

Confederacy rises again in Newberry with re-enactment. Read the story on page 5.



FAEHN-TASTIC



UF wins first title

CHUCK KINGSBURY

Alligator Writer

The Gators were not finishing second again this year. After falling 0.075 points short of winning the 2012 national title, Florida clinched its first NCAA championship on Saturday in Los Angeles. UF joins Georgia, Alabama, Utah and UCLA as the five schools to win a national title in gymnastics.

"It has been years in the making, and everyone trusted what we were doing at Florida and they believed in us," coach Rhonda Faehn said. "This was the next goal, to break into that final four schools that have won."

With a score of 197.575, Florida edged Oklahoma by a margin of 0.2. Alabama placed third with 197.35 points.

The Gators kicked off the evening with its thinnest rotation — balance beam. Florida recorded a 48.875 — the team's lowest score since posting a 48.525 in a 196.975-196.075 win against Kentucky on Feb. 22.

Missteps from Ashanee Dickerson and Kytra Hunter resulted in the Gators falling behind early during their first rotation. But Bridget Sloan and Marissa King helped Florida rebound to finish its first routine despite a relatively low score.

The Gators produced better results during the floor event. Only Jamie Shisler scored lower than a 9.9, and UF bounced back from its poor performance on beam.

Sloan, King and Bridgette Caquatto pinned scores of 9.95, and Hunter capped the rotation with a 9.975. Hunter's score gave Florida the highest mark on the floor in NCAA history.

SEE GYMNASTICS, PAGE 14

AP Photo

Florida celebrates its victory at the NCAA Championships on Saturday in Los Angeles. The Gators became the fifth gymnastics program to win a national title. UF won with a team score of 197.575.

CAMPUS

Suspicious package in North Hall

COLLEEN WRIGHT

Alligator Writer

University Police evacuated North Hall on Friday afternoon after a suspicious package was found in the first floor lounge.

UPD spokesman Maj. Brad Barber said the building was evacuated out of precaution.

"At no time was there no consideration that there was an explosive," he said.

"At no time was there no consideration that there was an explosive."

Major Brad Barber
UPD spokesman

University Police received information at about noon after a housekeeping staff member found three test tubes filled with an unknown substance bound together in the kitchen.

Barber said the substance was removed by UF Environmental Health and Safety staff.

He said the evacuation was a "totally different matter" from the incident that happened at Keys Residential Complex earlier Friday morning.

UF biology freshman Gabriel Garcia was in the lounge doing homework around 11 a.m. when a housekeeping staff member asked him what was on top of the towel dispenser.

Garcia, 19, described the test tubes as three 8-inch clear tubes about the size of a quarter in diameter.

They were stacked like a pyramid with duct tape wrapped around them.

The tops were closed with plugs.

"I could only see the bottom of the test tubes," he said. "The liquid was clear like water."

Police had no leads on who the test tubes belonged to.

"We always have to err on the abundance of caution," Barber said.

Contact Colleen Wright at cwright@alligator.org.

Euthanized raccoons found to be rabies-free

KATHRYN VARN

Alligator Staff Writer

Wayne Wheeler's trailer has been empty for more than a week now.

He threw out all his furniture and has been staying with friends and family since his three pet raccoons — Sister Rikki, Eli and Sheba — were taken from him April 12 to test for rabies after Sheba scratched a woman in a Butler Plaza Publix parking lot.

The same day they were taken from him, test results revealed all three raccoons were rabies-free. It took the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission a week to notify Wheeler.

"I'm pretty upset," the 47-year-old said Saturday. "They didn't have to kill my raccoons. These things are like

babies to me."

The raccoons received rabies vaccinations in August, according to shot records from a local veterinarian.

However, because the raccoons are wild animals, the vaccination isn't proven to work, said Anthony Dennis, director of environmental health at the Alachua County Health Department.

"The science behind providing vaccines is only established in dogs, cats and ferrets, and some other domesticated animals like horses," he said. "And in terms of raccoons and opossums, it just has not been established that that is a protective measure that reduces rabies in that population."

Dennis said because of photos and testimony from other people about

SEE RABIES, PAGE 4

Today

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Local parents clean up in cloth diaper record attempt

Last year's record was 8,251 diapers changed, pg 5.

Unlike other schools, UF not springing on late admissions

But UF has seen a small increase in Spring transfers, pg 8.



Gainesville couple seeks home for pet duck with viral video

The video has about 373,000 views, pg 3.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Game Day open house

From noon to 3 p.m., students from the Artificial Intelligence for Computer Games, and Theory and Practice of Multimedia Production classes will host Game Day open house to demonstrate computer games they have developed this semester. This event will be in the hallway on the first floor of the CSE building. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Lupus Fashion Show 2013

The Classy and Oh! So Sassy ladies of Gamma Eta Sorority Inc. invite everyone to attend their eighth annual Lupus fashion show, "It's a Purple Matter," Thursday at Lit Nightclub. All proceeds will be donated to the Lupus Foundation of America to put an end to the disease. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are available now from any Gamma Eta Sorority sister for \$5 or at the door for \$7. For more information, please contact the event director, Natalie Rollan, at nrolan26@ufl.edu.

Gay Movie Night

Gay Movie Night will be Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Pride Community Center, 3131 NW 13th St. Laugh-out-loud funny and seductively sweet, "Is It Just Me?" is a gay romantic comedy about one gay boy's search for Mr. Right. Adorable Blaine (Nicholas Downs) can't seem to meet guys, let alone form a relationship. His beefy go-go boy roommate Cameron, who has no shortage of willing partners, can't understand why Blaine doesn't just pounce and enjoy some one-nighters. Instead, Blaine hides in chat rooms, where he meets Zander, a shy, recently relocated Texan. But when the time comes to exchange photos, Blaine accidentally sends an image of his hunky roomie, and things go from romantically promising to downright confusing. For more information about the event, visit www.gainesvillepride.org/gay-movie-night/.

Study and play in Poland this summer

Seize the opportunity to study in four of Poland's most renowned cities: Krakow, Wroclaw, Warsaw and Gdansk. Immerse yourself in Polish culture, and visit castles, cafes and mountains. Witness new Europe's ongoing growth. Previous Polish knowledge is not required. Contact Anna Muller at the Center for European Studies at anmuller@ufl.edu.

Recurso

Recurso is an international humanitarian organization at UF that strives to promote aware-

FORECAST

TODAY



THUNDER
STORMS
78/58

TUESDAY



SUNNY
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WEDNESDAY



PARTLY
CLOUDY
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THURSDAY



PARTLY
CLOUDY
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FRIDAY



PARTLY
CLOUDY
86/61

ness of issues such as human rights, health disparity, water and sanitation, women's empowerment, children's rights, education, economic development, career recruitment and environmental justice. If you are interested in applying for a director or leadership position for this organization, visit www.ufrecurso.com/#!applications.

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.

Miami men building modern ark

MIAMI — In the beginning, there was the great flood. Not the one in Genesis that cleansed the world of evil but the rising waters that swamped the Gulf Coast during Hurricane Katrina.

As survivors and aid workers coped with the death and devastation, animals struggled, too. They foraged for food and wandered in search of a home.

Those images touched something deep inside Rodolfo Almira. He dreamed of creating a refuge for animals facing catastrophe. Then it came to him:

"Wouldn't it be nice to do what Noah did?"

And why not right here on the rugged western frontier of Miami-Dade?

It could be a draw for tourists, a haven for God's creatures, a testament to his faith, and a place for reflection and learning.

So it came to pass that Almira and three other Hialeah men began building an ark just west of town, doing it from a biblical template, converting cubits — roughly the distance between the elbow and the tip of the middle finger — into modern measurements.

It rises on a five-acre plot surrounded by lakes that got their start as rock quarries, a moon-scape where work boots quickly get caked with dust kicked up by the trucks that constitute most of the local traffic.

Six months into their quest, the lowest deck of the three-story wooden ark is nearly complete. Planks of wood jut out near the

bow and stern. Wooden beams crisscross overhead. A donated, life-size elephant statue stands sentry in front of the ark.

Unlike, say, biblical times, you need permits and zoning approval to build such a thing. Code enforcement has dinged them with some violation notices.

Almira and his friends remain undeterred, committed to finishing the 500-foot-long structure, dubbed Hidden Ark.

High on zeal and short on cash, they estimate it will cost \$1.5 million to finish the ambitious project, which they say will include a museum, a shop and a small zoo with goats, pigs, chickens and other small animals, as well as stray dogs and cats.

Almira, who makes his living installing natural stone in homes and businesses, first approached Reniel Aguila with the idea. Aguila, a truck driver, pitched it to his friends Manuel Guerra and Osmar Oliva. Oliva, owner of a trucking company, didn't need much convincing before donating \$300,000 to start putting hammer to nail.

Despite no formal engineering training, Aguila drew up rough plans based on the instructions God gave to Noah in the Bible.

The men tried to raise money through an Internet-based fundraising campaign, but that hasn't gone particularly well. Earlier this month, they'd snagged \$644.

The four have crossed paths over the years through their work but were never especially close until the ark project gave them common cause. Their families have been supportive.

"They told me to follow my dream," Almira said.

Almira sees his ark as a place where people of all faiths could pray or meditate, a space where animals could interact with guests, and an after-school program.

"It has nothing to do with any specific religion," he said.

Ultimately, Aguila envisions having people from across the globe join Hidden Ark, of assembling a membership roll so large it would keep admission to the ark free and still cover the cost of the operation, including an on-site veterinarian and a restaurant.

"This isn't just for the community," he said. "It's for the entire world."

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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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.. THIS WEEK *in* GAINESVILLE ..

April 26, 1972

A newly formed choir began giving students credit for their work. The Lee Bailey Choir, an all-black group, had to ask the music department for some form of academic compensation. Officials evaluated the group and found the request reasonable because it had changed from a casual singing group to a full-fledged choir group.

April 24, 1985

More than 200 students and faculty marched down West University Avenue with signs that read "Stop the River of Blood." Led by the College Democrats, Black Graduate Student Organization and Community Prisoners Action group, the group rallied on the Plaza of the Americas and marched across campus in protest of UF funding companies doing business in South Africa.

April 22, 1993

"FBI, ATF, killing Christians right and left" was heard outside the downtown federal building and later outside the local FBI building. Ku Klux Klan members marched on Gainesville to protest the federal involvement in the cult compound siege in Waco, Texas. Led by Florida Grand Dragon John Baumgardner, nine members wore black SWAT costumes while picketing.

April 23, 2003

NASA's shuttles were getting a face-lift with the help of UF and six other universities. The universities shared a \$15 million grant for the development of a reusable launch vehicle. About 35 UF students worked on the project.

— KRISTAN WIGGINS

LOCAL

Couple seeks home for duck with viral video

KELCEE GRIFFIS

Alligator Writer

Two Gainesville residents bound for Hawaii are turning to social media to find a home for their 2-and-a-half-year-old duck named McIntosh.

On April 12, Julie Zill and her boyfriend, Felipe Carvalho, posted a YouTube video of their downy friend.

"We raised him since he had first hatched."

Julie Zill

Gainesville citizen

The video shows McIntosh flying on command, swimming in a backyard pool, eating table food and sleeping with his beak resting on Carvalho's hand.

Within three days, the video had more than 175,000 views. As of press time, it had been watched almost 373,000 times.

Zill, a 25-year-old UF alumna, said she and Carvalho, 31, are trying to adopt out the duck because of necessity: She will attend graduate school at the University of Hawaii while

Carvalho prepares for a job on the island. In anticipation of their summer move, the couple used the Internet, which included posting the video on Facebook and Reddit, to showcase McIntosh's personality.

"We raised him since he had first hatched, so we've always been very attached to him," said Zill, who brought the duck home from a farm in Webster, Fla., as a two-hour-old chick.

Carvalho said McIntosh's background makes him more adoptable. Most ducks don't have the familiarity with humans McIntosh does, he said.

"He loves interacting with humans," he said.

Hawaii has strict regulations that would prevent McIntosh from travelling with the couple, Zill said.

The couple said they have received a significant amount of interest from Gainesville-area residents about adopting McIntosh, but they have not chosen a family for him yet.

"We want to review many options," Zill said. "The search is by no means closed."

Contact Kelcee Griffis at kgriffis@alligator.org.

POD Market proves overly taxing to students

► STATE RECEIVED THE MONEY.

ALEXA VOLLAND

Alligator Writer

Because of a system coding error in Gator Dining Services, unnecessary taxes have been attached to food items for the past two and a half years.

Lionel Dubay, assistant vice president and director of the UF Business Services Division, said the added tax was probably set in place when the Provisions on Demand Market opened about two and half years ago.

Chris Mott, a first-year UF leader-

ship development graduate student, first noticed the additional tax about two months ago in the Hub's P.O.D. Market. Knowing general grocery items cannot be taxed in the state of Florida, Mott emailed Gator Dining Resident District Manager Bill Zemba.

"It's relatively an easy fix."

Lionel Dubay

assistant vice president and director of UF Business Services Division

In an email response, Zemba said he would consult with taxing experts to get a determination.

Dubay said the error came from the P.O.D Market's point of sales system

and has been resolved.

"It's relatively an easy fix," he said.

Dubay said all of the money collected from customers, including the amount that was taken in error, was paid to the state by Aramark, the primary food service on campus.

UF economics professor Jonathan Hamilton said because Aramark sent all of the money to the state instead of separately calculating its liability, the error was therefore unintentional.

"Their mistake cost students, but it benefited the state," he said.

Contact Alexa Volland at avolland@alligator.org.

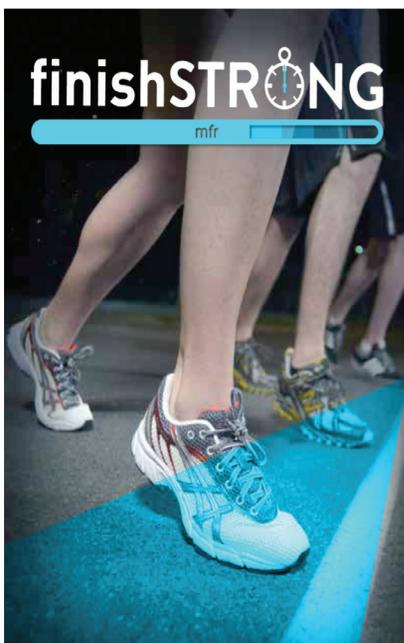
InsideUF

Your campus news source

Fun Run aims to reduce stress

The seventh annual Midnight Fun Run scheduled for Wednesday night is an opportunity for University of Florida students to relieve stress during finals, accomplish their first 5K or train for a future race. Although the event aims to benefit student health, UF faculty and staff, guests and general public also are invited to participate.

"Midnight Fun Run has become an exciting tradition on the UF campus," said Darcie Burde, event coordinator and assistant director of fitness for UF RecSports. "It is great to see students getting excited about healthy living and



making sound stress management decisions as they prepare to master their final exams."

The event will start at 11:59 p.m. at Gate 2 of the O'Connell Center and consists of a 5K run or a 1.5 mile walk through the UF campus.

An active Gatorlink account is required for preregistration and can include one guest. Onsite registration, open from 10 to 11:30 p.m. Wednesday, will be available for people not affiliated with UF as well as last-minute student, faculty and staff registrants.

Preregistrants will receive an event T-shirt, and all registrants

View these stories and more at www.insideuf.ufl.edu

will receive a "to-go" breakfast from Gator Corner Dining Center after the race.

For more information or to register online, visit recsports.ufl.edu.

The Midnight Fun Run is presented by UF RecSports.

Midnight Fun Run

Wednesday, April 24 at 11:59 p.m.

5K or 1.5 Mile Walk
O'Connell Center at Gate 2

Preregistration

Gator 1 Cardholder, \$12
Cardholder's Guest, \$20

Onsite Registration

No T-shirt, \$10

Goodbye, Good Luck and Go Gators!

Congratulations to all UF students who will receive a diploma this spring. We wish you great success in all endeavors, and remember ... you will always be a Gator.



For those of you who will return in the fall, please have a safe, enjoyable summer.

Silverman speaks tonight

Comedian and gay rights advocate Sarah Silverman speaks at 8 p.m. today at the Phillips Center for Performing Arts.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. Tickets may be picked up with a Gator 1 card (one per person) at the Phillips Center Box Office beginning at noon today.

Get rid of stuff this week

The Office of Sustainability will collect unwanted items, including hazardous and electronic waste, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday in the O'Connell Center parking lot near Gate 1. Gently used clothing, books and household items may be recycled. For more information, visit www.sustainable.ufl.edu/collection

Graduates invited

The UF Alumni Association invites graduating seniors to Grad Bash from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday in Emerson Alumni Hall. Graduates can enjoy food, photos with the Albert and Alberta statues and giveaways. Students can join the UF Alumni Association and learn about activities in their new cities.

Final edition

This is the last print edition of InsideUF this semester, but the online edition at www.insideuf.ufl.edu continues all year.

InsideUF is produced by the University Relations Office for faculty, staff and students.
Editor - Ron Wayne

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
The Foundation for The Gator Nation

UF Calendar of Events

For a listing of events, or to submit an event to the calendar, click "UF Calendar" at www.insideuf.ufl.edu.



Derek Smith / Alligator

Standing As One

Kerry Stern, a 21-year-old UF economics major, stands in silence with her peers as part of the Day of Silence in support of LGBTQ students on Turlington Plaza on Friday afternoon.

Senate strike down to help gun enthusiasts

► BUYING SUPPLIES SHOULD BE EASIER.

KELCEE GRIFFIS
Alligator Writer

A beginning-of-the-year spike in business sent some Gainesville gun shops and shooting ranges scrambling to find ammunition. However, after the U.S. Senate voted Wednesday against legislation that would have required background checks for gun purchases, banned military-style assault weapons and limited the size of ammunition magazines, local businesses could be brought back to normal.

Jake Kennedy, the owner of Gator Skeet and Trap Club,

said the effects of the decision may not be immediate.

"It's a good thing in the long run," he said. "In the short run, it has no effect. We're still finding it hard to get ammunition. Prices are artificially high because the demand is so high."

Kennedy said the Boston Marathon attack may prolong the scramble for ammunition.

Tyler Marzella, a 23-year-old UF agricultural operations management senior and president of Students for Concealed Carry at UF, said the legislative decision should help make buying supplies easier.

"Hopefully ... we can get back to a normal supply and demand," he said.

Contact Kelcee Griffis at kgriffis@alligator.org.

Wheeler is working to get a lawyer, wants to change rabies laws

RABIES, from page 1

possible exposure to the raccoons, all three had to be seized, euthanized and decapitated to test parts of the brain for the virus.

"It is a very unfortunate and sad turn of events," he said, "but we have to be 100 percent sure because there is no cure for rabies."

Carlos Romero, a UF College of Veterinary Medicine research professor, agreed with the health department's decision.

Romero said scientists don't know as much when it comes to the rabies vaccination in wild animals. Depending on the animal and the point of contact, the incubation period could last up to a few years, and once the virus kicks in, there is no cure, he said.

"There are so many variables that if there's a human life at risk, you really don't want to take any chances," he said.

The only reliable way to test for rabies in an animal is through euthanasia and test samples collected from the brain, Romero said.

"It's a shame that at the end of the day, the animals got destroyed," he said, "but what can you do?"

Looking forward, Wheeler said he's working with a friend to secure a lawyer, adding he wanted to work with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to change laws related to rabies testing.

"I really don't know what's going to happen," he said. "I just want a normal, peaceful life."

Contact Kathryn Varn at kvarn@alligator.org.

HEALTH INSURANCE



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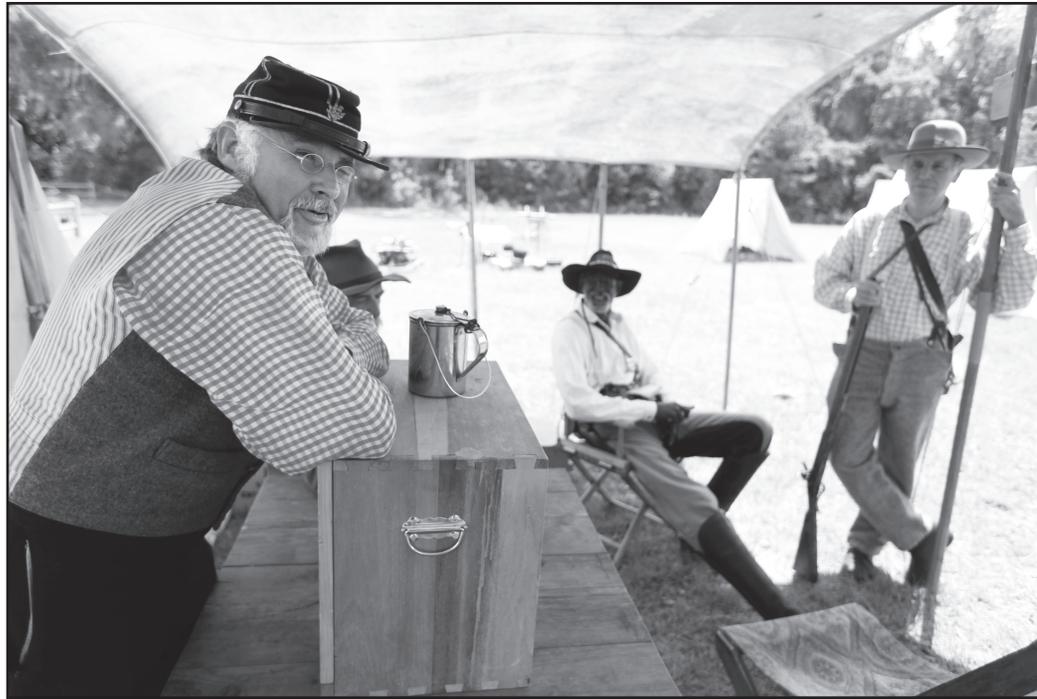
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*Must be enrolled in Summer classes at UF or Santa Fe to apply.

the independent florida
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LOCAL

Confederacy rises again in Newberry with re-enactment



Elise Giordano / Alligator Staff

Maj. Thomas Sanders takes a break with fellow Civil War re-enactors at the 7th Florida Infantry Regiment Muster at Dudley Farm Historic State Park on Friday morning.

ELISE GIORDANO

Alligator Writer

NEWBERRY — The bugle rang through the early morning.

Soldiers, clad in Civil War uniforms, emerged from their tents and huddled around the campsite trying to stay warm.

As 1st Sgt. Walter Cook took out a list of names, the men stood at attention next to their tents and tried to wipe the sleep off their faces.

Cook, 23, of Webster, Fla., called roll, and shouts of "here" or "sergeant" echoed down the line.

These are the soldiers of the 7th Florida Infantry.

Thirty-five re-enactors brought history to life by participating in the Dudley Farm Historic State Park's 7th Florida Infantry Regiment Muster this weekend.

The three-day-long re-enactment event depicted an April 1862 gathering when North Florida citizens formed a unit under P.B.H. Dudley Sr., a captain with the Confederate Army.

Kaleb Williams, 20, of Yulee, Fla., has been re-enacting for six years. Portraying a musician for the infantry, he played the fife and snare drum during the event.

"The skills you possess might not necessarily go to another individual or person," he said. "Every person has their own unique talents to bring to the hobby."

The weekend featured musket and cannon firing demonstrations as well as saber and bayonet drills. Women wore cotton dresses as they sewed medical bandages, created lint for injuries as well as for fire starters and made clothing kits, which would have been sent to soldiers on the battlefield.

Brian "Biscuit" Butler, 32, of Yulee, Fla., has been re-enacting historical battles and visiting Civil War battlefields since he was 13 years old.

His love for history continues to draw him back to the front lines.

"It's not a hobby for me," he said. "It's a lifestyle."

Contact Elise Giordano at egiordano@alligator.org.

Food poisoning getting frequent

► PEOPLE ARE ADVISED TO WASH THEIR HANDS.

ANGELICA MARINO

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF student Brianne Bradford questioned if she was dying the night she had food poisoning two years ago after eating paella, a Spanish dish composed of seafood and rice.

Bradford, a 23-year-old psychology junior, said for 24 hours, she experienced flu-like symptoms.

Bradford was not alone. Food poisoning is on the rise in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's survey of foodborne illnesses.

Campylobacter, a type of bacteria found in chicken and unpasteurized milk and cheese, is becoming more common. Salmonella is the most common cause of food poisoning.

Anthony Dennis, director of environmental health at the Alachua County Health Depart-

ment, said as of this year, the department has not had to investigate any facilities for foodborne outbreaks.

He said if the health department gets multiple complaints from the same establishment, they would have to investigate.

"It depends on the severity and the bug."

Janis Mena

Student Health Care Center dietician

"We go out there as a health department to track it down and see where it came from and if there is a risk," Dennis said.

Janis Mena, a registered dietician at the UF Student Health Care Center, said food poisoning can occur from two to four hours or up to 12 hours after eating.

"It depends on the severity and the bug," she said.

The best way to avoid most foodborne illnesses, she said, is to wash your hands.

"We can cause them ourselves," Mena said.

Parents clean up diaper race

MEGHAN PRYCE

Alligator Contributing Writer

The rain and cold weather couldn't keep Miranda West away from breaking a world record. She and about 50 other local parents attended the Great Cloth Diaper Change on Saturday at West-side Park as they attempted to break the Guinness World Record for the most cloth diapers changed at one time.

The event started with each participant paired with one child. They joined 6,500 people and counting from across the world, trying to break last year's record of 8,251 diapers. The results from this year will be announced Friday.

West, a 29-year-old Gainesville resident, said she decided to attend the event with her husband and two children, adding the event was a good way

to raise awareness about cloth diapers' positive effect on the environment.

"I get a strange sense of enjoyment seeing diapers on the [clothing] line," she said.

"I get a strange sense of enjoyment seeing diapers on the [clothing] line."

Miranda West

Gainesville resident

Michelle Neilson, co-host of the event and co-leader of Cloth Diaper Enthusiasts of Gainesville, said the organization made \$222 from raffle tickets and donations. After the organization deducts the cost of the event, it will donate money to the Real Diaper Association, a nonprofit organization that promotes cloth diapering.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR RESEARCH STUDY

Researchers at the University of Florida are recruiting volunteers to participate in a clinical study evaluating an investigational new drug that may reduce temporary changes in hearing following music or sound exposure. Eligible volunteers must be healthy, have normal hearing and be between the ages of 18 to 31 years old. You will need to consume 3 study capsules twice a day for four continuous days, and listen to a 4 hour sound track of moderately loud rock or pop music from an Ipod. Your hearing will be tested immediately before and after the sound exposure, as well as one day and one week later. On the day of the music exposure you will need to spend approximately 10 hours at the study site at Shands Hospital. You will be required to undergo physical examinations including chest x-rays, and provide blood samples. The total time commitment for this study is approximately 20 hours over two weeks. Compensation for your time and study participation is available. To learn more, call 352-294-5101 or search keyword SPI-1005 online at: www.ctsi.ufl.edu/studyconnect/

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Opinions

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2013
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Editorial

Boston Strong: We're all with you, Boston

"We must build a civilization of love or there will be no civilization at all," Cardinal Sean O'Malley said during a special service for the victims of the bombings at last week's Boston Marathon, according to an article by the Boston Herald.

"We are all scattered in the pain and horror of this week's violence," he said in an article by CNN about the service. "Some of those here were among those injured. But everyone has been affected."

Today marks one week since the bombings took place. One week ago today, the suspected bombers took the lives of three people and injured more than 170 others.

"There were other services Sunday in Boston," continued the article. "Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders gathered for an interfaith service on Boylston Street, near the marathon finish line. A week ago, it was a place of carnage. On Sunday, it became a sanctuary — an open-air church, synagogue, mosque and temple, rolled all into one."

What we can do now, in order to not focus on the tragedy, is to focus on healing the communities affected by the sheer insanity of last week. And please don't jump on us for using the word "insanity" as if we're using the word too loosely or start berating us about the mental health care opportunities in this country. We understand there's such a thing as clinically insane people, but if you were on Twitter at any point last week, you'd understand what we mean by "insanity."

Although the remaining suspect can't articulate anything from his hospital bed, he might be formally charged, as of press time.

"Authorities have not said publicly what charges will be filed against Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, but a Justice Department official, who has been briefed on the case, told CNN he will face federal terrorism charges and possibly state murder charges."

Let the authorities handle what happens to that boy. Let us focus on helping the healing process. Take time at 2:50 p.m. to have a brief moment of silence. Remember those who lost their lives — those at the marathon as well as Massachusetts Institute of Technology officer Sean Collier, who was shot by the bombing suspects on Thursday night. Bells will ring around Boston at that time.

This weekend was the London Marathon. At the start of the race, "thousands of runners and their supporters observed a 30-second silence in a show of respect," according to an article by USA Today.

"Damian Crosby, a banker from London who was running Sunday," the article continued, "said his family would be out supporting him 'so obviously their security is in the back of my mind. But you just need to get on with it. That's the British way.'"

We're here to support. We're here to remember. We're not here to dwell or give any publicity to the suspects, regardless of how many of them are alive or able to speak in general.

Let's thank the first responders and the teams of people who combed through images and videos of the event to narrow in on our answers. Let's take a deep breath and move forward. It's a new week.

Reader response

Today's question: Have you had the stomach flu this year?

Friday's question: Are you going to the Friends of the Library book sale? **52% YES**
48% NO
52 TOTAL VOTES

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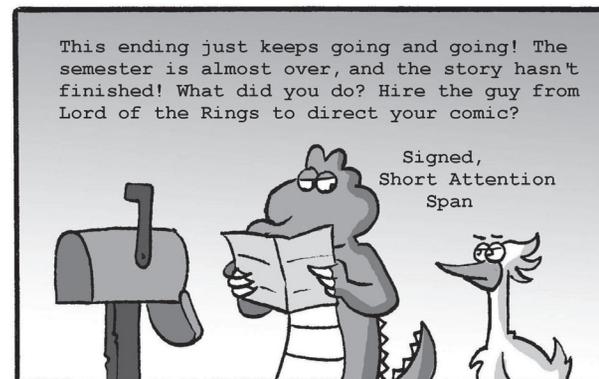
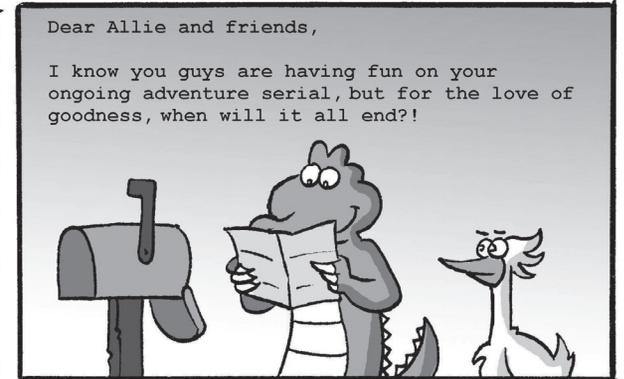
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Column

Reflecting on my college experience

This is the end, my only friends, the end.

We've done it: another school year come and gone like a hobo running away after he's finished masturbating in the parking lot behind Leonardo's.

For me, it's the last one. This time two weeks from now, I'll be a college graduate. I've gotten a lot of help from a lot of people on the way to this point, so I want to use this space to thank them.

First, I'd like to thank Sami Main, the Alligator's opinions editor, for supporting me even when various Internet commenters called in no uncertain terms for my rape, murder and firing. (Not in that order.) During the Neal Boortz fiasco earlier this semester, she wrote a kick-a-- editorial backing me up. (By the way, the headline for that editorial was one of the best burns I've ever seen in print.)

It probably would've been easy for her to disown me, print a retraction and go on like nothing happened. Instead, she laughed with me at the haters and sent them a love letter with more snark than a Lewis Carroll poem. Everyone needs to remember the name Sami Main because 10 years from now she's gonna be working with Tina Fey while we're all flipping burgers and stealing change from homeless people.

That reminds me: I need to thank everyone who's ever helped me out financially. I'm worse with money than Antoine Walker, which explains why I'm eternally broke. So many people have been there for me at one time or another, in ways both big and small, it amazes me.

Maybe it was just buying me a burger or paying me \$50 to lay mulch for a day or letting me borrow rent money while I was waiting on a paycheck. I don't have enough space here to list everyone or to fully express how much it's meant to me to be the recipient of this wonderful outpouring, but just know: If you've ever given me money or food or helped me in any other way, I won't forget. Maybe someday I'll be not broke, and then, boy, things are gonna turn around for you and ol' Dallin.

Until then, you kinda have to settle for old-fashioned, heartfelt gratitude.

Lastly, I'd like to thank every professor who's dealt with



Dallin Kelson
opinions@alligator.org

the headache that is having me in a class.

I'll be the first to admit it: I'm a self-important a--hole with an overinflated opinion of my own abilities. I like to write really ambitious papers, and I don't always succeed, so what I turn in is often a terrible version of an essay that ends

with me basically saying, "I tried, and I failed. Oops."

I can't imagine having to grade my s---. So thanks for putting up with me, teach! Beyond that, I've learned an astonishing amount about literature, philosophy and life from all of you.

If I have one piece of advice for young underclassmen or incoming collegians, it's this: Listen to your profs. They've been around the allegorical block, they've written a lot and read a lot more, and they've got some ideas that'll change the way you see everything. I'll never forget the day Dr. Shoaf told me, "Singularity is analogous to insanity," or when Dr. Dunkle (my mentor at community college) said, "You know, a man can buy a degree, but he can't buy an education."

That's the truest thing I've learned in college. There's a way to get through without learning anything: Trust me, I've seen it done and did it for a while. It wasn't until I started reading the material, listening in class and really thinking about what I was learning that college started to make sense to me.

College is the time to find as many ideas as you can, get as much information about them as possible and then pick the ones you like best. Don't be scared of thinking! It's never bad to have an open mind.

Anyway, this is supposed to be an opinion column — even though most of the time I kinda just ramble incoherently about nothing because I'm an incorrigible jacka--. So, here's my opinion for today and for forever: F--- off, haters.

Dallin Kelson is an English senior at UF. His column runs on Mondays.

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

Guest column

'Legacy positions' in Student Government are unfair

I was raised on the notion that with hard work, qualifications and passion, no job or goal is out of reach.

When I came to UF, I learned that in Student Government, this is not the case. Certain positions are doled out based on organizational affiliation above all else, shutting out other potentially qualified students while making members of the "right" groups seem qualified on paper.

On Tuesday, the Student Senate heard Swamp Party president-elect Christina Bonarrigo's nominations for the executive branch. Many of these applicants were qualified and quickly confirmed. However, two nominations stood out as crony appointments based on organizational membership, a practice commonly known as "legacy positions."

The positions in question? The paid top spots of Accent Speakers Bureau and Student Government Productions, which have a combined budget of almost \$1.5 million in student money.

It is well-documented that leadership in Accent and SGP is almost always given to members of Alpha Epsilon Pi and Theta Chi fraternities.

Twenty of the last 23 Accent chairmen have been brothers in AEPi, and eight of the last 10 chairmen of SGP were members of Theta Chi. The Swamp Party's nominees this year were no different.

This situation presents two problems.

First, it is fundamentally unfair for any student to receive preferential treatment because of his or her organizational affiliation.

We all gained admission to UF

based on our qualifications, and SG positions should be evaluated no differently.

All students deserve a fair shot to earn any position offered at this university.

Another problem with legacy positions is they prevent the most qualified students from serving our campus. When the potential pool of applicants is limited to two fraternities, many qualified students (especially women) are left out of consideration.

The Student Body is best served by a large applicant pool with many qualified individuals rather than a coronation of the next person in line.

Morgan Vollrath Speaking Out

Not only are these positions paid, but they

also hold significant power. In Justin Hayes' column from April 17, we heard how Accent withholds the best seats in the house from everyday students, saving them for Accent members and other "important" students (many affiliated in some way with the SG majority party).

It's easy to see how cronyism in selecting these leaders can become cronyism during their time in office.

The Student Body should demand better from both the actions of these student leaders and the process by which they are selected. I hope you join me in demanding an end to the use of legacy positions and call on SG to fill positions based on merit instead.

Morgan Vollrath is the Senate minority leader at UF.

Guest column

Why this Christian supports marriage equality

The current Supreme Court debate over the constitutionality of California's Proposition 8 has captivated the hearts and minds of the American people, and strident voices on both sides of the issue have been making themselves known more boldly than ever before. So often I find that, as a Christian, I am expected to be a steadfast opponent of marriage equality, and it's because of this that people are often surprised to learn nothing could be further from the truth.

In my four years as a religion major, I've studied the Bible extensively and discovered it doesn't say much about same-sex relationships. In fact, it's possible to count the number of references to homosexuality on two hands, an indication it wasn't that important of a topic for the authors of the Bible.

In the Old Testament, injunctions against homosexual practice occur alongside laws that prohibit eating shellfish (Leviticus 11:9-12) and wearing clothing woven from two different fabrics (Leviticus 19:19). This makes sense when one views the Levitical law as Israel's means of distinguishing itself from its pagan neighbors. For the priestly authors of Leviticus, then, breaking one of these statutes was not committing an ethical wrong but a ritual one. In the New Testament, references to homosexuality are conspicuously absent in the teachings of Jesus and primarily referred to male prostitution and pederasty in the letters of Paul.

These practices were common in the Greek world at the time and are a far cry from the kind of monogamous relationships we think of today when we talk about same-sex relationships.

Going beyond the realm of Biblical studies, anyone who has studied Christian history knows gays are just another group in a long line of "others" (Jews, "heretics," women, African-Americans, etc.) Christians have persecuted over the years by misusing and misinterpreting the Bible.

But a bunch of scholarly literature about the Bible and homosexuality wasn't what made me a supporter of LGBT rights. It was one of the most fundamental aspects of my faith — loving relationships.

It was only when I heard some of the heartbreaking stories told by gay men and women that I really came to understand how serious an issue this was.

After all, it's difficult to really see things from someone else's point of view when you build up barriers by living in a world dominated by theory and rhetoric, a world devoid of any notion of dialogue and true understanding.

How can you judge something you don't really understand? Particularly touching was the story of a gay Christian who had contemplated suicide because he thought God had made a mistake when he made him.

One need not be a Christian to realize just how toxic a theology this is.

Put frankly, I believe in a God of love, one who accepts us and loves us for who we are.

Jordan Kassabaum Speaking Out

When I hear stories like this, I wonder if the Christians who convinced this young man he was an abomination

ever stopped to think if what they were doing felt like love, whether it felt like Jesus. I find it extremely unlikely anyone would consciously choose a life of persecution, so we are left to contend with the cold, hard fact that being gay is not a choice — and if it's not a choice, how can God punish someone for being who they really are?

As Christians, we should be fighting for justice and for the dignity of all people — gay or straight, black or white, Hindu or Muslim.

Just like we are all equal in the eyes of God, we should all be equal in the eyes of the law.

All Christians are supposed to strive to live like Jesus, right? So, like Jesus, let's stand with the marginalized and oppressed. Like Jesus, let's be advocates for love and human dignity.

My prayer, then, is this: "[L]et justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream," (Amos 5:24).

Jordan Kassabaum is a classical studies and religion senior at UF.

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UF not springing on admissions

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KELSEY WONDERLIN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Although other schools are increasing freshmen Spring admissions, UF is not.

During the last few years, more and more colleges, like the University of Southern California, have been sending acceptance letters for the Spring semester to students who applied for the Fall semester, according to an article in The New York Times.

However, UF undergraduate Spring admissions are exclusively for transfer students, said UF spokesman Steve Orlando. UF has seen a small increase in Spring transfer students, accepting about 50 more students each year for the past three years.

The exception to limiting Spring admission is the option for freshmen to apply for UF's Innovation Academy, which offers an alternate undergraduate experience with a Spring-Summer schedule and an emphasis on innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and ethics, Orlando said.

Italo Lenta, operations coordinator for the Innovation Academy, said it allows more students to become Florida Gators. According to the UF Office of Institutional Planning and Research, about 30,000 prospective students apply each year for one of about 6,500 available spots in UF's Fall class.

"Every year, UF has to turn away thousands of talented students," Lenta said. "The Innovation Academy allows the university to take more cream off the top of the crop."

Orlando said with more students taking classes in the Summer semesters, the academy also makes use of facilities that were previously underused.

Brittany Van Voorhees, a 20-year-old UF telecommunication sophomore, said a program like the Innovation Academy would probably have been helpful to her in adjusting to UF as a freshman. She said she had such a negative experience she almost transferred to another school. Pressured by her parents to head straight to Gainesville and start at Santa Fe College in the Fall of 2011, she said never got to experience living on campus and struggled to meet people.

Unlike Voorhees' experience, the new undergraduate program is apparently well-accepted by students. Orlando said the academy received between 2,500 and 3,000 applications for next year's class, up from about 1,500 applications received for this year's inaugural class.

Although students in the academy won't be enrolled in classes for the football-filled Fall semester, Lenta said they can use this time to study abroad, do service projects, or get internships or jobs. He said many students choose to work or intern in Gainesville during the Fall so they can still go to football games and familiarize themselves with the campus and resources.

"They have the free time to become a part of the community here and learn what they're interested in before they start classes," Lenta said.



Matthew Riva / Alligator

Another Book in the Wall

Tristan Erickson, a 6-year-old Gainesville resident, looks through the children's books at the Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale on Saturday afternoon.

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2br/2ba, 1000sq' house for rent in quiet n'hood; June; close to campus, downtown, I75; built-in bkcases, desk, storage; w/d; galley kitch w/ eat-in counter, stools; encl porch 3625 sw 19 street. call: 352-870-1195 6-4-13-25-2

COUNTRYSIDE 4BR/4BA, furnished common area. Individual leases available. Main bus route. Unit next to pool. \$375/room/mo incl all utilis & internet. Available mid-May. 561-718-7637 or 561-582-1031 5-23-11-20-2

Beautiful, Recently Reduced Apt at Campus Edge 3/2 (\$1195/month) and 2/2 (\$949/month). Walk to SW Rec and Shands. Perfect for Grad Students. W/D and appliances included. Call 954-325-6375 for details 4-22-13-14-2

Walk 1 block to Shands, VA, Vet, dental, nursing, pharmacy Schools; UF Campus. \$550 mo. Spacious, Pool, Laundry, One BR \$550, 2 BR 650. New carpet, tile, paint, cabinets. 352 284 3873;postj@bellsouth.net 5-23-13-20-2

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.

2 For Rent unfurnished

LOTS OF GREEN SPACE

● 1BR Cottage w/ screen porch. \$550/mo.
● 2BR House \$700/mo
Call 352-372-1201 or 352-213-3901 8-14-13-25-2

1100 sq ft 3BR/1BA HOUSE. Wood floor in living room, screened-in large back porch, all kitchen appliances including W/D are 1 yr old. Fenced-in backyard. \$1100/mo Avail Aug 1st. Call 352-258-9116 to see. 5-14-13-15-2

1700 sq ft 3BR/2BA HOUSE. Wood floors, screened-in large back porch, W/D, corner lot. \$1400/mo. Avail Starting August 1st. Call 352-258-9116 to see. 5-14-13-15-2

Traffic a hassle?
Move into your own downtown apt!
www.ArlingtonSquare.org
Studios to 3bdrms from \$625
Check Specials Today! 338-0002 4-24-13-10-2

3035 SWARCHER RD 2BR 2.5BH LIV ROOM
KITCHEN LAUNDRY CONVENIENCE TO
UF BUS SHOPPING AVAILABLE NOW
RENT \$875 1M SECURITY
PH 732 939 2909 SHUKLA.R@ATT.NET
4-24-13-4-2

3BR/3BA House with Garage and fenced back yard. Close to UF/Shands, shopping, and bus route. Open floor plan/cathedral ceilings. W/D, lawn maintenance, and pest control all included. Quiet neighborhood, available Aug, \$1375/month. Contact tonyc@kinetixpt.com or 352-246-5958. 5-30-13-10-2

1/1 Condo/Apt at Campus Edge (\$750/month). Clean, bright, modern, quiet. Walk to campus, Shands, VA, Vet school, SW Rec & more. Appliances incl full size W/D. Pool. Gym. Call/Text 904-568-0221 for details. 5-30-13-10-2

Two blocks from UF Stadium
Recently remodeled 3 Bed 1 Bath,
Available August
352-377-2930 5-14-13-5-2

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.

Reletting a 1/1 in a 4BR/4BA @ UCLUB APT: \$395/MO. Fully furnished. EARLY MAY-JULY 31. Includes utilities,cable, Wifi, washer & dryer. Bus rts. 9,35,36. Pool/gym/ Computerlab. Contact: 727-288-8408/ss-chwerer@ufl.edu 4-23-13-7-3

Subleasing 1 or 2 bedrooms in 3bd/2ba townhouse behind sorority row, 5 min walk from campus. Private parking and W/D included. \$460/mo; May-August. Price negotiable. LHenry91@ufl.edu or 941-780-0476 4-24-13-5-3

PERFECT SUMMER 2013 SUBLEASE!
Willing to negotiate \$700/MO. 1/1 @ Oxford Manor across the street from UF. Upscale & Gated, 24hr Gym, Rockwall, and pool. Contact 727-542-1597 or asullardb@gmail.com 4-24-13-4-3

4 Roommates

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.

4 Roommates

Beautifully renovated, furnished condo, 1 mile from UF, \$369/MO includes cable, internet, utilities, pool + fitness room and on bus route. Female roommate needed, 352 262-3291 6-20-13-23-4

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

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.

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. 8-14-13-25-6

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC
Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 8-14-13-25-6

6 Furnishings

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400
Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 8-14-13-25-6

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. 8-14-25-6

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 8-14-25-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather. Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 8-14-25-6

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 8-14-25-6

BEDS - ALL BRAND NEW
Full \$100 Queen \$125 King \$200
Orthopedic pillow-top sets. Brand name matching sets not used or refurbished. Still in plastic, direct from factory! 352-333-7516. 8-14-25-6

BED- QUEEN New orthopedic pillowtop mattress and boxspring set. Brand name, brand new, still in plastic with warranty. Can deliver. \$130 352-377-9846. 8-14-25-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW
Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 8-14-13-25-6

Another Saturday night without a date?
Read The Alligator.

7 Computers

COMPUTER & LAPTOP REPAIRS
Network specialists
We buy computers and laptops
Working and Non-working
378-4009, 607 NW 13th Street
4-24-13-12-7

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

10 For Sale

●UF Surplus On-Line Auctions●
are underway...bikes, computers, furniture, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: SURPLUS.UFL.EDU 392-0370 8-14-13-25-10

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

\$700 Sunfish 14 ft.Sailboat
like new; with trailer. all original hardware, mahogany dagger board and rudder, rainbow sail, 352 376 0080; postj@bellsouth. 4-24-13-16-10

10 For Sale

BOOKS: Alors! Wolfclaw zee cocker spaniel ees missing! Why? Learn zee terrible truth in Clumsy Hearts, a slightly misguided romance, by Hysteria Molt. Available via Amazon.com. 4-24-13-6-10

14' HOBIE CAT SAILBOAT
READY FOR SUMMER! (turbo w/ jib) w/ trailer. (One can sail or more.) \$1200. Keystone Heights. Call 352-473-5951 or 904-945-1565 5-14-13-5-10

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

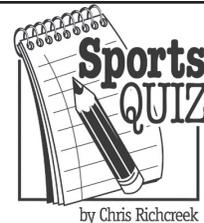
Alligator Classifieds is the way to get your 2 wheels on the road. Show off your bikes, scooters, and repair services. Call 373-FIND to get your classified in.

★★★★ MOTORCYCLE TIRE SALE ★★★★★
SPORT, STREET, CRUISER, OFF-ROAD.
OVER 400 TIRES IN STOCK.
MENTION THIS AD FOR \$10.00 OFF.
RPM MOTORCYCLES 352-377-6974
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



by Chris Richcreek

1. Name the last Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher before A.J. Burnett in 2012 to win at least eight consecutive decisions.
2. Who was the last starting pitcher before Detroit's Justin Verlander in 2011 to win the Cy Young Award and the Most Valuable Player Award in the same season?
3. In the 2012 season, Southern Cal's Marqise Lee set a Pac-12 single-season record with 118 receptions. Who had held the mark?
4. In 2012, center Andrew Bynum became the fifth Laker to have 30 or more rebounds in a game. Name three of the first four to do it.
5. Anaheim rookie Viktor Fasth, in 2013, became the third goalie in NHL history to win his first eight games. Name either of the first two to do it.
6. Five athletes won at least five medals each at the 2012 Summer Olympics. Name the only one of the five not from the U.S.
7. Golfer Tiger Woods set a record of consecutive tournaments without missing a cut. How many was it?

Answers

1. Dock Ellis, in 1974.
2. Boston's Roger Clemens, in 1986.
3. Teammate Robert Woods had 111 receptions in 2011.
4. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Elgin Baylor, Wilt Chamberlain and George Mikan.
5. Ottawa's Ray Emery (2003-05) and Philadelphia's Bob Froese (1982-83).
6. Australian swimmer Alicia Coutts.
7. It was 142 consecutive cuts (1998-2005).

SCRABBLE BRAND G₂ R₁ A₁ M₃ S₁

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A ₁	I ₁	K ₅	N ₁	R ₁	F ₄	T ₁			
A ₁	E ₁	I ₁	S ₁	L ₁	V ₄	R ₁			
A ₁	E ₁	E ₁	U ₁	R ₁	S ₁	F ₄	3rd Letter Double		
A ₁	O ₁	Y ₄	L ₁	F ₄	F ₄	P ₃	Triple Word Score		

PAR SCORE 150-160
BEST SCORE 241

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.

04-22

MOST WANTED

John Walter Simmons
Black Male
(DOB 02/04/81); 5'11",
230 lbs, Black Hair,
Brown Eyes

Wanted for:
Possession of
Marijuana with Intent
to Sell and Possession
of Drug Equipment

ALACHUA COUNTY
CRIME STOPPERS
Call (352) 372-STOP

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

★★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

★★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

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

STORAGE for your scooter, bike, or motorcycle is available at Road Rat Motors for only \$100 for the full summer or \$50 for half! Indoor, secure storage to keep your investment safe! Limited spaced available. (352) 376-6275
4-24-13-6-11

13 Wanted

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

14 Help Wanted

alligator
Advertising Office Manager/
National Account Executive

The Independent Florida Alligator, the largest student run newspaper in the country, is seeking to hire someone with the following qualifications.

- Full Time position
- Enthusiastic
- Detail oriented
- Excellent organizational skills
- Office Administrative skills, clerical skills
- Ability to multitask and meet deadlines
- Excellent customer service skills
- Head national sales with the newspaper
- Ability to train new employees
- Experienced with Microsoft Office
- Great communication skills, personable
- Quick learner
- Help manage team of constantly changing student sales staff

- Nonprofit organization
- Modest Salary
- Great working environment
- Generous holiday and vacation benefits

Send cover letter and resume to tcarey@alligator.org to be considered for an interview. No phone calls please. EOE

★★★★Road Rat Motors★★★★
Largest Scooter Store in Town! Run by Gator Grads! New scooters starting at \$999. 1-2yr warranties with roadside assistance included. 376-6275 RoadRatMotors.com 8-14-13-25-11

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

SWAMP CYCLES ● Closest to campus. MMI Certified Mechanics for Motorcycles and experienced scooter mechanics. Lowest prices. Friendly service. 633 NW 13th Street, 373-8823, www.swampcycles.com 4-24-58-11

Road Rat Motors offers FREE pickup service for any paid scooter repair. LOWEST labor rate, quickest turnaround in town! Will repair ANY brand scooter. Free estimates. 376-6275. RoadRatMotors.com 8-14-13-25-11

12 Autos

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
8-14-25-12

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

BRING YOUR W2
AND DRIVE TODAY!!!!
NO MONEY DOWN!!!!
VEHICLES \$1000 & UP!!
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

94 Ford Explorer \$1000
94 Mazda Protege \$1500
96 Cadillac Deville \$1500
98 Cadillac Catera \$1999
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

95 Honda Civic \$3999
96 Honda Accord \$3999
00 Hyundai Elantra \$4999
95 Lexus GS300 \$4999
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

03 Chevy Impala \$5999
99 Honda Accord \$4999
04 Saturn Ion \$6999
02 Buick Lesabre \$6999
352-338-1999 4-24-72-12

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

BRING YOUR W2
AND DRIVE TODAY!!!!
NO MONEY DOWN!!!!
WILL FINANCE ANYONE!!
352-375-9090 4-24-72-12

04 Nissan Sentra \$6999
02 Toyota Corolla \$6999
06 Mits Galant \$7999
04 Toyota Corolla \$8999
352-375-9090 4-24-72-12

04 Volvo S40 \$8999
04 Ford F150 \$8999
03 Nissan Frontier \$9999
06 Chevy Silverado \$9999
352-375-9090 4-24-54-12

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

GOODYEAR ASSURANCE FUEL MAX
TIRES 215-55-17 V-Rated. 4000 miles.
Removed from new car. 352-375-2310
4-24-13-3-12

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.

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
8-14-25-13

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.

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 depends on monetary support from individual donors and community businesses in order to help feed the homeless and the hungry.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Stephanie Breval at (352) 378-9079 or sfhcoor@stfrancis.cfcoxmail.com

To make a donation by mail, please send checks payable to St. Francis House P.O. Box 12491 Gainesville, FL 32604

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
4-24-13-72-13

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

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.

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.

alligator
WEB PRODUCTION

Seeking staff members for the web production team at alligator.org. Interested candidates should possess the following:

- Familiarity with media production tools such as Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Premiere, etc. Familiarity with a web-based CMS and/or web coding basics will receive extra consideration.
- An ability to learn and work with new programs quickly and efficiently
- Deep interest in the growth and development of new media
- Skill in producing not only the written, but audio and visual components of media segments and graphics.
- The desire to make a lasting impact on a UF tradition in a shifting media landscape.

Send all inquiries with resume direct to Evan Walker, Managing Editor/Online at ewalker@alligator.org

alligator
Daytime Advertising
Production

The Independent Florida Alligator Advertising Production Department is accepting **student applications**. Duties include graphic design and organizational layout.

Will train, but experience with Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator is preferred. Friendly work environment, flexible schedule, with hours between 9 am - 5 pm M-F.

Must be available to work Summer C and be currently enrolled in classes. A one-year commitment is expected.

Fill out an application at the front desk of The Alligator, 1105 W University Ave, M-F 9 am - 5 pm. No phone calls, please.

Include available work schedule and references. Previous applicants are welcome to reapply with current schedule. EOE

Lexington Crossing
APARTMENTS
352.373.9009

Relax...it's all included!

- Individual leases, Roommate Matching
- Minutes to UF & SFC, On Bus Routes 9, 34 & 62
- All Utilities, Cable & Internet included
- 2 Resort-style Pools, 2 Fitness Centers

RATES AS LOW AS \$420

And Much, Much More!

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Switchblade
 - 5 French revolutionary who was murdered in a tub
 - 10 Hard to outfit
 - 14 Trumpet muffler
 - 15 Rolled out of bed
 - 16 One-named Gaelic folk singer
 - 17 Bear in two constellations
 - 18 Pro cager
 - 19 Folsky Joan
 - 20 Behavior of a community
 - 23 Martini liquor
 - 24 AOL chat components
 - 25 Turkish ___: spas
 - 28 24-hour auto race city
 - 30 "Star Trek" catchphrase
 - 33 Standing straight
 - 34 Aim for pins
 - 35 "How come?"
 - 36 Storage items near outdoor faucets
 - 40 Satisfied sigh
 - 43 Sox player, e.g.
 - 44 Preface, briefly
 - 48 Military officer's ride
 - 51 Attempt to cool, as steaming hot soup
 - 52 Prefix with foam
 - 53 Maglie or Mineo
 - 54 Unlock, poetically
 - 55 Nurturing network of family and friends, and a hint to the starts of 20-, 30-, 36- and 48-Across
 - 60 Corn cob pipe part
 - 62 "The First Time ___ Saw Your Face"
 - 63 Speech problem
 - 64 Stay fresh
 - 65 Dig artifact
 - 66 Send out, as rays
 - 67 500-mile race, familiarly
 - 68 Phones on stage, e.g.
 - 69 Contradict
- DOWN**
- 1 Bring across the border illegally
 - 2 One in a rush
 - 3 "Your money's no good here!"
 - 4 Calf meat, in Provence
 - 5 Coated buttonlike candies
 - 6 "Slicing Up Freshness" fast-food chain
 - 7 Reddish horse
 - 8 On the ocean
 - 9 ___ paper: school composition
 - 10 Device for a Skype chat
 - 11 Very agitated
 - 12 Soap ingredient
 - 13 '60s-'80s Red Sox legend, familiarly
 - 21 Ford named for a horse
 - 22 Selectric maker
 - 26 "Whadja say?"
 - 27 Double agent
 - 29 "Oh" de Cologne?
 - 30 Drilling tool
 - 31 Potter's pitcher
 - 32 Tavern brew
 - 34 Lugosi who played Dracula
 - 37 Cul-de-___
 - 38 Pharmaceutical giant Eli
 - 39 ___Globe: shakable collectible
 - 40 Balaam's mount
 - 41 Lawyer: Abbr.
 - 42 Country bumpkin
 - 45 Double-cross
 - 46 Lures by phishing, say
 - 47 Afraid of running out, gas gauge-wise
 - 49 Drably unattractive
 - 50 Ascot wearer
 - 51 Fundamentals
 - 53 Word after comic or landing
 - 56 Cop's suspect
 - 57 Eggs ___ easy
 - 58 Move, in brokerese
 - 59 Winter toy
 - 60 Tackle a slope
 - 61 Olympic diver's perfection

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	S	N	S		G	A	R	B	O		O	P	E	D	
C	L	A	W		O	N	I	O	N		B	A	L	I	
H	I	V	E		M	I	D	D	L	E	A	G	E	D	
O	P	A			I	A	M				Y	E	M	E	N
O	B	J	E	T	D	A	R	T			G	A	B	O	N
L	Y	O	N	S		L	A	R	A	S		O	R	E	
					D	O	E	W	I	G		O	Y	E	Z
					M	I	N	C	E	D	O	A	T	H	S
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xwordeditor@aol.com 04/22/13

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Missouri snaps Florida's eight-game winning streak

ADAM PINCUS
Alligator Staff Writer

Florida fell behind for the third straight game against Missouri. Unlike the previous two contests, Sunday's series finale ended in UF's first loss in two weeks.

The Tigers (12-23, 5-13 South-eastern Conference) plated two runs off right-hander Tucker Simpson in the first inning on Sunday afternoon at Taylor Stadium in Columbia, Mo., to snap the Gators' (22-19, 10-8 SEC) eight-game winning streak.

"We came from behind on Friday against a really good Friday night pitcher. All in all, it was a successful weekend."

Kevin O'Sullivan
UF coach

Simpson allowed two runs in 2.2 innings during UF's 8-2 loss. The Florida offense wasted a chance to score in the fourth inning with runners on second and third with no outs. A strikeout, fly out and groundout ended the promising start to the fourth and changed the game.

"I thought that was the ball game to be quite honest with you," coach Kevin O'Sullivan said. "It was a shame. We needed to put the ball in play."

Freshman left-hander Parker Danciu replaced Simpson with the bases loaded and two outs in the bottom of the third. He induced an inning-ending ground ball to second baseman Casey Turgeon

from catcher Dylan Kelly.

Before the ninth, Taylor Gushue's solo home run off left-hander Jake Walsh marked Florida's only run. Brady Roberson scored on a groundball from Turgeon in the ninth for UF's second run on Sunday. Walsh allowed just three base runners in 3.2 innings of relief for the victory.

Right-hander John Miles earned his second save with a seven-out appearance.

Missouri scored two runs in each of its final three innings. It wasn't a sharp performance from Florida without the solid defense and effective bullpen that became a fixture during its winning streak. Seven base runners reached on two-strike counts with three of those two-strike hits resulting in runs. A fielding error and a hesitant throw on a double play opportunity by third baseman Zack Powers led to two runs in the sixth.

Despite the lackluster finale, there was plenty to be happy about. Florida has won three of its last four conference series.

"We had a heck of a ball game [on Saturday] and came out here with a win in a 15-inning ball game with a lot of guys contributing," O'Sullivan said. "We came from behind on Friday against a really good Friday night pitcher. All in all it was a successful weekend."

Magliozzi closes in on school record: It took longer than usual on Saturday for Johnny Magliozzi to pick up his 11th save of the season.

He not only tossed his first pitch in the 15th, but he also walked a batter, allowed a hit and threw a wild pitch. He stranded the tying and game-winning runs.

Florida hosts South Florida (26-14) Tuesday night at 7. Magliozzi sits two saves shy of the

single season school record set by Danny Wheeler in 1994 and Josh Fogg in 1998.

"It's not always going to be 1-2-3. I wouldn't trade Mags for anybody in the country," O'Sullivan said Saturday night. "I think that's his 11th save on

the year. He wants the ball. With the game on the line like that, I wouldn't want anybody else having the ball for us."

A radio broadcast contributed to this report.

Contact Adam Pincus at apincus@alligator.org.



Ryan Jones / Alligator Staff

Florida players lean on the dugout railing while watching the Gators' 14-5 win against South Carolina on April 13 at McKethan Stadium. Missouri snapped UF's eight-game winning streak on Sunday.

SOFTBALL

Junior ace breaks out of slump by tossing no-hitter

ADAM LICHTENSTEIN
Alligator Staff Writer

After three mediocre starts against Mississippi State and Kentucky, Hannah Rogers had something to prove.

The junior right-hander had surrendered 11 earned runs in her three previous games, including a five-run inning against the Bulldogs on April 7. But Rogers put any doubts to rest in No. 3 Florida's 8-0 run-rule victory against Longwood on Sunday at Katie Seashole Pressly Stadium.

Rogers completed the No. 3 Gators' (45-5, 14-4 Southeastern Conference) sweep of the Lancers (33-14, 13-5 Big South Conference) with six hitless innings.

"It was exciting," Rogers said. "I just felt like all my pitches were working. ... The past couple weeks, I've just been struggling a bit

with some of my pitches."

Rogers had one of her best outings of the season on Sunday, striking out eight in six innings without walking a batter.

The lone blemish on Rogers' line came in the third inning when Longwood center fielder Katie Shinrock reached base on an error by shortstop Katie Medina. The error was the only thing separating Rogers from her first career perfect game.

"I think she was a quick runner," Rogers said. "I went up to Katie and told her, 'Thank you for taking the error for me.' If she would have got the ball, she might have had a chance to beat it out, and then they could have got a hit."

Rogers otherwise silenced a lineup that had three batters hitting over .400 coming into the weekend, including catcher Megan Baltzell, who leads the NCAA with 23 home runs.

"Longwood's got a good swinging team,"

coach Tim Walton said. "They can hit the ball."

The top three hitters in the Lancers' lineup — Kori Nishitomi, Baltzell and Brooke Short — went 5 for 27 over the weekend. Against Rogers, the trio went 2 for 16.



Rogers

Rogers' no-hitter came just a day after she dominated the Lancers in a complete-game victory in the series opener. On Saturday, Rogers allowed a run while striking out 11 in the Gators' 5-1 win.

Rogers commanded her pitches well against Longwood, striking out 19 batters in her two games without issuing a free pass.

The no-hitter was Rogers' second of the year. The first came in Florida's 9-1 win against Mississippi State on April 5. Rogers' first no-

hitter was also a six-inning game. She also contributed to UF's combined perfect game against Presbyterian on March 3.

The last time a Florida pitcher threw two solo no-hitters was Stacey Nelson, who held against Arkansas and Ole Miss hitless in 2009.

But while the Lancers struggled to get the bat on the ball, the Gators' bats came alive, scoring 22 runs in the series.

Third baseman Stephanie Tofft led the offensive barrage, going 8 for 10 at the plate with three home runs, two doubles and a triple. The junior drove in nine runs during the weekend, raising her batting average from .282 to .319, the second-highest on the team.

"It's been a while since I've felt like this," Tofft said.

Added Walton: "I haven't seen a hitter have a week like that."

Contact Adam Lichtenstein at alichtenstein@alligator.org.



Junior tennis player Alex Cercone has returned to form this spring after a tough fall season. See story, page 15.

Againesville

The Florida women's tennis team clinched its fourth consecutive Southeastern Conference Tournament championship on Saturday in Starkville, Miss. Read the story online at alligatorSports.org.

Gators in the NBA

Golden State Warriors forward David Lee will miss the remainder of the postseason after suffering a torn hip flexor in a 97-95 loss to the Denver Nuggets on Saturday.

Sloan: 'It feels pretty dang good'

GYM, from page 1

In Florida's next event, Johnson, King and Hunter tallied three scores of 9.9 on the vault. Sloan, the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Year then added a score of 9.95, giving Florida a 148.1 after three events.

After losing their lead to the Crimson Tide on the final rotation at the 2012 NCAA Championships, the Gators needed a strong finish this season. Uneven bars was a welcome sight for UF.

As the nation's top-ranked team on uneven bars prior to the

NCAA Championships, Florida made its final push in its best event.

After Bianca Dancose-Giambattisto and King led off the rotation with scores of 9.85 and 9.875, respectively, the rest of the rotation picked up the slack. Sloan, Johnson and Mackenzie Caquatto posted scores of 9.9 or higher to secure the Gators' first title.

"My voice is basically gone. That's what we wanted to do — leave here with no voice," Sloan said. "We left everything out on the floor. This event does not compare to worlds or the Olympics,

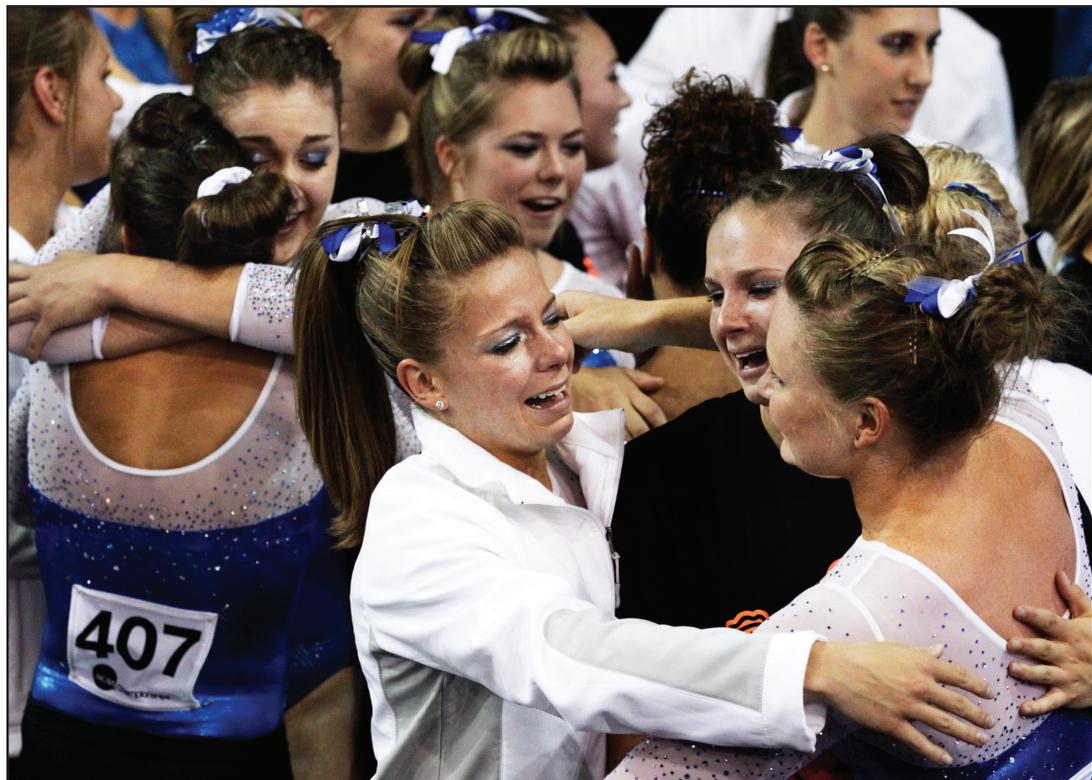
but it feels pretty dang good."

After winning the top prize on Saturday, Florida swept the individual event finals.

Alaina Johnson won the uneven bars title, and Sloan claimed the beam and vault championships.

Despite missing time due to a stress fracture this season, Johnson scored a 9.95 on uneven bars. Sloan and Mackenzie Caquatto came in a tie for third with a score of 9.9.

Sloan scored the only 9.95 on balance beam to take the outright victory.



AP Photo

Florida celebrates its victory at the NCAA Championships on Saturday in Los Angeles. Florida posted a team score of 197.575, which edged second-place Oklahoma's tally of 197.375. The victory gave the Gators their first national championship.

Lacrosse

No. 4 Florida (16-1, 4-1 American Lacrosse Conference) dominated defending national champion Northwestern (13-2, 4-1 ALC) in a 22-4 win at home on Saturday. The Gators defense held the Wildcats to a .222 shot percentage — their lowest mark this season. The loss was the most lopsided defeat the Northwestern lacrosse team has ever suffered.

Men's Tennis

After sweeping No. 6 seed South Carolina on Friday, third-seeded Florida saw its four-match winning streak end in a 4-2 loss to No. 2 seed Tennessee in the Southeastern Conference Tournament semifinals on Saturday in Oxford, Miss. The Gators fell behind 1-0 as the Volunteers took the doubles point. UT's Mikelis Libietis, the No. 3 player in the country, was too much for UF to handle Saturday. He defeated junior Stephane Piro 6-2, 6-4 on Court 1. Along with Hunter Reese, Libietis knocked off Piro and senior Bob van Overbeek 8-4 in doubles play.

Women's Tennis

No. 3 Florida upset top-ranked Georgia 4-0 on Sunday to grab its fourth consecutive Southeastern Conference title. Florida earned 4-1 victories against Vanderbilt in the quarterfinals and Texas A&M in the semifinals. The Gators struggled in doubles play during the weekend, dropping the doubles point in their matches against the Commodores and the Aggies. But UF changed its luck in doubles against UGA. Freshmen Danielle Collins and Brianna Morgan grabbed an 8-3 win on their court. Lauren Embree and Sofie Oyen defeated top-ranked doubles pairing Kate Fuller and Silvia Garcia for a 9-8 victory. Florida's 2013 SEC title is its 19th conference championship.

Track

Florida won eight events and set eight personal-best marks on Saturday during their final home meet — the Tom Jones Memorial Classic. Junior Stephanie Strasser set a personal best while winning the women's 1500m — an event the Gators swept, finishing in all three top spots. Florida also swept the men's 3000m and hammer throw, winning the top four spots in each. This weekend's Arkansas Spring Invitational is the last regular season meet for Florida before the SEC Championships.

Golf

Both teams had a disappointing finish at the SEC Championships as the men's team finished in 10th place and the women's team finished in 13th. The men's team finished 32 strokes (+40) behind champion Alabama (+8). Senior captain Tyler McCumber was the lone bright spot during the weekend. McCumber finished tied for third after shooting one under par for the tournament. The women's squad struggled as well, losing to champion Alabama by 53 strokes (+88). The best finisher for the Gators was sophomore Camilla Hedberg, who finished tied for 23rd (+16). Both teams will compete in the NCAA Regionals, which begin on May 16 for the men and May 9 for the women.

Shawn Janetzke / Alligator staff

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The Fighter: Junior rising to occasion for championship team

MICHELLE PROVENZANO

Alligator Writer

To teammate Lauren Embree, Alexandra Cercone is a "fighter."

However, Cercone considers herself just another player on the team.

The 21-year-old may be just competitive in her own terms, but the junior tennis player has proven herself in a new way for the Gators.

"Mentally, she's at a completely different level now than she was in the fall," coach Roland Thornqvist said. "The higher the stakes, the better she is."

Cercone dropped five singles matches during the fall season and only won six. Once 2013 began, Cercone found her niche controlling the court, earning an 18-2 singles record.

"When we play big matches. Alex (Cercone) is someone we can count on every time."

-Roland Thornqvist
UF coach

"I kind of have this problem with expectations," Cercone said of her slump in the fall.

"I put a lot of pressure on myself, and I always wanted to do well individually because that's your sort of moment of an accomplishment that is solely your own. Focusing on that didn't work in my favor."

However, Cercone's success at Florida almost never happened.

Cercone dreamed of playing tennis on the West Coast because of the high level of competition that it offered and the appeal of being away from home. She loved the West Coast atmosphere after playing in numerous juniors tournaments there.

"I had these farfetched, romantic ideas of going far away to California," Cercone said. "I would get emails from [Thornqvist] and [associate head coach Dave Balogh] and would respond to them, but I remember deep down feeling guilty about it because I was like, 'Oh, I'm leading them on. They probably think I'm interested in their school, but I'm just trying to be polite by responding.'"

Cercone even doubted furthering her tennis career at all.

"There was an awkward space in time when I was a senior in high school, where I was too old to play the international junior tournaments but I knew I still had to compete," Cercone said.

The Seminole native competed in USC pro-circuit tournaments across the country and grew tired of it.

"I didn't know a lot of people, so I was kind of on my own a lot, which is difficult because you have to find people to practice with," Cercone said. "It was hard to have good results because there are older women competing there with tons of experience. I started to not really like that kind of lifestyle."

With the snapped allure of traveling week after week to compete, Cercone came around to the orange and blue.

"I was flying home from a USC pro-circuit event when I was kind of looking out the window to the Tampa Bay area and I was just like 'I need to go to Florida,'" Cercone said. "It just hit me."

Cercone said that longtime friend Embree also factored in to her decision on Florida. The two friends met around the age of 13, playing with and against each other in in-state juniors tournaments.

"There was a time where the only time I would be ranked No. 1 in the state was when Lauren aged out of the division," Cercone said. "So when she would be one, I would be two. And then when she moved up, I was like, 'Yes I get to be one again.'"

Once Embree grabbed a spot on the Gators' roster, Cercone said she would convince her to come to Florida, ending phone conversations with "Go Gators."

After making her decision to play for Florida, elite level tennis came quickly for Cercone, having to compete for a national title during her first year with the Gators.

Cercone slumped in the first set of the 2011 NCAA Women's Tennis Championships final, losing 6-4 to Stanford's Veronica Li. In the second, Cercone dominated en route to a 6-1 win, forcing the third. Carrying her momentum into the third, Cercone broke the 3-3 tie. She put

up a 5-3 lead and grabbed the overall win at 6-4.

"I remember people trash talking me in the stands, saying I was going to choke. And I was like 'How dare they say that I'm going to choke.' I was so mad," Cercone said of her

As a freshman, Cercone was competing at a level she never knew she could reach when she first came to Florida.

"I was a little bit intimidated at first because when I initially came in I thought I was going to be this

coming to Florida," Cercone said. "Everybody wants to compete for a national-championship team, so the fact that we did win and were able to pull it out made me feel confident in all of my life decisions at that point."

Embree added: "Never when we were 14 or 15 did we think we'd be at the same college and competing together for titles."

A second national title came for the Gators in the 2012 NCAA Tournament, but without Cercone, Florida would have been sent home in the semifinals

Facing third-seeded Duke's Mary Clayton, Cercone rallied from a 2-0 third set deficit to earn a three-set singles victory and clinch the match.

"She was just a surgeon at the end," Thornqvist said. "She put the ball where she wanted it to be."

Florida advanced to meet formerly top-ranked UCLA in the finals, and Cercone helped the Gators edge the Bruins.

In doubles, Cercone paired with Carolina Hitimana and used an ace to clinch the doubles point in the 8-5 match win.

Building on the doubles momentum, Cercone played fast and was the first Gator off the court. She swept up Chanelle Van Nguyen 6-2 in the first set and shut her out 6-0 in the second to extend a 2-0 lead over UCLA.

Now a veteran player for the Gators with back-to-back national titles and a 90-26 career singles record under her belt, Cercone's collegiate tennis career speaks for itself.

"When we play big matches, Alex is someone we can count on every time, and that's a very unique quality," Thornqvist said. "Sometimes you know what you're going to get when we recruit great players from the juniors, but with Alex, she continues to surprise us and continues to improve."

For now, Cercone values tennis and wants nothing more than another winning year for herself and the Gators.

"I'm focusing on the game now, rather than winning or losing, and it's definitely working out," Cercone said. "I'm doing a lot better."



Kelly Logan / Alligator Staff

Junior Alexandra Cercone swings during Florida's 7-0 victory against Baylor on Feb. 2 at Linder Stadium.

first NCAA Championship experience. "I just remember walking up and hitting an ace and just being like 'Yeah, take that.'"

Her singles win in the finals was her fifth consecutive in the NCAA Tournament, and she was the only Gator in school history to reach this win streak in the national competition.

really important impact player for the team," she said. "And then I was like 'Oh, well everyone else is just as good, if not better.'"

After helping the Gators win a national title, Cercone said she couldn't imagine playing anywhere else.

"Winning that solidified the fact that I had made the right decision in

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Exhibits: Preparation 6:30am-10:00am
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 free under age 6

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