

Cassie Peoples looks to help the Gators finish their regular season on a high note. Read the story on page 13.



Alcohol age limit linked to reduced drunken driving

► IT'S ALSO LINKED TO LESS SUICIDES AND ASSAULT.

NICOLE GIAQUINTO
 Alligator Contributing Writer

The legal drinking age could have tangible consequences of reducing traffic accidents, suicide and assault.

That's what the findings of a study by two Boston University School of Public Health researchers showed. A review was

published Monday by the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs.

The research, collected since 2006, indicated that the age-21 drinking laws are associated with lower rates of drunken driving accidents and other dangers of excessive drinking, including suicide, sexual assault and unprotected sex, according to the review.

UF College of Medicine professor Alex Wagenaar said there is no question that keeping the drinking age at 21 causes fewer drunken driving accidents.



Wagenaar

"It doesn't solve the problem completely, but it has a significant effect," he said.

Wagenaar has researched the effects of alcohol for many years. He wrote a book called "Alcohol, Young Drivers, and Traffic Accidents: Effects of Minimum-age Laws," in 1983, when the question of whether to lower the drinking age was being discussed.

Wagenaar said he thinks the scientific research speaks for itself in showing the realistic positives of keeping the drinking age at 21, and it's unlikely that the drinking age will be lowered any time soon.

"People don't want to deal with more teenagers dying," he said.

About 10,000 car crashes where alcohol was the leading cause were reported in 2012, according to Florida Department of Transportation data. Statewide, 25 fatal, alcohol-

SEE DRUNK, PAGE 4

CAMPUS

UF plans post-bacc for pre-health grads

CHRISTINE ALVAREZ
 Alligator Contributing Writer

UF music junior David Vega entered the university with the hopes of pursuing a career in the medical field to become the pediatrician he always wanted to be.

Even though he is a non-science major, Vega, 21, has taken the necessary prerequisite courses at UF to prepare him for medical school. But other non-science students may not have had the opportunity to take the required classes or may have changed their career choices entirely.

"It's hard to know when you're going to college what exactly you want to study and do for the rest of your life," Vega said.

In response, UF is launching a new program called

the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Pre-Health and Post-Baccalaureate Program, which allows graduates to take the prerequisite courses necessary to apply to health professional graduate programs such as medical or dental school.

"The college saw that that need was there, and so we wanted to create something that could help fulfill that need," said Christine Richmond, an academic adviser for the college and one of the administrators for the program.

Students who have always wanted to attend UF for pre-health courses will have the opportunity to do so with the program, she said.

"A lot of students really

SEE MED, PAGE 4



Matthew Martyr / Alligator Staff

Poppin' Off

UF students attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most people popping bubble wrap at one time in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom on Tuesday evening. Read the story on page 4.

Gators consider LGBT fraternity chapters with national wave

Any group can register at UF

AMY LUNAK
 Alligator Contributing Writers

Fraternities and sororities geared toward LGBT students have been founding new chapters at universities around the country, leading some to question whether a chapter could be founded at UF.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said any

group could be a registered organization on campus as long as it adheres to the nondiscrimination language that exists at UF.

"Putting together or founding an LGBT Greek letter organization would not be difficult," she said.

The only way an LGBT fraternity or sorority can join one of the four social Greek councils is if the chapter is chartered by a

national organization.

Two of the most prominently LGBT-friendly Greek organizations, Delta Lambda Phi and Gamma Rho Lambda, state on their websites their aim to be accepting of any person, regardless of sexual orientation and are not exclusively for LGBT students.

LB Hannahs, the director of LGBT affairs at UF, said Hannahs has not been approached by any LGBT students at UF interested in starting a chapter but thinks it could be a beneficial addition for those interested.

"There are a number of LGBT folks that wish to be in a Greek organization, but the gender rules or climate in the Greek community aren't always accepting to them," Hannahs said.

An LGBT fraternity or sorority could benefit the Greek community by providing a voice within the Greek community, Hannahs said.

However, Hannahs said the new organization could face challenges from the tradi-

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Telecommunication requirements change

Students must now take Reporting, pg 5.

Braddy revamps City of Gainesville internship program

It will be more hands-on, pg 8.



New senators sworn in at first SG meeting following elections

Outgoing senators said goodbye, pg 8.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Florida Club Gymnastics: BJ's Brewhouse fundraiser
Florida Club Gymnastics is hosting a fundraiser at BJ's Brewhouse on Newberry Road from 11 a.m. to midnight today. Fifteen percent of food sales will go to the club when the flier is presented. Our club needs to raise \$800 by the end of the semester, so help us by eating delicious food. Please contact joinufcg@gmail.com for a copy of the flier.

Minority Pre-Veterinary Students
The Minority Pre-Veterinary Students will have its third general body meeting of the semester today in Rinker Hall, Room 106, at 7:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be UF pre-vet adviser Brandi Phillips, who will discuss vet school requirements and the admissions process. Minority Pre-Vet Students is a new student organization trying to encourage, retain and empower students pursuing careers in veterinary medicine.

Suit and Tie: Men's appreciation ceremony nominations
The Institute of Black Culture is seeking nominations for its men's appreciation ceremony. The ceremony will recognize outstanding men whose work and lives have helped make a difference in their communities. The nominees should have served as leaders and role models to other men, students, colleagues and/or their communities. The selected recipients will be honored at the Suit & Tie: Honoring Our African American Men award ceremony April 10 in Ustler Hall. Nomination forms can be found at bit.ly/1ipguu8 and are due today.

Torah on Tap

Join UF Hillel today from 8 to 9 p.m. on the back patio of Leonardo's Pizza by the Slice on University Avenue. This week's discussion will be "50 Shades of Pray: An Adult Conversation About Prayer." Rabbi Swedroe will lead the discussion and provide pizza (and beer if you're over 21). Just bring money for the tip and get ready to chat.

Mugs with Menches

Get artistic with UF Hillel at the Mugs with Menches program at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Reitz Union Arts and Crafts Center, located in the basement. Menche is a Yiddish word meaning a person with integrity and honor. Students will have a chance to relax, listen to Israeli music and express their artistic sides.

A Night of Magic: Disney Edition
Reitz Union Board Entertainment invites you to "be our guest" at our event, A Night of Magic: Disney Edition, Thursday in the Reitz Union Ballroom at 8 p.m. Dress as your favorite characters and make your own pair of Mickey ears. Take pictures with Capt.

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
RAIN 65/46	RAIN 63/38	PARTLY CLOUDY 66/43	PARTLY CLOUDY 73/49	SUNNY 77/55

Jack Sparrow, decorate a mug at the Mad Tea Party, get a caricature done and test your trivia, karaoke and costume skills for some magical prizes. For more information, email rub.spcialevents@gmail.com.

See deceptive butterflies at the Florida Museum's Butterfly Rainforest

Visit the Butterfly Rainforest exhibit at the Florida Museum of Natural History through Friday to discover a variety of butterflies that deceive to survive as part of the theme "Mimicry, the World of Deception." Daily butterfly releases are held at 2 p.m. with additional weekend releases at 3 and 4 p.m., weather permitting. UF students with valid Gator 1 Cards receive free admission.

Gay Movie Night

On Friday at 7:30 p.m., the Pride Community Center of North Central Florida, 3131 NW 13th St., will show "The Perfect Wedding." Gay Movie Night is a free service of the Pride Community Center. A \$2 donation is requested to cover the cost of snacks.

Ubisoft Facebook drawing

Ubisoft is one of the world's largest video game producers and is represented at UF. Enter February Frenzy for a chance to win cash prizes and free swag. Enter by going onto the Ubisoft at University of Florida Facebook page and clicking on the link in the latest status update. Like all three pages and enter your name and email address.

Florida Digital Newspaper Library introduction and tutorial

Discover Florida's rich publishing history at the Matheson Museum, 513 E. University Ave., on March 4 at 6 p.m. For generations, Hispanic, Jewish and African-American communities thrived in the state of Florida, developing and publishing their own newspapers. These newspapers, which highlight Florida's multi-ethnic and immigrant history, are now digitized and freely available online. Learn about this new resource valuable to teachers, historians, genealogists and others.

Summer dental program

Time is running out to apply for the 2014 Summer Learning Program at the UF College of Dentistry. This year's program is scheduled for July 7 to 25. All applications must be received by March 7. This

program allows pre-dental students to learn more about the dental profession and help them become stronger dental school applicants. Students will spend three weeks at UF participating in dental workshops, doing rotations through UF's various specialty dental clinics and doing simulation lab projects.

Multicultural & Diversity Affairs

MCDA is hiring. Applications for student ambassadors are now available online at tinyurl.com/MCDAapp and are due March 12 by noon. We are looking for both volunteer and Federal Work-Study positions for the Summer and Fall semesters. If you're looking to join an organization tasked with change, this is your chance.

Yulee Railroad Days vendor applications open

Entertainers and vendors of handmade arts and crafts: Welcome to the annual Yulee Railroad Days. The event will be held March 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information about applying to the festival, visit yuleerailroaddays.org. The event is sponsored by the Archer Historical Society.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to kgriffis@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 and keep them 150 words or fewer. Improperly formatted "What's Happening" submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

*Have an event planned?
Add it to the Alligator's
online calendar:
alligator.org/calendar*



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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LIFESTYLE

Gators give up cellphones to help provide clean water

LAUREN TRONCOSO
Alligator Contributing Writer

Sarah Lambert can ignore her phone for 14 hours and 8 minutes, which means she may be saving lives as the seconds are lost.

UF students are making a difference by giving their thumbs a break with a new addition to the UNICEF Tap Project, a nationwide campaign that provides clean water to children in more than 100 countries.

For every 10 minutes a user goes without using his or her mobile device while unicef-tapproject.org is open in a browser window, one of UNICEF's sponsors will provide a day's worth of water. The project will run until March 31.

Lambert, the treasurer of Gators for UNICEF, said she's always on her phone because of on-campus involvement, but she's been cutting down since the project began in mid-February.

"It's really nice that you can make a difference because literally all you have to do is not touch your phone," said the 20-year-old UF Spanish and linguistics junior.

Rachael Swanson Mizuno, UNICEF director of volunteer and community partnerships, wrote in an email that although this is the project's eighth year, it is the first time the organization introduced the website.

"The UNICEF Tap Project mobile web app (is) a way to reflect on what it means to be without water by giving up access to something far less vital — your cell phone," she wrote.

Gators for UNICEF secretary Karla Aguayo, a 21-year-old UF anthropology junior, works at La Nopalera Mexican Res-

taurant and said she sees tables of families zoned out on cellphones.

"It just kind of stinks," she said. "The world is really changing into just everything being technology."

While UF students worry about getting Starbucks in the morning, she said, children in other countries worry about making enough money to feed their families.

Lambert said many children also have to decide whether to drink the water they have access to.

"Either they die from dehydration because they can't drink the water, or they die from diseases that are carried in the water," she said.

Students often want to improve the world but don't know where to start, Lambert said, but campaigns like this make it easy.

"It takes so little to help people out sometimes that we all have a responsibility to do so," she said.

Clean water facts from UNICEF

- 1.** About 1,400 children die daily from diseases related to unsanitary drinking and sewage conditions.
- 2.** There are 768 million people who do not have access to clean water.
- 3.** People in Africa spend 40 billion hours walking to collect clean water each year.
- 4.** For young girls in rural areas, carrying heavy water bottles long distances is the main cause of injury.



AP Photo

Let's Move
First Lady Michelle Obama spoke at Gwen Cherry Park in Miami to promote her "Let's Move" campaign yesterday.

HEALTH INSURANCE

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Health Care Center prepared in event of meningitis outbreak

It's spread at other schools

SHANNON SAPOURN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Recent outbreaks of bacterial meningitis on the campuses of Princeton University and the University of California, Santa Barbara, have raised concerns about possible future occurrences of the disease at UF.

Diane Webb, the senior registered nurse at the UF Student

Health Care Center, said since 1999, UF has strongly encouraged students to get the vaccination for bacterial meningitis.

"More than 80 percent of UF students have received the bacterial meningitis vaccine," Webb said. "Since February 2003, all UF students are required to either receive the meningitis vaccine or sign a waiver to decline."

"More than 80 percent of UF students have received the bacterial meningitis vaccine."

Diane Webb

senior registered nurse at the UF Student Health Care Center

Nicole Iovine, the associate epidemiologist for UF Health Shands Hospital, said the B strain of bacterial meningitis caused the cases at Princeton and UC at Santa Barbara, but the vaccine offered by UF does

not cover this specific strain.

The current vaccine introduces specific sugars to the body that are present in meningitis bacteria but are foreign to the immune system, which sparks a response to fight the bacteria.

The B strain differs in that it contains a sugar naturally found on many human cells. The body does not see this sugar as foreign, Iovine said, so it does not respond to fight the bacteria.

"There is a vaccine for the B (strain) that is already out in places

like Europe and Australia, but it's not licensed yet in the U.S.," Iovine said. "When the Princeton epidemic occurred, they allowed students to use it because it was an emergency."

She said her close relationship with the Alachua County Health Department would enable her to access the B vaccine if needed.

"Heaven forbid there was something to happen like this at UF, it would be part of my job to get it," she said. "I'm confident we would be able to get it."

Students pop world record

► MORE THAN 350 STUDENTS HELPED.

ARIANA FIGUEROA

Alligator Contributing Writer

A group of UF students narrowly broke the Guinness World Record for the most people popping bubble wrap at the same time in a two-minute period.

A UF Bateman campaign called "What's Your Popping Point?" hosted the event Tuesday night in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom.

The previous record for people popping bubble wrap simultaneously was 366, set by a group of high schoolers in New Jersey.

Tuesday night's event burst that record with 367 students, said Nicole Vassallo, a 23-year-old UF pub-

lic relations senior working on the campaign.

The team collected more than 8,000 square feet of bubble wrap from student donations and UF Health Shands Hospital.

The Bateman campaign seeks to increase the popularity of a new person-to-person payment service, Popmoney.

Justine Gordon, a 19-year-old UF telecommunication sophomore, said she was impressed by the event.

"It's one of the most creative ideas to advertise a product," she said. "It's really innovative."

The nearly 400 students stomped and popped bubble wrap while jamming out to 'N Sync for two minutes. The timer went off and cheers and screams exploded.

"UF is officially in the Guinness World Records," said Vassallo.



AP Photo

Top Flight

Hugh Nichols with Royal Air Force taxis after making the first vertical landing by a United Kingdom pilot in the F-35B aircraft Tuesday in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

About 20 to 30 drunken driving cases occur on campus yearly

DRUNK, from page 1

related crashes were reported among people ages 15 to 19, and 133 fatal crashes were reported among people ages 20 to 24.

Chris Loschiavo, associate dean of students and director of student conflict and resolution at UF, said he was not surprised by the results of the study.

"As a college student, if you have access to alcohol, you're going to drink anyways."

Kristi Maconi
UF finance junior

Based on his 15 years of experience dealing with student-conduct issues, he said alcohol is probably the biggest challenge his office

faces.

There are about one to two alcohol-poisoning transports reported on UF's campus each weekend and about 20 to 30 drunken driving cases on campus each year, Loschiavo said. The majority of these people charged with driving under the influence are below the age of 21.

"Often times, one of the things

that get into the way is when students get into this drinking culture," he said. "It's hard to get out of it once you start."

Kristi Maconi, a 20-year-old UF finance junior, said lowering the drinking age would not have a drastic effect on the number of drunken driving cases.

"As a college student, if you have access to alcohol, you're go-

ing to drink anyways," she said. "So lowering the drinking age wouldn't really affect the number of people drinking and driving."

Briana Felitti, a 20-year-old UF accounting junior, said she agreed.

"Whether you're 18 or 22 and you're thinking about drinking and driving, if you're going to get into a car, you're going to get into a car," she said.

It costs \$525 per credit hour

MED, from page 1

want to stay here," she said. "They want to either stay a Gator or they want to come here because we're known for having a really rigorous pre-health curriculum."

Students will have to complete a full-time, two-year program that including a Summer semester. It costs \$525 per credit hour.

"A lot of them are going to be those same courses—so general chemistry, general biology—but it will be a smaller setting," Richmond said.

The new program will also include cross-disciplinary laboratory courses, pre-health seminars to help with nonacademic preparation and content review for exams like the Medical College Admission Test or Dental Admission Test.

The priority application deadline is April

"A lot of students really want to stay here. They want to either stay a Gator or they want to come here because we're known for having a really rigorous pre-health curriculum."

Christine Richmond

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences academic adviser and Pre-Health and Post-Baccalaureate Program administrator

1, but students have until July 15 to apply for the program, which starts this Fall.

Students who are graduating at the end of the Spring and Summer semesters can still apply, Richmond said.

Interested students can attend walk-in advising hours to Farrior Hall for more information.

Social settings could hinder

LGBT, from page 1

tional Greek environment, particularly the strong culture of heteronormativity, which is the societal tendency toward traditional gender roles and heterosexual relationships.

"The way it is traditionally structured doesn't necessarily allow for same-sex relationships within the social settings with other chapters," Hannahs said.

Students like May Niu, a UF 20-year-old industrial and systems engineering sophomore, said she would be in support of an LGBT chapter coming to UF.

"I think it would be a good change,"

Niu said. "There needs to be more representation of the LGBT community around UF."

But other students see it differently, including Chandler Collins, a UF 19-year-old marketing freshman and a brother at UF's Theta Chi.

"I don't think sexual orientation should play a factor in the clubs you can join," he said.

He said the organization could face problems with the current social climate at UF.

"It would probably be difficult to start because of the tradition in the Greek system," Collins said. "...it would probably be a rocky start."

Commission discusses new office location, food drives

► FOOD DONATIONS WERE DOWN.

BEATRICE DUPUY

Alligator Staff Writer

bdupuy@alligator.org

A possible new location for the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections office was one of the topics deliberated at the County Commission meeting Tuesday.

Commissioners unanimously agreed to begin negotiations with Nalbandian Properties for the property located on 515 N. Main St.

Commissioner Robert Hutchinson said he believes it's the right time to tie up plans for the building.

"It would be stupid to have a long conversation about who gets what and find out that someone has already purchased the building," he said at the meeting.

County staff will be negotiating a lease-purchase agreement, which would allow the county to buy the property outright or

to buy it after leasing.

Michael Fay, county development program manager, said the county is trying to eliminate the lease space it currently occupies, which costs about \$500,000 a year.

"We will take a strong, hard look at what the space needs to be — at what offices we would put in this particular structure," he said.

The building is estimated to cost about \$5.65 million.

Also at the meeting, Strike Out Hunger Food Drive held a presentation. Rodney Long, president and CEO of The Long Foundation Inc., highlighted a decrease in donations for the Thanksgiving food drive.

He said the drive collected \$60,000 pounds of food in 2013. In 2012, the food drive collected about \$78,000 pounds of food.

He attributed the decrease to a lack of major contributors and said he will start planning for the drive earlier.

CAMPUS

Telecom requirements change

RIANA MELENDEZ

and **SHANNON SAPOURN**

Alligator Contributing Writers

News-minded baby Gators arriving at UF this Summer are in for a change.

Incoming Summer B students on the telecommunication news track will be the first class required to take Reporting, a notoriously difficult journalism course rumored to be one of the most failed and dropped classes at the university. They will also have to take its prerequisite class, Multimedia Writing.

"There is more of a premium on being able to write, more premium on news judgment."

Mike Foley

journalism master lecturer

After a motion to approve the changes followed by the unanimous approval by the University Curriculum Committee on Feb. 18, both classes are now mandatory.

David Ostroff, the chair of the Department of Telecommunication, said current students are still under the old catalog requirements.

"No one who is already in college right

now will be affected by these changes, even if they were to transfer into UF from a different community college or university," Ostroff said.

However, Ostroff said the class will be mandatory only for students who have passed the News Placement Test and been accepted into the telecommunication track.

Journalism master lecturer Mike Foley said he believes this is a "step in the right direction" for the college.

He said Reporting teaches more than just newswriting and newsgathering; it instills critical thinking skills by forcing students to decide the essential aspects of a news story.

"I think we have had very successful telecom graduates who didn't take it, but I think the world is changing," he said. "There is more of a premium on being able to write, more premium on news judgment."

Joshua Williams, a 20-year-old UF telecommunication news sophomore, said he's glad he doesn't have to take the class but sees how the course could benefit telecommunication news majors.

"I feel like if you're on the news track and you don't take that sort of stuff, all you're learning is reading. You're not learning the skills behind it," he said.

The Board of Directors of Campus Communications, Inc., publisher of

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announces the openings for the positions

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The applications for these positions are available at the reception desk at the entrance of the first floor of *The Alligator* Building at 1105 W. University Ave., **each weekday between 10:00 and 4:00 p.m. from now until March 14.** Please do not call. Further written information is available at the time an application is picked up. Please allow up to 15 minutes at that time to read information you will need for the application process. The application must be returned to the same desk by **4:00 pm, March 17. THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE DEADLINE.** Interviews and selections by the Board of Directors will be held at *The Alligator* offices in a meeting open to the public beginning at **2:00 pm, April 4.** Applicants must be present at that meeting to be considered. Applicants must be degree-seeking college or university students. Preference will be given to those who have experience at *The Alligator*.

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Editorial

Apple security flaw proves companies act in self-interest

Yesterday, Apple released OS X 10.9.2, and if you haven't already — download it ASAP.

We know, we know: the endless stream of updates on your Macbooks, iPhones and iPads is tedious. However, the patches that Apple released for iPhones and iPads on Friday and the patch released for Macbooks and iMacs Tuesday don't just fix normal glitches and bugs. The updates fix a serious security flaw that could allow hackers with malicious intent to intercept your emails, banking information, passwords and other sensitive data.

The security problem is pretty complicated and has to do with SSL-encrypted communications, but basically, according to Apple's support page, current software "failed to validate the authenticity of the connection."

"Without the fix," Reuters reported, "a hacker could impersonate a protected site and sit in the middle as email or financial data goes between the user and the real site."

This flaw is a huge, huge deal. Given Apple's reputation as a purveyor of technology products that are immune to attacks from cybercriminals, the security loophole is a huge embarrassment for the company.

According to Chris Williams of The Register, a U.K. publication specializing in information technology news, Apple's failure to alert its customers of the security flaw for days after detecting the bug was unprofessional. Furthermore, Williams argued that Apple waited to release the patch in order to bundle it with an upgrade for making voice calls with FaceTime.

"On Monday, amid the fallout of the SSL bug, Apple CEO Tim Cook reflected on the anniversary of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs' birth, tweeting: 'Remembering Steve on his birthday: 'Details matter, it's worth waiting to get it right,'" Williams wrote. "For users fearing their passwords and bank account details were about to be put in the hands of crooks, that wait felt like an eternity."

Apple has remained tight-lipped about the flaw, naturally.

According to Reuters, "Apple did not reply to requests for comment. The flaw appears to be in the way that well-understood protocols were implemented, an embarrassing lapse for a company of Apple's stature and technical prowess."

The security issue and Apple's decision not to notify users immediately after the issue was detected reminds us that even seemingly reliable brands act in self-interest. Of course Apple didn't want users to realize that it made a stupid mistake. This proves that it's up to iPhone, iPad and Macbook owners — or any technology owner, for that matter — to be savvy when it comes to the security of his or her data. The prevailing attitude toward issues such as identity theft and email interception seems to be one of "That could never happen to me."

However, just as our phones and computers become smarter and more intuitive, so do cyber criminals. It's more important than ever to make sure you pay close attention to updates.

Viva la iOS 7.0.6!

Reader response

Today's question: Do you agree with the legal drinking age?

Friday's question: Do you spend a lot of time sitting down?

90% YES
10% NO
30 TOTAL VOTES

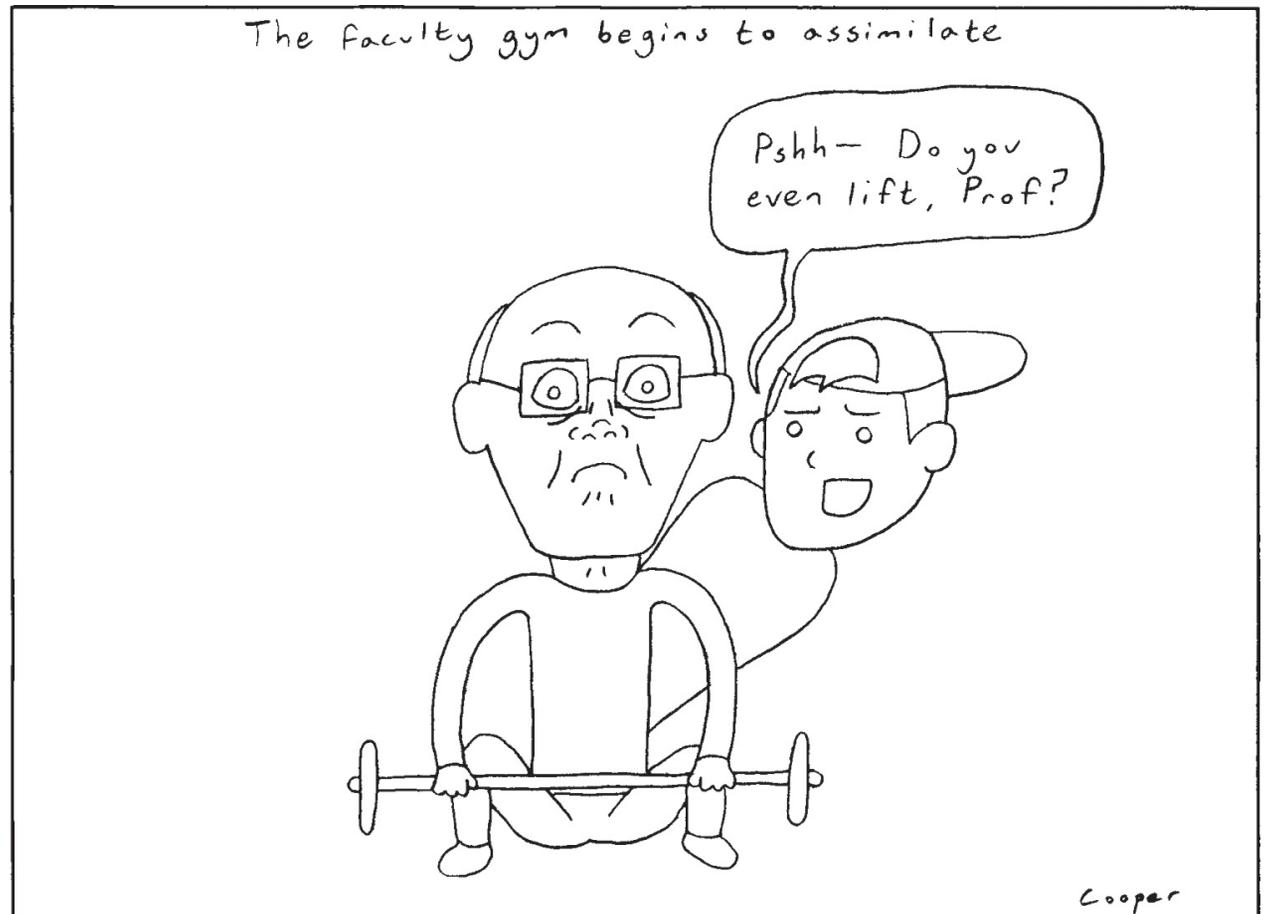
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Column

Republicans to blame for 'grim' outlook

A new study released by the Leroy Collins Institute on Florida's economic and fiscal health paints a bleak picture of the state's present and future.

"Tougher Choices: Shaping Florida's Future," by UF researchers David Denslow and James Dewey, found that Florida lags behind other states in a wide array of economic and social indicators.

"In a lot of ways," Dewey said, "Florida is really near the bottom of the barrel."

As an example of Florida's economic failures, teacher salaries in the Sunshine State declined at the fourth-fastest rate in the country between 2000 and 2012. Although the unemployment rate in Florida has dropped to 6 percent, down from its recent high of 11.4 percent in 2010, most of the employment gains in the past four years have come from an increase in unskilled, low-wage jobs.

Dewey describes this increase in low-wage jobs as a "polarization." While other states reap the benefits of new jobs in high-tech industries, Florida has become a haven for low-paying jobs in food service and other unskilled sectors.

As the Florida economy has grown more dependent on these low-paying jobs, economic inequality has also increased. A recent study from the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank, found that Miami ranked third among all American cities in the greatest disparity between its rich and its poor.

The study also found that Florida's lack of state income tax and reliance on sales and property taxes puts a disproportionate financial strain on Florida families and small businesses.

Sales taxes are inherently regressive, meaning that those earning less tend to pay a greater proportion of their income. The combination of higher taxes and lower-paying jobs for Florida's workers spells serious trouble for the state's economic future.

Regrettably, Gov. Rick Scott and the Republican leadership in the Florida Legislature seem determined to institute policies that would exacerbate the many problems outlined in the report.

Instead of strengthening Florida's tax base by increasing



Elliot Levy
opinions@alligator.org

taxes on large corporations, which would also reduce the financial burden on families and small businesses, Scott has supported completely eliminating the state's corporate income tax.

One of the few bright spots discussed in the report is the Florida Retirement System, the pension fund for the state's public employ-

ees. Denslow and Dewey argue that the FRS provides a secure source of post-retirement income for Florida workers and should be a "model" for other states.

Republicans in the Florida Legislature have put forth proposals to eviscerate the retirement system.

Legislation supported by Republicans in the Florida Legislature would require new retired public employees to enroll in defined contribution plans. The defined benefit plans currently provided by the FRS guarantee public employees a fixed level of post-retirement income.

The new plans would allow the FRS to sharply cut back on pension benefits, even on employees who have already paid into the system. If enacted, such a proposal could greatly harm the financial stability of thousands of Florida retirees, reducing their disposable income and thus negatively impacting economic growth.

There are many possible solutions. Increasing the minimum wage would provide greater financial security to Florida's many new low-income workers. Instituting a progressive income tax and increasing corporate taxes would reduce the burden on middle-class families and small businesses.

Unfortunately, the Scott administration and the Republicans who control the Florida Legislature are determined to institute policies that benefit Big Business and the wealthiest Floridians while leaving the middle class and the poor behind. Florida needs a change in leadership to get back on the path toward economic security and prosperity for all its citizens.

Elliot Levy is a UF political science and public relations junior. His column appears on Wednesdays.

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

Letters to the Editor

Beato's minimum-wage column

On Feb. 18, Michael Beato wrote a highly erroneous piece about increasing the minimum wage. Today's minimum wage is far below what it should be historically and continues to lose value every year. If the federal minimum wage had kept up with inflation, it would be about \$10.75 an hour instead of \$7.25. If the minimum wage had kept up with productivity, it would be \$18.75. If it had grown at the same rate as wages for the top 1 percent, it would be more than \$28.

In 2004, voters passed a constitutional amendment that tied the Florida minimum

wage to inflation. This year the rise was \$0.14 from \$7.79 to \$7.93, which comes to about \$5.60 more for 40 hours of work, or about \$290 more per year. This increased the wages of 416,000 low-wage earners and increased consumer spending by almost \$63 million, according to the nonpartisan Economic Policy Institute.

What Beato was talking about but didn't mention is the Harkin-Miller bill. This bill would increase the minimum wage to \$10.10 by 2015 over three years, index it to inflation and increase the tipped-worker minimum to 70 percent the federal minimum wage. For Florida, that means \$2.17 more — \$60 more

a week for a 40-hour work week and about \$3,000 more per year.

This would affect more than 30 million workers in America and generate \$32 billion in new economic activity! Of those workers who would be affected, 88 percent are over the age of 20, 56 percent are women, nearly half are workers of color, and more than 43 percent have a college education.

Beato said, "Consider all of the mom-and-pop stores struggling to make ends meet."

But he forgets that this is an ever-shrinking minority. The lions' share of minimum-wage earners are at companies employing more

than 100 workers. One of the largest, McDonalds, raked in close to \$5.5 billion in profits in 2012, which is up 27 percent over the past five years. Meanwhile, taxpayers shell out \$1.2 billion each year in public assistance to McDonalds' workforce.

The majority of all public assistance recipients are people with jobs who simply do not make enough to live. The public subsidizes the high profits of these private companies because the minimum wage is not a living wage.

Jeremiah Tattersall
field staffer, North Central Florida Labor Council

Guest column

It's time to stop pretending what Student Government is and isn't

The words in this column come difficult for me, as I have many friends and colleagues who are currently enjoying a momentous win with the Swamp Party.

And yet, the circumstances in which such a victory have been obtained compel me to speak out.

This year's election was extraordinary, not only for the one-sided victory of one party over all other challengers.

For the first time in my experience at UF, the opposition was banned from contesting the presidency by none other than Swamp Party's appointed supervisor of elections. To claim that the supervisor's hands were tied by the rules of the system with no leeway in respect to the gravity of holding a contest for the most important positions within Student Government is false.

In addition to the contributions from Swamp's supervisor of elections, further effort was required from all Swamp senators this past year in maintaining a system of rules that produces an inordinate burden on the average student from participating and contesting within SG.

Simple measures such as expanding online voting for students living off campus or even improving the efficiency of the absentee ballot process were blocked and denied by Swamp Party.

For some within Swamp, this was a difficult task as many measures surely felt right in their hearts but nevertheless felt wrong

Nicholas Knowlton
Speaking Out

with the party.

As a result of Swamp Party's actions — and inactions — Swamp succeeded in dropping student turnout by more than 2,000 from last year's general

election.

Faced with the lack of a meaningful choice for the most powerful positions in SG, it is easy to understand why many students stayed home.

In spite of all these developments, however, the worst part about all of this is that that some within Swamp will likely believe they have accomplished something praiseworthy — something they would tell their grandparents or put on a resume or job application.

Fortunately, there are a couple of positive things we can attribute to this election.

First, now that Swamp has effectively used the rules to implement a de facto one-party system on campus, we can finally dispense with the democratic pleasantries and talk about SG as it really is and not how it pretends to be.

Second, SG's reputation was damaged in such a manner that elections have now become predetermined and meaningless.

Its status now contains more parallels with modern competitive authoritarian regimes than the U.S.

The mission of SG should now be clear: Reform before it is too late.

Nicholas Knowlton is a Ph.D. candidate in political science and a former Students Party graduate senator.

Column

Get schooled: education system paradox in the US

Education has always been a hot-button issue in this country. One side of this polarizing issue demands respect for teachers unions; the other says standardized testing is paramount.

Despite the fact that there will never be a common ground, these two sides don't even realize America is currently in an education paradox. Here are a few instances: Student loans have become increasingly easy to get and almost impossible to pay off. Young people struggle to find jobs after college while college dropouts — such as Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg and Twitter's Jack Dorsey — are worth billions. Diane Ravitch, a research professor at New York University, claims that the "kids today are, in fact, the smartest generation yet."

But the reality is our students consistently fall behind other nations in math and science.

Though many pundits, politicians and parents say the American education system is broken beyond repair, that's not entirely true. Even with our falling math and science scores, young people of other nations flock to the U.S. for an education. Why is this the case? Can they not see the glaring education paradox in front of them?

The strength of the American education system — a strength that makes up for the system's many shortcomings — is that it promotes ingenuity. America has always been the innovator of the world. Bill Gates, the Wright brothers and Thomas Edison were all American citizens — that is no fluke. Ingenuity is truly an American quality. Ingenuity breeds creativity, which equals success.

But when you go back to the two hopelessly entrenched sides of the education debate, they promote policies that hinder the development of ingenuity.

The pro-standardized testing crowd touts that the only way to gauge student success is to conduct broad examinations and have a curriculum based solely on that subject matter.

These tests are good determinants of how well a student grasps universal concepts: calculus, reading and grammar skills. What is tested on these exams are black-and-white concepts. If you do X, what is Y? What grammar

rule is being violated in this sentence?

But real life is not so clear-cut.

Creativity can neither be tested on paper nor proctored. A good education relies both on the strong concepts featured on standardized tests

and creative reasoning, thinking and learning. Simply believing that exams are a complete solution to our national woes is unrealistic.

Those touting teachers unions would like to believe that every teacher is great, but reality suggests otherwise. For every great teacher, there is a handful of those not up to snuff.

And in America, the place you are educated determines the quality of your education. An inner-city school in Los Angeles, for example, is of a different caliber than that of a suburban school in Connecticut. I think it's fair to say most good teachers would flock to the school in Connecticut, and as a result, schools in good locations have a monopoly on superior teachers.

Though standardized tests and teachers union issues generally gravitate toward high school and middle school, the college education system does its part to quell ingenuity. As a college student, I take a lot of lecture-based classes. Although these classes are a great time to catch up on sleep or update your Facebook status, they completely stifle creativity.

The tyranny of thought on the side of the professor is the main cause. A teaching assistant told me that I should not select the right answer on an exam, but the answer that my professor thought was correct. Those unable to think for themselves or afraid of confrontation acquiesce to the prescribed thoughts of the professor. Thinking for oneself is hopelessly squashed in lecture halls.

This country needs to embrace the virtues that made it a global superpower. Instead of ascribing wholeheartedly to the beliefs of older nations, we created a few belief systems of our own. Ingenuity by virtue of individuality made us great. Until we realize the true power our students possess, we will continue to underperform nationwide. But until then, at least the kids are out of the house.

Michael Beato is a UF economics sophomore. His columns appear on Wednesdays.



Michael Beato
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Mayor Braddy revamps City of Gainesville internship program

It will be more hands-on

EMILY DAVIS

Alligator Contributing Writer

Mayor Ed Braddy wants to get students more involved in the City of Gainesville with a revamped internship program.

Interns used to do little more than shadow the City Commission, but Braddy said this semester, he's hoping to create a more hands-on

experience by having interns manage projects and work on policy.

"When I campaigned, I told the Student Body I would be willing to work with them," Braddy said. "I want to make them know they are a part of our community ... to give students an idea of how their local government works and give them an opportunity to participate in a more hands-on manner."



Braddy

involved in City Hall, he said he hopes students will get a better idea of how the local government works.

Meredith Ryan, a 19-year-old

UF political science junior, applied for one of the positions and said she is excited about the changes.

"This shows me that accomplished leaders in the community care about young people and their ideas," she said. She said the internship gets students personally involved in local government, which is vastly different from state and national government.

Braddy said the program is still in its early stages, but he wants it to become a part of the bigger picture of student engagement in the city.

"Maybe we'll submit student bids as well as professional bids," he said, suggesting a possible marketing program for RTS. "But that's on the drawing board."

What's most important is student inclusion in Gainesville city life and government, Braddy said.

"My ultimate vision after my three years in office is that the Student Body feels appreciated and ... that they've had a good opportunity to participate and engage in city life," he said. "If they didn't, it's not because the city didn't listen."



Jake Black / Alligator

Heart Art

The members of fraternity Beta Chi Theta form a heart on Turlington Plaza on Tuesday afternoon. The fraternity held philanthropic events all week for the Beating Heart Disease campaign.

Nationwide giant snake ban in limbo

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — The U.S. government asked a judge to dismiss a lawsuit that seeks to overturn a nationwide ban on four giant snake species.

Attorneys for Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said the United States Association of Reptile Keepers has not sufficiently explained why importing the snakes into the U.S. or transporting them across state lines was vital to research and conservation activities among its members.

In a motion in federal court in Washington, D.C., on Friday, the government dismissed the association's claims that snake sales funded those activities.

"Not only are these interests entirely economic, they are also totally unrelated to the environment: they involve the breeding and selling of captive snakes as part of the pet industry," the motion stated.

The North Carolina-based association said the ban has cost tens of millions of dollars. In December, the group challenged the science behind the ban in a lawsuit.

"We still feel very confident about our position," Joan Galvin, an attorney representing the reptile keepers association, said Tuesday.

The ban on Burmese pythons, yellow anacondas and northern and southern African rock pythons was announced in 2012.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

New senators sworn in at first SG meeting following elections

HANNA MARCUS

Alligator Staff Writer hmarcus@alligator.org

In the first Student Senate meeting following Student Government elections, the election results were validated and a new Senate president, Senate president pro tempore and members at large were elected and sworn into office.

The Elections Commission voted unanimously to validate the SG elections, said Elections Commission Chairwoman Celeste Thacker,

and Senate unanimously validated the results as well.

Tuesday night's Senate session was divided into two. The first meeting provided a forum for old senators to say goodbye and wish the newly elected senators good luck.

In his last Senate President's Report, Student Body President Cory Yeffet advised senators to take full advantage of what Senate has to offer.

"Understand the climate that

"Understand the climate that you've been lucky enough to get elected into. Take hold and make the most out of it."

Cory Yeffet

Student Body President

you've been lucky enough to get elected into," he said. "Take hold and make the most out of it."

The second meeting was to swear

in the senators for the new term and elect a new Senate president, Senate president pro tempore and members at large.

Sen. Dylan Fisher and Sen. Joseph Michaels were unanimously elected as the new Senate president and the new Senate president pro tempore, respectively.

Sen. Bronco Vuskovich and Sen. Spencer Correnti were unanimously elected as the two members at large.

Chief Justice of the Student Body Marcus Powers swore in the new senators, president, president pro tempore and members at large.

The Senate unanimously passed two resolutions in its first meeting: the Resolution Supporting the University of Florida's Academic Ties with the State of Israel, which states that UF does not support a boycott of Israel's academic institutions, and the Resolution Proposing Revisions to the Rules and Procedures.

Florida Players puts on cyberbullying play at Phillips Center

► IT WAS CALLED "CHATROOM."

TAYLOR WIDOM

Alligator Contributing Writer

On a stage at the Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, Jim grappled with an issue many young adults face: cyberbullying.

About 260 people showed up Friday through Sunday for the Florida Players' rendition of "Chatroom" to watch Jim's character struggle with the issue, which has become

more prevalent with the rise of technology use.

Although Jim exists only in the play, his story is real to young people dealing with cyberbullying in their everyday lives.

UF psychologist Roberta Seldman said cyberbullying can be even more dangerous than face-to-face criticisms and judgments.

"We're all herd animals," she said. "We don't want to be outside of the group, and anything that puts us out there causes a very primal terror in us."

She said fear, paranoia, sadness and suicid-

al thoughts are not unusual responses.

"It can make someone who doesn't feel connected anyway feel like there's no reason to live," she said.

Jeremy Martinez, the 19-year-old UF theatre performance sophomore who played Jim in the show, said he knows what it's like to play the part both on and off the stage.

He attended a competitive all-boys high school where he said he didn't quite fit in.

"I'm just not that kind of person, so I was hit with a lot of... derogatory terms and a lot of bullying," he said.

UF theatre performance senior Amanda Young, who directed "Chatroom," said cyberbullying and teen suicide have been swept under the rug.

"Sometimes people don't even realize that the things they say have a lasting impact," Young, 21, said.

Young said she hopes the viewers will re-evaluate their online communication and understand what it's like to fall victim.

Martinez agreed.

"The way I see it," he said, "Jim is a part of everyone."

Program created to help transfer students plug in

ANNALEIGH BONDS
Alligator Contributing Writer

Transfer students have a new option to guide them through life in the Swamp.

Adopted Gators was founded this semester to ensure transfer students the opportunity to excel on campus, said president and founder of the program, Diesha Cole, a 20-year-old UF linguistics junior.

Applications for members are now available on the Student Activities and Involvement section of UF's website and close March 13.

Program organizers hope to accept about 50 peer mentors this semester. Transfer students with Associate of Arts degrees will be able to join the group at Preview in the upcoming semesters, she said.

"We will give them an inside look at UF," Cole said.

The program's goal is to inform transfer students about campus events and point them in the direction of involvement.

"You could miss out on everything available to you if you don't have someone else to tell you," she said.

Cole came up with the idea for Adopted Gators because she is a transfer student herself. Her best friend and co-founder, Gianna McNealy, helped her a lot when she first transferred to campus.

"I'm at a better place than I would've been if I hadn't had her giving me that inside look," she said.

Michelle Albert, a 21-year-old UF pub-

lic relations junior and Campus Diplomat, said she thinks the new program is a great addition to transfer student services already offered. Although Campus Diplomats hosts one event for transfer students, it does not provide an ongoing program for them.

Morgan Crummett, a 19-year-old political science sophomore at Florida Gulf Coast University who plans to transfer to UF, said she wants to get involved on UF's campus, despite how much bigger it is than her current school.

"I think it would be helpful to go somewhere where there are other transfers," she said. "I think it's helpful for students who want to get involved."

All UF transfer students must:

- Submit the online UF application and \$30 nonrefundable application fee six to nine months before the term begins
- Submit all high school and postsecondary transcripts
- Submit SAT/ACT with writing test scores
- Submit documentation of two sequential courses of foreign language in secondary school or 8-10 sequential semester hours at the postsecondary level, or document an equivalent level of proficiency
- Apply to a specific UF college and major
- Submit proof of immunization prior to registration



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Senate Swear-In

Sen. Dylan Fisher is sworn in as the new Student Senate president on Tuesday at the first Student Government meeting since elections. Read the story on page 8.



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SPRING SPORTS SECTIONS

Issue Date	Sports Coverage
Monday 1/6	Bowl Recap
Friday 1/17	Swimming, Gymnastics
Friday 1/24	Link to Pink vs Auburn
Friday 1/31	Tennis, Swimming & Diving, Men's Basketball vs Texas A&M
Friday 2/7	Lacrosse, Men's Basketball vs Alabama
Friday 2/21	Swimming, Tennis, Men's Basketball vs Ole Miss
Friday 2/28	Swimming & Diving
Friday 3/14	Baseball Opener vs Arkansas
Monday 3/17	NCAA Basketball Tournament
Friday 3/28	Golf, Tennis, Swimming, Diving
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Alachua County Supervisor of Elections

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- County to county address changes should be made prior to Election Day or you will need to vote a provisional ballot. Voters with in-county address changes will be able to vote a regular ballot. To update your address, locate your precinct, and view your sample ballot, go to www.VoteAlachua.com and click on "My Registration Status".
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Early Voting
Mon., March 3rd thru Sat., March 8th - 9am - 5pm

2 City Early Voting Sites
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Walking distance to UF & Stadium.
408 NW 14th St. Now leasing for Fall 2014.
For info. call 352-872-4644
www.upperwestsideuf.com
4-23-14-54-2

★ CAMPUS EDGE CONDO ★

2/2 Walk to UF, Shands, VA & Pharm School. Tile floor, W/D in unit. Avail fall. Reasonable rates. 239-300-1294 2-28-14-11-2

4BR/2BA apt. \$800.

Section 8. Located at 500 SW 65th St. 352-356-0404 2-28-14-10-2



----- Near UF -----
gainesvillestudentrentals.com 352-317-4408
● 4/2 house 610 NW 34 Ter \$1400
● 4/3 house 3514 nw 7th pl \$1500
2-27-14-5-2

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.

3 Subleases

LEAVING FOR THE SUMMER? NEED TO SUBLET YOUR ROOM? DON'T WAIT

PLACE YOUR SUBLEASE AD TODAY!
IT'S EASY...JUST GO TO
www.alligator.org/classified

4 Roommates

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

LAKEFRONT HOUSE. 2 miles east of downtown. 3/2, nice kitchen, laundry, garage, 24' x 36' screened room. \$400 Quiet neighborhood. Call Dave 352-281-2200 2-26-14-26-4

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 4-23-72-5

6 Furnishings

Got a new couch?. Sell your old one in the Alligator Classifieds. Call 373-FIND (3463) to place your ad today.

BED - QUEEN - \$120 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top, mattress & box. Name brand, new, still in plastic. Call 352-372-7490 can deliver. 4-23-14-72-6

6 Furnishings

BED - FULL SIZE - \$100 ORTHOPEDIC Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-23-14-72-6

MICROFIBER SOFA & LOVESEAT - \$400 Brand new still packaged w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. Retail \$1600. 352-372-7490 4-23-14-72-6

BED - KING - \$200 PILLOWTOP mattress & box springs. Orthopedic rated. Name brand, new, never been used, in plastic with warranty. Call 352-372-8588. Can deliver. 4-23-72-6

SOFA & LOVESEAT 100% Italian leather. Brand new in plastic w/warranty. Retail \$1800. Sacrifice \$700. Call 352-377-9846 4-23-72-6

BEDROOM SET- \$300 BRAND NEW Still in boxes! 5 pieces include: Headboard, Nightstand, Dresser, Mirror, Chest. Must sell, can deliver. 352-377-9846. 4-23-14-72-6

7 Computers

Selling computers, parts, or repair services or just looking for that new rig? Look in the Alligator Classifieds. Call 373-FIND for more information.

COMPUTER & LAPTOP REPAIRS
Network specialists
We buy computers and laptops
Working and Non-working
378-4009, 607 NW 13th Street
4-23-14-60-7

8 Electronics

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

Friends don't let friends drive drunk.

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.

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 4-23-14-72-10

Guitars and Musical Instruments New, Used and Factory Refurbished Check Us Out Before You Buy or Sell!!! Leonardo's Music, Micanopy, FL 352-450-0928 Leonardos302.com 4-23-14-72-10

Party Supplies: Complete line of Bar Supplies, glassware, Liquor Pours, Shakers, Professional Cooking Utensils. R.W. Beaty Co. 1120 N. Main St., Gainesville 352-448-3433 beatyequip@aol.com 4-23-14-72-10

HORSES & GOATS

FOR SALE Charlie - 352-278-1925 4-23-72-10

BOOKS: First came physical changes, spread by recombinant DNA in viruses. Then came the memories. WONDERS AND TRAGEDIES, a science fiction novel, is by Alan Kovski. Available via Amazon.com 2-28-14-12-10

10 For Sale

BOOKS: A wilderness may be prowled by creatures of the forest. Or it may be urban, highly cultured, and just as deadly. WILDERNESS, a science fiction novel, is by Alan Kovski. Available via Amazon.com 2-28-14-12-10

BOOKS: What will we become, years from now? Better or worse? Fools, victims, fortunate souls, survivors in dangerous times? REMEMBERING THE FUTURE: science fiction stories by Alan Kovski. Available via Amazon.com 2-28-14-12-10

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.



4-23-14-72-11

★★★★NEW SCOOTERS 4 LESS★★★★ Great Scooters, Service & Prices! 118 NW 14th Ave, Ste D, 336-1271 Vespa, Genuine, BMW, & More! NS4L.com facebook.com/newscooters4less 4-23-14-72-11

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 4-23-14-72-11

★★★★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 4-23-14-72-11

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 4-23-14-72-11

★★SCOOTER RENTALS★★ Rent for a day, week, month or semester. Now renting Buddy scooters too! 352-336-1271 www.gainesvillescooterrentals.com 4-23-14-72-11

Campus Scooters Mobile Sales and Scooter Service. We offer free estimates on all repairs and we come to you. We also have new scooters starting at \$799.00 Call us today at 352-263-0425 4-23-14-72-11

★★★ WWW.SWAMPCYCLES.COM ★★★ Scooters & Motorcycles ● Sales & Service Quality, Experienced, Certified Technicians. Close to Campus, Lowest Prices. 633 NW 13th St. 352-373-8823 4-23-72-11

ccmotorcycletraining.com 2 days \$150 weekdays or weekends G-ville/Starke 352-331-0131 train on motorcycles or scooters State certified Co & Trainers 3-14-14-20-11

Designated drivers are the greatest

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Blarney Stone located?
2. TELEVISION: Who was executive producer of the "Animaniacs" television cartoon show?
3. MOVIES: What Jon Voight/Dustin Hoffman film won the Academy Awards Best Picture in 1970?
4. MUSIC: Which Pink Floyd song featured the lyrics, "All in all you're just another brick in the wall"?
5. GAMES: How many dominoes are in a standard set?
6. POLITICS: In what year did a Republican run for president on the slogan, "A chicken in every pot and a car in every garage."
7. FAMOUS QUOTES: What ancient philosopher said, "The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."
8. MYTHOLOGY: According to some popular accounts, what was the last name of the legendary King Arthur?
9. COMPUTERS: What does the acronym JPEG stand for?
10. LITERATURE: In which novel does the character of Madame Therese Defarge appear?

Answers

1. Blarney Castle, Cork, Ireland
2. Steven Spielberg
3. "Midnight Cowboy"
4. "Another Brick in the Wall — Part 2"
5. 28 pieces
6. 1928, Herbert Hoover
7. Aristotle
8. Pendragon
9. Joint Photographic Experts Group
10. "A Tale of Two Cities," Charles Dickens

12 Autos

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

CARS - CARS Buy●Sell●Trade Clean BMW, Volvo, Mercedes Toyota, Honda, Nissan cars 3432 N Main St. www.carrsmith.com CARRSMITH AUTO SALES 373-1150 4-23-72-12

●●● We Buy Junk Cars ●●● ●Trucks, Vans - Titled only● Call KT 352-281-9980 or 352-215-3191 4-23-72-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES \$0 DOWN!!! FILE YOUR TAXES HERE AND DRIVE HOME TODAY 352-338-1999 4-23-72-12

SUN CITY AUTO SALES ALL VEHICLES \$0 DOWN NO CREDIT CHECK!! NO EMPLOYMENT CHECK 352-338-1999 4-23-72-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES DOWNPAYMENT DEFERRED FILE YOUR TAXES HERE AND DRIVE HOME TODAY 352-375-9090 4-23-72-12

SUNRISE AUTO RENTALS ALL VEHICLES 2014 3630 N. MAIN ST. www.carrentalsunrise.com 352-375-9090 4-23-72-12

SUNRISE AUTO SALES DOWN PAYMENT DEFERRED NO CREDIT CHECKS!!! NO EMPLOYMENT CHECK 352-375-9090 4-23-72-12

96 OLDS ACHIEVA \$1500 95 FORD EXPLORER \$1500 94 CHEVY CAPRICE \$1500 93 NISSAN PATHFINDER \$1500 352-338-1999 4-23-72-12

93 CADILLAC SLS \$1999 92 TOYOTA CAMRY \$1999 91 CHEVY CAPRICE \$1900 00 BLAZER \$1999 352-338-1999 4-23-72-12

12 Autos

CASH PAID \$300 AND UP!!! ANY CONDITION-RUNNING OR NOT!!! FREE TOWING & SAME DAY PICK-UP NO TITLE NEEDED. Call Steve 352-771-6191 4-23-14-72-12

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.

GOLD ★ GEMS ★ ETC Free Appraisals ★ Top Cash or Trade 40 years in Business OZZIE 352-318-4009 4-23-72-13

UF GRAD PAYS MORE for gold jewelry, scrap gold, Rolex, diamonds, guitars, etc. Top \$\$\$ Get my offer before you sell! Call Jim 376-8090 or 222-8090 4-23-72-13



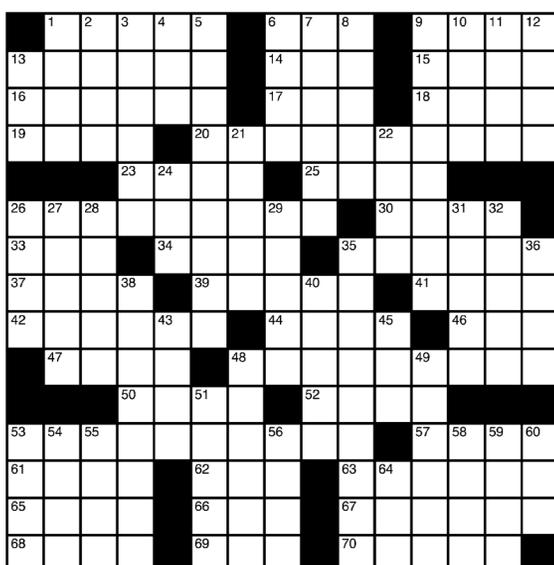
St. Francis House is a homeless shelter and soup kitchen located in downtown Gainesville, and we are looking for help from volunteers like you. St. Francis House depends on monetary support from individual donors and community businesses in order to help feed the homeless and the hungry. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Stephanie Beval at (352) 378-9079 or sfhcoor@stfrancis.cfoxmail.com To make a donation by mail, please send checks payable to St. Francis House P.O. Box 12491 Gainesville, FL 32604

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

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN | 38 Put a bad present to good use | 53 5'7" Spud who won the 1986 NBA Slam Dunk contest |
| 1 McCarthy's dummy friend | 1 Area below Greenwich Village | 40 Like daisies | 54 "Rubáiyát" poet |
| 6 Baltic, e.g. | 2 Sleigh ride song | 43 Lillian of the silver screen | 55 Enjoy |
| 9 Cougar | 3 As a whole | 45 Musical key abbr. | 56 Bouquet |
| 13 Canadian dollar coin nickname | 4 Kid | 48 Smart-looking | 58 Top-of-the-line |
| 14 "I threw away my golf shoes when I got a hole in one" e.g. | 5 Making pronouncements | 49 Enter quickly | 59 Visit with a guide |
| 15 Computer operating system | 6 A writer may work on it | 51 Character in "Donald's Nephews" (1938 cartoon) | 60 Money mgrs.? 64 Texer's "I didn't need to know that!" |
| 16 "Blackadder" network | 7 Trick-taking card game | ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE: | |
| 17 Hosp. heart exam | 8 Prefix meaning "English" | P B J A B L E T E R I | |
| 18 Medicinal dose | 9 Portable shelters | U R D U I R A N L I N E | |
| 19 Cutie pie | 10 Curriculum part | B A S S R A Z O R E D G E D | |
| 20 Impressionist whom Mel Blanc labeled "The Man of a Thousand Voices" | 11 Grain grinder | S T A M P E D E E V E R L Y | |
| 23 Baltic feeder | 12 Rod in a hot rod | L A R R Y D A V I D | |
| 25 "... a ___ / By any other name ..." | 13 Letters on some Brit. letterheads | P S I E S S M E N R S A | |
| 26 Head honcho | 21 Dancer Castle | Y E N T L S E A B E E N | |
| 30 Tolkien's talking trees | 22 Oracle's opening | R E G U L A R U N L E A D E D | |
| 33 Equal: Pref. | 24 UPS competitor | E D E N D E N N A S T Y | |
| 34 "The Mod Squad" cop | 26 Lettuce variety | S Y R R O E G A S K O S | |
| 35 Show shame, perhaps | 27 Imam's faith | S U R F E R D U D E | |
| 37 Smudge | 28 Fondue choice | G O H O M E N O R E A L L Y | |
| 39 '60s jacket style | 29 Knucklehead | A R T O O D E T O O S T Y E | |
| 41 UFO-tracking org. | 31 "Three Coins ..." fountain | M E T E R L E V I H O R N | |
| 42 Unsavory sort | 32 Resolute about | E S P Y F R E T N E S | |
| 44 Respectful address | 35 Reserve soldier | | |
| 46 From, in some European names | 36 Minor dent | | |



By Bryan W. Young and Jeff Chen (c)2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 02/26/14

SCRABBLE BRAND

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A ₁	I ₁	R ₁	H ₄	M ₃	F ₄	S ₁		RACK 1
A ₁	E ₁	U ₁	L ₁	L ₁	R ₁	P ₃	3rd Letter Double	RACK 2
E ₁	I ₁	U ₁	L ₁	R ₁	V ₄	S ₁		RACK 3
A ₁	E ₁	D ₂	G ₂	R ₁	H ₄	P ₃	Triple Word Score	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 145-155
BEST SCORE 226

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 tournament and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgams@gmail.com.

13 Wanted

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
2-21-14-72-13

The American Cancer Society
Road to Recovery Volunteers Needed!
VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED
to transport cancer patients to treatment.
Flexible schedule.
Training and liability insurance provided.
Please call
352-240-5062 if interested.

CASH PAID \$300 AND UP!!!
ANY CONDITION-RUNNING OR NOT!!!
FREE TOWING & SAME DAY PICK-UP
NO TITLE NEEDED CALL 352-771-6191
4-23-14-72-13

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.

Students in Accounting, Aviation, Business/Sales and computer science needed for various positions. Flexible schedules and competitive pay. Join our team! Learn more at www.gleim.com/employment 4-23-14-72-14

SBSG is a financial transcription company offering part-time work.
- Create your own schedule
- Competitive Production-Based Pay
- Close to campus!
- Must be able to touch-type 65wpm
Apply Online: www.sbsgrp.com 12-3-14-151-14

Certified Lifeguard for residential pool activities. Permanent Full time position available that serves as a Lifeguard during open pool season and as a Treatment Specialist for adult male psychiatric patients during the remainder of the year. Position will start at \$12.00 hourly with current Lifeguard Certification. Full time position will also require completion of some college course work or experience in a direct care treatment facility. Candidates must also have a valid Florida Drivers License, a non-disqualifying criminal record, and be able to provide college transcripts if applicable. Temporary Part time position -Requires current and active certification as a Lifeguard. Drivers License and a non-disqualifying criminal record required. No other education or experience required. Apply online @ <http://peoplefirst.myflorida.com>. Select vacancies in Alachua County. Position # 60033454 Unit Treatment Specialist (Lifeguard). You may also contact Grady Carthon @ (352)264-8248. Deadline for applications will be February 28, 2014. 2-27-14-9-14

DOMINO'S HIRING
Delivery Experts & Assistant Managers & Future Managers. Drivers earn between \$14-\$17 per hour. GMs earn 40K-50K+. Apply at gatordominos.com 4-23-14-70-14

Summer Jobs
· \$2400 for 8 weeks
· Co-ed camp
· Room and Board included
Get Paid to Play!
The Florida Elks Youth Camp (FEYC) needs male and female camp counselors ages 18 and up. FEYC is an over-night camp located in Umatilla, FL. The camp runs June 9th - August 2nd. Please contact Krysl Ragland at 352 455-4267 or Krysl@feyc.org. 4-23-14-64-14

Looking for Emergency Alarm Operators. Similar to 911 dispatching. Ability to work fast paced. This is an as needed position. Clean background check. Inquire to ddamiano@cpss.net 2-28-14-30-14

14 Help Wanted

Up to \$15 an hour! Busy Car Wash now looking for hard workers. Must have weekend availability and clean driving record. Apply online www.parkplacecarwash.com click the green "Join Us" ball. 2-27-14-12-14

Food Science and Human Nutrition at the University of Florida is conducting a research study for women 20-40 yo on birth control pills. Compensation given. For details call Luisa Rios-Avila at 392-1991 Ext 266. 4-23-14-45-14

AFTER SCHOOL MOTHER'S HELPER
needed ASAP for two GIFTED children, 8 and 10. Reliable car + clean driving record must. Student of elementary ed preferred. \$12-\$15/hr. Send resume to AlligatorNanny@gmail.com
3-10-14-10-14

ACCOUNTS
Immediate PT, flex hours, \$8/hr. Quickbooks knowledge or accounting major. officegnv@gmail.com 2-28-14-8-14



City College in Gainesville, Florida is seeking a Career Services Representative! This is a part-time position offering up to 30 hours per week. Hourly pay is competitive and based on experience.

- Requirements:
- College Degree
 - Previous Outside Sales Experience With Preference to Candidates with both Business-To-Business and Cold Calling Experience
 - Neat and Professional Appearance
 - Excellent Communication and Presentation Skills
 - Great Time Management Skills (Candidate will be required to work outside of the office at least 75% of the time)
 - Reliable Transportation (Travel Expenses WILL Be Reimbursed)

For consideration, please email your resume to: CSRep@SelfOpportunity.com

Seeking only local, qualified candidates. No phone calls, please. 2-26-14-4-14

Join New Horizons 2/26 @9:00 a.m Career Event hiring Educational Consultant - Call/screen students \$10 hr +bonus/commission/Mgmt opp Info Larina Hintze 352-642-1987 2-28-14-4-14

Looking for PART TIME help in running shoe retail store. Retail experience and athletic background is a plus. Email Resumes to joeparr@outlook.com 3-10-14-5-14

Nanny Housekeeper

Responsible, loving, fun and smart part-time after school nanny/housekeeper. Pick-up middle-schooler and transport to activities, help with homework, act as role-model, do light housework and prep for family meals. Educational experience preferred. References required. Hours M-F between 3pm-6pm. Salary dependent on qualifications. Respond to pflugg@bellsouth.net. 2-28-14-4-14

14 Help Wanted

Health Care us needed urgently, flexible working hours, salary is based on experience send resume/email to: dainelane@live.com for more details. 3-10-14-5-14

Certified Dental Assistant, x-rays, charting, expanded duties, enthusiastic, efficient, must have computer skills, schedule appointments, Dentrix knowledge Call 352-331-8683 epdentistry@live.com 3-11-14-5-14

15 Services

Do you have a business that provides a service? Place your ad in the Services Section of the Alligator Classifieds for as little as **\$2.50 per day**. Call us at 373-FIND.

IMPORT AUTO REPAIR. BMW, Mercedes, Porsche, Volvo, VW, Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Mazda. Quality craftsmanship, reasonable prices, near UF, AAA approved 378-7830 www.carrsmith.com 4-23-72-15

Want to be a CNA, phlebotomist or pharm tech? Express Training offers courses, days, eve, weekend. All classes live, no videos. Call 352-338-1193 or expresstrainingservices.com 4-23-14-72-15

PERSONAL TRAINING 300
Personal and Group Training
Flexible Scheduling Exclusive Facility
Call for a free workout
339-2199
4-23-72-15

NEED A LAWYER?
SiddiquiLegal.com
Private Experienced Affordable 4-23-72-15

Want to be a CNA? Don't want to wait? Express Training Services now offers a CNA class which can be completed in one weekend. Perfect for busy college students. www.expresstrainingservices.com/ww 4-23-14-67-15

16 Health Services

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

THE TRUE YOU!
Lose 8-15 pounds in 4 weeks
Only \$119!
Gain muscle while you lose fat
Groups forming now. 339-2199
4-23-72-16

18 Personals

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

18 Personals

★Family Chiropractic★
Since 1977. Two blocks from U.F.
373-7070
4-23-72-18

19 Connections

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

20 Event Notices

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

21 Entertainment

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

● Rocky Creek Paintball ●
In Gainesville ● It's a Blast!
Call 371-2092
4-23-14-72-21

23 Rides

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

24 Pets

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

Affectionate, funny, senior, female pit bull rescued from dog fighting/breeding operation needs stable, safe home. Dog loves people but is aggressive toward other canines. Otherwise very easy-going and quiet. For more info and pics, contact rbauman@ufl.edu. Without help, this poor girl might have no other options. 3-11-14-24

25 Lost & Found

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

ALLIGATOR CLASSIFIED ADS

GET THE JOB DONE!

REACH MORE THAN 50,000 READERS EACH PUBLICATION DAY

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™
by David L. Hoyt 2-26-14

1		2		3			
						4	
5							
		6					

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. _____ Convention	NAGVEE
5. 2, 4, 6,...	SENE
6. After	LRAET
7. Bird of prey	PYOSER

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Elbow _____	ASEGRE
2. Pine _____	DSENELE
3. Hotel guest	TORIVIS
4. Durable	TYDRUS

CLUE: This came into existence after World War I.

BONUS ○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○

How to play Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

ANSWERS: 1A-Genova 5A-Evens 6A-Later 7A-Osprey 1D-Grease 2D-Needle 3D-Visitor 4D-Sturdy B-Yugoslavia

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S ₁	U ₁	R ₁	V ₄	E ₁	I ₁	L ₁	RACK 3 =	<u>60</u>
G ₂	R ₁	A ₁	P ₃	H ₄	E ₁	D ₂	RACK 4 =	<u>92</u>
PAR SCORE 145-155							TOTAL	226

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AP Photo

Dorian Finney-Smith (10) is fouled by Vanderbilt forward Rod Odom (0) during the Gators' 57-54 win against the Commodores on Tuesday in Nashville, Tenn.

Finney-Smith helps Gators survive Commodores' barrage

JONATHAN CZUPRYN
Alligator Staff Writer @jczupryn

Scottie Wilbekin couldn't ice the game, Michael Frazier II couldn't break out from behind the arc and Casey Prather couldn't score during the game's last 32 minutes.

But when all else failed against Vanderbilt on Tuesday night, Dorian Finney-Smith didn't.

No. 1 Florida (26-2, 15-0 Southeastern Conference) escaped from Nashville, Tenn., with a 57-54 victory thanks to Finney-Smith, who finished the night 6 of 11 for a game-high 19 points.

The redshirt sophomore broke out of his 1-of-25 slump from three-point range to hit 3 of 6 threes against the Commodores (15-12, 7-8 SEC), including his biggest shot of the night with 33 seconds left in a two-point contest.

After letting a 12-point lead with just more than 13 minutes left in the second half crumble to a 54-52 battle within the final minute, the Gators created some breath-

ing room once Wilbekin found a wide-open Finney-Smith at the top of the arc.

"We really needed it," coach Billy Donovan said of Finney-Smith's clutch performance. "It was good to see him kind of break out."

The last time Finney-Smith had a double-digit scoring performance was Feb. 1 against Texas A&M. In the six games leading up to Tuesday night's matchup with Vanderbilt, the 6-foot-8 forward averaged just 4.5 points per game on 22 percent shooting.

Despite the unlikely turnaround by Finney-Smith, the Gators still struggled to create separation from the Commodores down the stretch.

In the first half, Florida forced 11 turnovers including five from the press, but Vanderbilt's 10-of-20 shooting from the floor and 4 of 10 from three kept it down only 32-25 at the break.

Even when the Gators extended their lead to a game-high 12 points about midway through the second half, the

Commodores used three consecutive three-pointers to thrust themselves back into the game.

Donovan said a big reason why Florida still clung to a lead despite allowing eight threes from Vanderbilt was the Gators' hustle for second-chance opportunities led by Finney-Smith and Patric Young.

Finney-Smith led all players with nine rebounds in the game, but six of Young's seven total rebounds were on the offensive side of the ball. Florida outrebounded Vanderbilt 31-25, including a 13-3 advantage on offensive rebounds.

"That was a huge key," Donovan said. "Patric chased basketballs on the backboard ... Dorian Finney-Smith got to the glass. We did a really, really good job on the backboard keeping possessions alive."

But a subpar performance at the free-throw line almost negated the Gators' effort on the glass.

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 15

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Florida hopes to regain footing after blowout Stanford loss

IAN COHEN
Alligator Writer @ibcohen5

The Gators dubbed their first loss of the season — a 4-2 upset at the hands of Northwestern, — a valuable learning experience.

What about the team's second loss, a 7-0 drubbing they received at the hands of No. 4 Stanford on Sunday?

"Just ouch," coach Roland Thornqvist said. Really?

"Really. That's what it was," he said. "I've been here 13 years and we haven't had a lot of those."

The Gators have lost seven times since the start of the 2010 season. Four of those losses have come against Stanford.

The difference between the Northwestern loss and the Stanford loss is plain.

The first defeat made the freshmen-loaded Florida aware of the target on its back — one that

can only be acquired from winning two straight national championships and conquering the Southeastern Conference three years in a row.



Thornqvist

Every opponent the Gators face wants to beat them — badly.

The seniors, and now the freshmen, understand that.

"Sometimes the underdog will come in and play very free because they have no pressure on them," senior Alexandra Cercone said earlier in the season. "So you know, they could come out and have the match of their life."

Lesson learned.

That makes the second match against Stanford the exam, one Thornqvist thinks the team failed.

SEE TENNIS, PAGE 15

UF aims for NCAA tourney

▶ GATORS HAVE TWO GAMES LEFT IN REGULAR SEASON.

GORDON STREISAND
Alligator Writer @GordonStreisand

With two games remaining in the season, the Gators hope to round back into the form that's given them a shot at making the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2012.

But Florida has found itself in the midst of its second three-game losing streak in Southeastern Conference play thanks to inconsistencies on both sides of the ball.

Against Georgia, Florida racked up 19 personal fouls and turned the ball over 18 times in a 67-58 loss. Against Missouri, Florida surrendered 81 points and 12 threes to the hottest three-point shooting team in the SEC.

On Sunday against South Carolina,

Florida mustered only 55 points after an 8-for-32 shooting performance in the first half.

"The one thing that hurt us down the stretch and in parts of the game were critical plays and not being very smart in making the right decisions and trying to overdo things at times," assistant coach David Lowery said.

Redshirt senior Lily Svete may be one of those individuals "overdoing" things.

Since posting a career-high 17 points in a home win against then-No. 15 Kentucky, she has failed to score a point in the three games since.

"Teams are paying attention to her a little bit more," Lowery said. "We haven't really tried to change what she's doing. This is crunch time. Our kids have got a lot of pressure on them. I'm not saying that's part of it,

SEE W-HOOPS, PAGE 15



Florida freshman Justine McLean leads the UF softball team in batting average. Read the story on page 16.

Gators garner honors

Florida lacrosse senior Krista Grabher and freshman Sammi Burgess won American Lacrosse Conference weekly awards on Tuesday. Grabher was Defensive Player of the Week; Burgess was Freshman of the Week.

Florida holds on to No. 1

The Gators softball team retained its top spot in both the NFCA and ESPN polls. The Gators are 16-0 to start the season. They play No. 4 Oregon on Friday.

Defense improving in front of skilled UF goalkeeper duo

► GATORS GAVE UP ONLY 14 POINTS IN PAST TWO GAMES.

EDEN OTERO

Alligator Writer @edenotero_1

After graduating 13 seniors in 2013, the No. 5 Gators (4-1) are quickly working to strengthen their depleted defense.

In the first five games of the season, Florida has yet to show a spectacular defensive effort. However, after being blown out by No. 1 North Carolina (4-0) in their season-opener on Feb. 8, the Gators have worked to establish a more stable defense.

Coach Amanda O'Leary said Monday that the Gators are working to strengthen the defense, and they have made strides toward becoming tougher in defending the cage.

It's always said that the best of offense is a good defense. However, Florida has won its last four games by keeping the offense in control of the ball, letting the defense and midfielders work on causing turnovers and helping goalkeepers senior Cara Canington and sophomore Mary-Sean Wilcox make big saves.

In Florida's most recent win, a 19-6 blowout against Cincinnati (0-2) on Saturday, the Gators proved that their offense was best at breaking down man-to-man coverage and staying quick on the draw. Though playing well on offense is good for UF now, it could be detri-

mental when Florida starts to face ranked opponents — such as No. 7 Loyola, which the Gators play next week — if its defense isn't in line.

"Against James Madison and, actually, Cincinnati as well, our team played really well offensively," O'Leary said. "Defensively, again, it's a work in progress. We have a young squad on that defensive end as well."

Senior Krista Grabher is the only remaining senior defender, with the exception of Canington.

Grabher was named American Lacrosse Conference Player of the Week on Tuesday after helping hold Cincinnati and James Madison to a combined 14 points. In addition, she recorded two ground balls and one draw control.

Grabher said Florida's current defense and the previous year's side are much different.

"We have a completely different mindset this year on defense," Grabher said. "We used to play a very individualistic-type-style defense. Now, with a younger team, we're able to make it more cohesive, a more team defense."

With four sophomores and three freshmen, Grabher diligently helped lead and reform the entire defensive end of the team.

However, O'Leary has worked hard in the last few weeks to strengthen the style that allows the Gators to work as a cohesive unit with Canington or Wilcox in the center, telling the defense exactly what to expect next.

"[Goalkeepers] are a huge part of it because they are our eyes," Grabher said. "They tell us everything that we can't see."

Canington has 23 saves this season and posted a season high of 13 against UNC. Wilcox has also

been at the top of her game, making a total of 18 saves this season and posting a season high of five against James Madison.

O'Leary has been happy with the efforts by Wilcox and Canington, saying multiple times that

both goalkeepers have shown that the Gators can depend upon them.

"We're solid in the goal cage with Cara and Mary-Sean," O'Leary said.

"But our defense is showing some real signs of progress."



Emily Cochrane / Alligator Staff

Mary-Sean Wilcox defends the goal during Florida's 19-6 win against Cincinnati on Sunday at Donald R. Dizney Stadium. Wilcox and fellow goalkeeper Cara Canington have allowed 14 goals in UF's last two games.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Gators look to final meet before NCAA Championships

LOGAN MCGUIRE

Alligator Writer @loganjmguire

The Southeastern Conference Championships are over for Florida's swimming and diving teams. Now, the focus shifts solely to the national championship meet set to begin on March 27 in Austin, Texas.

Although the No. 8 women's team came up short of their goals — placing third at SECs — it did qualify three more swimmers for the NCAA meet, bringing their total number to 15 NCAA "A" cut qualifications. Sophomore Sinead Russell leads the bunch with seven "A" cuts and competes in all five relays. Fellow sophomore Natalie Hinds and senior Elizabeth Beisel have six each.



Troy

"We qualified three more women for the NCAA meet and feel like we're in a good position to move on," coach Gregg Troy said.

"I was proud of the way they raced and their intensity in the meet, so I think it's a good building point for them for what we're looking at next month."

Beisel managed to get one of her four individual "A" cuts by breaking the school record in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:54.26.

The men went ballistic at SECs, coming in first for the second consecutive year. They set

seven school records and qualified for three more events — including the lone relay that hadn't made the cut.

But the competition took a lot out of both teams.

"They're tired. Five days of racing is worse than two weeks of training," Troy said. "Our preparation for the meet certainly wasn't like the end of the year, so there's a whole lot left in the tank. It's a good dynamic from that point."

NCAA Championships have been Troy's focus since the season began in late September, and the Bulldog Last Chance Meet on Friday will be the Gators' final opportunity to qualify swimmers for nationals.

Troy expects everyone who competes to

make a run at qualifying, specifically redshirt sophomore Austin Manganiello, junior Billy Silva and sophomore Luke Torres, but said it would depend on how they respond to the dynamic.

The women's team is more built for NCAAAs compared to the conference meet, but Troy said they need to make roster revisions before he's satisfied.

Both teams will need to improve on some technical issues over the next month, namely breakouts.

Troy believes his men's team can improve on its performance at SECs.

"I don't think we have anyone that can't go faster than what we did this weekend," he said.

Florida finishes third at Sugar Bowl Intercollegiate Championship

Result was UF's best of '14

EMILY COCHRANE

Alligator Writer @EmilySCochrane

The Gators left New Orleans with their best finish of the 2013-14 season.

No. 16 Florida began Round 3 of the Allstate Sugar Bowl Intercollegiate Championship in third place and finished the tournament in third with a score of 858 (-6), trailing tournament winner No. 2 UCLA and runner-up No. 1 USC.

It was the fifth-lowest tournament score in the team's history and its best score in four years in the English Turn Golf & Country Club.

"It was a great tournament for us. We put together three solid rounds and played smart golf all week," coach Emily Glaser said in a release. "The girls worked hard after a disappointing finish in California, and we saw that pay off this week."

Every player on the Florida team

shot even or below par at least once during the three rounds of competition, even though the first 36 holes were played in one day due to rain Sunday morning.

UF Golf

Maria Torres led the Gators during the final round, tying for third with two other golfers with a score of 210 (-6).

The freshman shot under par during each of the three rounds and left New Orleans with not only her lowest collegiate tournament score,

but also a personal-best score of 69, which she shot in the final round.

"Maria had a great tournament and improved each day," Glaser said. "Her wedge game was great this week."

Junior Sarah Schober also finished under par with a score of 214 (-2), tying for 14th place with two other golfers.

Senior Elcin Ulu and junior Camilla Hedberg both shot their lowest tournament scores of the season. Ulu tied for 32nd with a score of 219 (+3), and Hedberg tied for 27th with

a score of 218 (+2).

Redshirt sophomore Katie Mitchell and freshman Karolina Vlckova, who competed as an individual, tied each other and six other players for 37th place with a score of 220 (+4).

Florida's next tournament is the SunTrust Gator Invitational at Mark Bostick Golf Course at UF on March 14. The Gators placed third in 2013.

"We will gain a lot of confidence from this finish in California and the opportunity to play with the No. 1 and No. 2 ranked teams," Glaser said.

Peoples trying to snap out of three-point cold streak

W-HOOPS, from page 13

but I think it's a lot that they're thinking about. I think she's just got to relax and let the game flow to her. When she gets opportunities, she's got to take advantage of them."

Redshirt sophomore Cassie Peoples has been another player who has struggled with consistency.

Heading into South Carolina, Peoples was 3 for 33 from beyond the arc.

"Cassie just hasn't shot the ball well," Lowery said. "It's not like she's taking bad shots. You talk about a kid that gets in the gym all the time and is shooting the ball and really working on focusing on hitting the shots she needs."

Against the Gamecocks, however, Peoples went 2 for 4 from three-point range, sinking both of her shots in the first half.

"Hopefully, she's finding some rhythm here," Lowery said. "We know she can score, but she's got to also keep shooting. It's like every shooter or kid that can score; you're going to go through times where you're not going to hit shots. I think she's gaining that confidence more now."

"She knows she has the ability to hit the shots. She's just got to hit them."

However, Peoples was held scoreless in the second half.

The loss to the Gamecocks exemplified Florida's half-to-half inconsistencies it has been experiencing during its three-game skid.

In the first half, the Gators shot 25 percent from the field and were down 32-22 at halftime.

In the second half, they shot 40.7 percent and scored 33 points, but they surrendered 37 to the Gamecocks in the same half.

"I thought, for the most part, we started the game the way we wanted to," Lowery said. "We jumped out 7-0 on them. We got some big plays down the stretch defensively, but on the offensive end, we weren't being very tough at trying to get to the rim or getting in the paint and making the plays we needed to."

Florida's most consistent post player, Kayla Lewis, had only three points and four rebounds in the first half. In the second half, she scored 12 points and grabbed five more boards.

"Going down the second half, I thought Kayla Lewis, for one, really stepped up," Lowery said.

"In the first half, she was, I'm not going to say non-existent, but I didn't think she was the player that she could be. I think our defense led to that offense."



Emily Cochrane / Alligator Staff

Cassie Peoples attempts a shot during Florida's 81-76 loss to Missouri on Thursday in the O'Connell Center. Peoples averages 9.9 points per game.

Seniors struggling to lead team

TENNIS, from page 13

"When you're an athlete at Florida, every year, you go through a thorough examination, coaches and players, of what you're made of," Thornqvist said.

"The Northwestern loss really taught us a valuable lesson, I thought, and we rebounded so nicely the match after [that] loss. What our players had outlined, what they wanted, how they supported each other, so on and so forth. We really didn't do a good job of that [against Stanford]."

After three years of deferring to former All-Americans Lauren Embree and Allie Will, the blame is now naturally shifted to Florida's oldest players: Olivia Janowicz, Sofie Oyen and Cerceno.

The four losses to Stanford compose over half the team's

defeats since the arrival of the Gators' current seniors. For those three, the transition from students to leaders has had its challenges.

"It has to be our leaders who have been through the ring of fire already — our seniors," Thornqvist said. "I think they were very hurt by the loss [Sunday]. For the first time, they're responsible for the whole group. And there's a learning curve to that, just as there's one to a freshmen coming in and trying to figure everything out."

However, if history is any indication, there is good news for Florida.

After falling to Stanford in the 11th game of the 2011 season — almost the exact situation the Gators (8-2) find themselves in now — Florida rattled off 21 consecutive wins en route to an NCAA Championship.

After losing to Stanford the next year, the Gators finished the season with 22 consecutive wins and a second national title.

"It's part of the romance of being here, I think," Thornqvist said. "You just get put to the test every time."

"When we fly to Palo Alto to play the defending national champions, we expect to win. And when we don't, it's supposed to hurt. That's just the way it is."

Florida is hoping history repeats itself as it prepares for its next match against No. 9 Texas A&M at the end of the week.

"[This weekend] just isn't the standard we're accustomed to, and I think [the team] takes full responsibility and accountability. I sure do," Thornqvist said.

"They're going to be better Friday, I can guarantee you that."



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Olivia Janowicz hits the ball during Florida's 4-0 win against Harvard on Jan. 26 at the Ring Tennis Complex. Janowicz fell in straight sets in Florida's 7-0 loss to Stanford.

Vanderbilt had chance to tie game on last possession of contest

HOOPS, from page 13

After Finney-Smith extended Florida's lead to five following his three-point shot with 33 seconds on the clock, Vanderbilt's Kyle Fuller answered with a layup to bring the game back to within one possession.

After Fuller fouled Wilbekin with 10 seconds remaining, the senior point guard had a chance to seal the win by sinking at least the first of his one-and-one from the line. But Wilbekin's shot rimmed out and the Commodores had one last shot to tie the game with



Wilbekin

a three.

Vanderbilt inbounded the ball out of a timeout with 6.6 seconds left and gave Fuller an open three from the left wing. The ball bounced off the glass, hit the front of the rim and by the time the Commodores retrieved the rebound, it was too late to try another three.

"I should have fouled him as soon as he started dribbling," Young said. "We were very fortunate that he missed that shot."

A radio broadcast contributed to this report.

Freshman on hot streak after slow start to first season

► **MCLEAN HAS POSTED A .412 BATTING AVERAGE.**

JORDAN MCPHERSON

Alligator Writer @J_McPherson1126

Justine McLean has found her stride.

After a slow start to her freshman campaign, the Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., native is now one of Florida's most consistent players at the plate.

Through Florida's first six games of the season, in which McLean started five in the outfield, she garnered only one hit in 10 at-bats.

"She was still fast and she was still athletic through the first six games, but she was really nervous," coach Tim Walton said. "She was trying to meet some expectations that she built up, and her insides were turning really fast."

But in her last nine games, the first-year outfielder posted a .542 batting average and a .667 slugging percentage after logging 13 hits, including a double and a triple.

McLean said the upperclassmen have helped her relax and have eased her transition into college softball.

"It's so nerve-wracking because I've been dreaming of this moment since high school," McLean said.

"But we're all really close, and

they all know how to calm me down because they've all been in this position before."

McLean's .412 average at the plate is 17th in the Southeast-

ern Conference and sixth among freshmen in the SEC.

Her six stolen bases are the second most among SEC freshmen, trailing only Tennessee's

Megan Geer, who has seven.

"She's really doing a good job," Walton said. "I can see her smile a little bit more and breathe a little bit easier."

"As fast as she is, as athletic as she is, it's really hard to measure that when you've got your insides churning as fast as I think they were. I think the game's slowing down for her now and she looks a lot more confident at the plate."

Through Florida's first three tournaments of 2014, Walton has been experimenting with McLean's position in the batting rotation.

She started the season off as the last batter in the lineup, but Walton moved her to second in the order during Florida's home opener against Jacksonville and kept her there through Day 2 of the Lipton Invitational on Saturday.

He intends to keep McLean at the bottom of the order.

"It's going to be better in the nine-one just because of the way Kelsey Stewart was pitched around late in the game to get to Justine," Walton said. "Justine is probably going to beat you, and she can. ... But the likelihood of that happening doesn't seem to be as high in the opponent's perspective."

Despite the improvement, McLean still feels she has room to grow.

"I have expectations for myself and I don't think I've really met them yet," she said.

"But overall, I think that I can work towards it and it'll just get better from here."



Emily Cochrane / Alligator Staff

Justine McLean runs toward first base during Florida's 6-0 win against Jacksonville on Feb. 19 at Katie Seashole Pressly Stadium. McLean leads the Gators with a .412 batting average.

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