. They do remember the touchdowns he scored or the tackles he made.

Unfortunately, NSD excess is here to stay for one reason: Recruiting equals big business.

Two-thirds of the University Athletic Association's revenue in 2012 projects to

SEE ADAM, PAGE 15



Adam Pincus
twitter: @AdamDPincus

Tweetable

"I can't believe this is happening, this must be a nightmare...."

Will Yeguete, UF forward
Twitter: @Will15Yeguete



Florida center Vicky McIntyre has scored a season-high 12 points in her past two games. See story, page 16.

Football spring practice

The Gators will begin spring practice on March 13. Spring practice will end with the Orange and Blue Debut on April 6 at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Defensive tackle chooses Florida over Miami, Alabama

KATIE AGOSTIN

Alligator Staff Writer

PORT ST. LUCIE — In the gymnasium at St. Lucie West Centennial High, three hats — Miami, Florida and Alabama — sat on a table in front of senior Jay-nard Bostwick. Though Bostwick appeared undecided, his mind was already made up.

Bostwick picked up the blue Gators cap, put it on and proceeded to sign his letter of intent to play football for coach Will Muschamp.

"I really narrowed it down last night," Bostwick said. "I thought about the [Southeastern Conference] and the opportunity I had with the Gators. I knew that they're a competitive team and probably have a good chance to go to another bowl game."

When Bostwick first arrived at Centennial, he didn't have much experience playing football. The defensive tackle had only played a few games for the Port St. Lucie Athletic Association Youth Football Program during his eighth-grade year before suffering a lower back injury.

Bostwick possessed raw talent, and Centennial coach Ron Parker saw potential. Bostwick's positive attitude and energy helped him become just the second player in Centennial history to play varsity football as a freshman.

Parker never regretted the decision.

"The biggest thing I told the scouts is, 'He doesn't take plays off in practice,'" Parker said. "My son had to line up against [Bostwick] last year. He turned around and looked at me, and I said, 'Well, good luck.' And there he went flying through the air. But Jay-nard's a very respectful player. He'll knock you down, pick you up and just be ready for the next play."

As a junior, Bostwick recorded 74 tackles, including seven tackles for a loss and two sacks. Bostwick hoped to put up even bigger numbers during his senior campaign, but Parker made a decision that hurt Bostwick's stats.

"I dismissed a starting defensive end on the other side ... because he didn't do what he was supposed to do," Parker said. "So, Jay-nard had to move around a lot. We put him in the middle, they'd run outside. We put him on the edge, they'd run to the other side. So, it was frustrating."

Still, Bostwick tallied 73 tackles with seven

tackles for a loss during a 1-8 season. Bostwick finished his high school career with 176 tackles, 15 tackles for a loss, three sacks and one fumble recovery.

When Bostwick first started playing football, he never thought he would continue playing past high school. But the four-star recruit's talents quickly earned him recognition and scholarship offers to 19 colleges.

Bostwick then narrowed his list down to six. After cutting Michigan State, Oklahoma and Oregon, only three remained.

The Crimson Tide was the first of the final three eliminated. Bostwick didn't want to attend school out of state.

The decision between the Hurricanes and the Gators proved tough for the senior.

Bostwick has strong family ties to Miami. His cousin, Thurston Armbrister, is a UM linebacker. Although Bostwick calls Miami home, he put family ties aside and picked UF.

"I just knew [Florida] had the facilities to take care of me," Bostwick said. "Everyone assured me that they'd be by my side the whole way through, and I know that I have a good opportunity to have early playing time. It's in the SEC, so I had to go where there's the best competition."

Muschamp added: "Jay-nard was a young man that really came down to three schools, and we were real pleased to get him here on the last visit. He had a great visit, and we felt very comfortable. Travaris Robinson did a great job recruiting him throughout the entire process."

With Sharif Floyd and Omar Hunter gone from Florida's roster, Bostwick will join a host of Gators competing for time at defensive tackle. Bostwick will battle Leon Orr, Darius Cummings, Caleb Brantley, Damien Jacobs and Dominique Easley to play inside.

"I can't guarantee nothing, and they told me that they can't guarantee me nothing, but they said I have a really good chance of playing freshman year," Bostwick said. "I'm just going to go out there and work my hardest and try to get on the field."

Contact Katie Agostin at kagostin@alligator.org.

Bostwick tallied 73 tackles with seven



Bostwick

Recruit will enroll in May

HARGRAVES,

from page 14

on July 26 and has been steadfast in his loyalty to Muschamp and his coaching staff.

"Once you take all your official (visits), you know where you want to go. Recruits just like to play games and keep all the attention."

Vernon Hargreaves III
UF cornerback commit

Despite receiving more than 40 scholarship offers and countless inquiries about his interest in other programs, he never second-guessed his decision.

"If you can make a decision and go with it, now there is never going to be a question about what you are doing."

Hargreaves II said. "I'm glad that happened. We are excited for him and about him."

Hargreaves, though talented, will have to compete for playing time next season.

Florida returns Marcus Roberson, Loucheiz Purifoy and Jaylen Watkins — the top three cornerbacks on the depth chart.

The Gators also have Cody Riggs, who missed the season due to a fracture in his right foot.

But Hargreaves gravitates toward competition rather than notoriety.

"I'm actually leaving in May because my school is going to let me graduate earlier than the original date, so I get to go up there for Summer A," Hargreaves said. "I'm just going to try and fit in wherever I can."

Contact Phillip Heilman at pheilman@alligator.org.

ADAM, from page 14

come from football.

Websites cover recruiting year round. Scores of 7-on-7 prep tournaments bring together talent from all over the world.

Recruiting consultants garner thousands of dollars from universities.

The bigger the business, the bigger NSD becomes.

For the Southeastern Conference, NSD is another chance to exert its dominance.

SEC teams hauled in six of the top 10 classes. Ole Miss created Twitter chaos by nabbing the top defensive end, offensive tackle and wide receiver in the Class of 2013. Can't blame players wanting to snap up the chance for a starring role in "The Blind Side 2" over receiving a face full of angry Muschamp.

Alabama signed a second elite running back to go with incoming back Derrick Henry, the top rusher in high school history.

Florida brings in the No. 4 class

in the nation, according to Rivals, with 15 players on defense and 12 on offense.

There's a defensive tackle named Darius 'Bear' Cummings and a safety named Keanu 'Kiki' Neal.

Ahmad Fulwood and Demarcus Robinson headline the group of five receivers.

Cornerback Vernon Hargreaves III, the nation's No. 2 overall player, arrives as UF's top recruit.

Running backs Adam Lane and Kelvin Taylor give the Gators a power-speed combo for the future.

Florida filled its needs with its latest class, even if Wednesday wasn't the circus seen in Oxford, Miss.

Only two players commit to Florida on NSD. That's a testament to Muschamp and his staff's ability to build lasting relationships.

This de facto national holiday celebrates the players who haven't made up their minds. The players who, in some cases, manipulated the recruiting process.

It's time to ditch National Signing Day.

Contact Adam Pincus at apincus@alligator.org.

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Lack of frontcourt depth costly in loss

LANDON WATNICK

Alligator Writer

Will Yeguete's night in Fayetteville, Ark., lasted less than a minute.

During No. 2 Florida's 80-69 loss to Arkansas on Tuesday, Yeguete checked into the game with 16:44 remaining in the first half but limped to the bench at the 15:52 mark after experiencing discomfort caused by tendinitis in his right knee. The injury has been a season-long issue for the junior forward.

Yeguete was re-evaluated by the team's training staff at halftime and ruled out for the remainder of the contest.

Coach Billy Donovan said after the game that Yeguete would undergo an MRI on Wednesday to determine the extent of the injury. Donovan will address the results this afternoon.

"I don't know what it is," Donovan said. "He's been dealing with some swelling now for a few weeks. He's been very, very limited in practice the last couple of weeks. ... He said he felt like he tweaked his knee."

The Razorbacks took advantage of Yeguete's absence, shooting 51.3 percent on two-pointers and 44.4 percent from three-point range.

The Gators (18-3, 8-1 Southeastern Conference) were thin in the frontcourt Tuesday night with Yeguete out and Patric Young dealing with foul trouble.

Young committed two fouls in the first 6:31 and was benched for about 7 minutes. He fouled out with 3:41 left.

In 26 minutes, Young scored nine points but grabbed only four boards.

"We were in a bind the whole first half," Donovan said. "I generally don't play a guy with two fouls, but because of our frontcourt depth and fatigue, I had to sub (Erik) Murphy some. We were probably pretty fortunate to get out of the half with Patric only having two fouls."

Playing without its top two rebounders in Young (6.6 rebounds per game) and Yeguete (6.3 rebounds per game) for much of the first half, Florida was out-rebounded 20-14 in the first 20 minutes. Arkansas had nine players log more than 13 minutes and led 43-26 at halftime.

"The type of style we play is hard to play against, especially if you're playing six to seven to eight guys," Razorbacks forward Marshawn Powell said.

With a shortage of frontcourt depth, Florida's inside-out game was hurting

and its three-point attempts were often contested. After entering the game shooting 51.2 percent from outside, Murphy scored nine points on 2-of-7 shooting, hitting only 1 of 6 three-pointers.

Florida became reliant on three-pointers, heaving 27 of its 56 shots from behind the arc and making 10.

"A lot of what they want to do is penetrate and get it out to the three-point shooters," Arkansas coach Mike Anderson said. "A key is not letting Murphy get off. He's a tough matchup for a lot of people. But for us, I thought we did a good job of finding him."

Working his way back from a high left

ankle sprain, Casey Prather also struggled. In 18 minutes, the 6-foot-6 forward recorded two turnovers and committed four fouls without scoring a point.

Arkansas' bench outscored Florida's reserves 40-12. The Razorbacks' frontcourt scored 35 points, while the Gators' big men managed only 19.

"We were a short-handed team, but we didn't play through the things that were necessary to win the game," Donovan said. "We've dealt with a lot of injuries and guys being in and out of games. ... You've got to be resilient."

A radio broadcast contributed to this report.



David Carr / Alligator Staff

Junior forward Will Yeguete attempts a layup during Florida's 78-64 win against Ole Miss on Saturday in the O'Connell Center.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Center turning in consistent play

PHILLIP HEILMAN

Alligator Staff Writer

Two games are hardly enough to be considered a representative sample, but for Vicky McIntyre and the Gators, they were small steps in the right direction.

McIntyre finished with 12 points on 4-of-8 shooting during a 69-64 loss to Missouri on Jan. 31. Three days later, she again finished with 12 points, making each of her five field goal attempts in an 87-54 victory against Alabama, a win that snapped Florida's five-game losing streak.

"One of the things that seems to have eluded us, especially during the time when we were struggling, was consistency," coach Amanda Butler said. "To have someone have two back-to-back really solid performances may not sound like a big deal to someone else or on a different team, but back-to-back solid performances are really important for us right now."

McIntyre's consecutive 12-point efforts were the first two times she scored in double figures since she tallied 10 points during Florida's 61-55 win against Mississippi State on Jan. 10.

The 6-foot-7 center has scored in double figures on just two other occasions this season. The timing of her improved performance bodes well for the Gators.

Senior Jennifer George has struggled offensively as she continues to deal with the effects of two separations of her right shoulder. George leads the team in scoring with 12.3 points per game, but she has scored in double figures only once since Jan. 6.

"Jennifer is still trying to find her groove, get her groove back and in particular, Vicky and (Christin) Mercer have had some really important performances for us," Butler said.

McIntyre has been particularly efficient during Southeastern Conference play.

Despite logging just 15.8 minutes per contest, she is second on the team with a 48.9 field goal percentage. The junior's 1.6 blocks per game rank sixth in the conference.

Endurance is an issue for McIntyre, and she is often only on the floor for 3 or 4 minutes at a time. However, her size makes her a key role player.

"I have to do what I can with what I get," McIntyre said. "I'm going to give my team as much as I can when I'm in there."

Contact Phillip Heilman at pheilman@alligator.org.

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