

the independent florida alligator

Not officially associated with the University of Florida

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We Inform. You Decide.

Karsten Whitson pitched two innings if UF's 11-inning, 5-4 loss to FAU on Tuesday. Read the story on page 13.



VOLUME 108 ISSUE 128

WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014

Final Four-teen hour drive? Gators plan Dallas trips

Some bus tickets are \$30

ALYSSA PIVNIOUK
Alligator Contributing Writer

UF students hoping to visit Dallas for the Final Four this weekend can make their trip easy with several travel package arrangements.

The Gainesville-based Luxury Travel Institute and the University Athletic Association are providing students with four-day travel packages that include bus tickets and hotel accommodations.

The company has 52 spots

open for \$339 per person. The trip includes round-trip coach transportation as well as a four-night stay at a hotel. The package also provides transfers from the hotel to Gators pep rallies and the games, said Andy Bailey, the company's president.

He said he has been running sports-oriented trips since Steve Spurrier was at UF. He said he

provides these student packages because the company's roots are in the university community — Bailey founded the company about 30 years ago while he was a UF student.

"You gotta take care of the people who took care of you," Bailey said.

The University Athletic Association is also offering packages

to students who attended three or more home basketball games this year.

Jonathan Arnholz, vice president of the Men's Basketball Rowdies, said his organization has been pushing the whole season for a bus package from the UAA if the Gators advanced to the Final Four.

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 4



Rachel Crosby / Alligator Staff

Leaping by the Lake

Zhuyuan Huang, 4, plays on the banks of Lake Alice on Tuesday afternoon. The lake, located on UF's campus, is one of several locations to view live alligators in Gainesville.

LOCAL

Yoho challenger Rush called out for LARPing

KELCEE GRIFFIS

Alligator Staff Writer
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Jake Rush is running for U.S. Congress. He's a lawyer. And, sometimes, when he's not working, he's also Lord Staas van der Winst.

The candidate up against incumbent Gainesville Tea Party Congressman Ted Yoho has drawn criticism in the past week after the SaintPetersblog published a post calling out Rush for taking part in supernatural role-playing games. Since then, the story has been picked up by national publications like Vanity Fair and Gawker.

The blog cited message board posts made by Chazz Darling, supposedly one of

Rush's online personas, that insinuated sexually assaulting another character.

Rush is open about his involvement in acting and role-playing. In the Gainesville chapter of fantasy-themed gaming and acting community The Camarilla, he portrays the character listed as Lord Staas van der Winst on the group's Wikipedia page.

But his campaign says some critics are rushing to inaccurate conclusions about the implications of his hobbies.

Alex Patton, a campaign spokesman, said the blog spun Rush's involvement in gaming and acting as "Satan worship."

Patton said Rush's hobby

SEE LARP, PAGE 4

Advertisement emails bring up student data privacy issue

SEAN STEWART-MUNIZ

Alligator Staff Writer
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For students wondering where the emails that fill their Webmail spam folders come from, there's more to the process than someone on the other end clicking the send button.

Spring has seen recurring emails in students' university accounts for an online college networking service called ClusterFlunk. Founder AJ Nelson wrote

in an email that the website filed a public records request to UF at the beginning of the semester for a list of students' email addresses and majors.

Although federal law under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act protects students' information, not all of it remains private. "Directory information," or details deemed not harmful or an invasion of privacy, are available to the public upon request.

Such is the case at UF, where

"The University of Florida is required by law to provide directory information on its students, faculty and staff if requested."

Janine Sikes
UF spokeswoman

for a \$100 flat fee, anyone can obtain a student's information: their name; email address; phone number; local and permanent address; major; class and college; enroll-

ment status; date of attendance; degrees and awards received; previous educational institutions attended; weight and height of university athletes; publication titles for dissertations; and nature and place of employment at UF.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes wrote in an email that the university receives about 15 of these requests per semester.

"The University of Florida is required by law to provide directory information on its students,

faculty and staff if requested," Sikes said. "Like students, faculty and staff also receive unwanted email from vendors. Some of it ends up in our spam filters and some gets through, nonetheless."

While she said the university hasn't received complaints regarding spam emails, ClusterFlunk's emails aren't just going into spam folders.

Michael Stone, a 26-year-old UF teaching assistant and gradu-

SEE EMAIL, PAGE 4

Today

86/56

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Senate sees academic and student organization budget

They'll discuss it further next week, pg 3.

Stores prepare for Final Four merchandise craze

Shirts are a hot commodity, pg 5.



UF student uses YouTube to ask Tim Tebow to military ball

She wants his support for a fundraiser, pg 8.



News Today

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Ubuntu UF

African Student Union presents the 42nd Annual Showcase of African fashion, dance, art, drama and food, so dress up and enjoy an entertaining night of full-blown African culture Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom.

Edible Book Contest

All UF students, faculty and staff are invited to create an "edible book" and enter it in the George A. Smathers Libraries' contest April 9 from 11 a.m. to noon on the walkway in front of Library West. The only rules are that it must be edible and must be somehow related to a book. Judges will determine the winner in each category, and the winners will be awarded prizes. Winners will be announced at 12:15 p.m. and do not have to be present to win. Categories: People's Choice (voted by the public), Best Children's Book, Best Non-Cake Entry, Best Non-Fiction Book and Best Pun. More information: uflib.ufl.edu/readfest/ediblebook.html.

RUB Entertainment Presents: Big Orange Festival

We cordially invite the Gator Nation to the first Big Orange Festival April 11 at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union. Featuring CollegeHumor Live's Jake and Amir, a nationally recognized musical act to be announced soon, art vendors, free food and more. Make sure to like Big Orange Festival on Facebook. See you at #BigOrangeFest.

UPTA's Carnival for Kids

The Undergraduate Physical Therapy Association would like to invite UF families to its kids carnival. The carnival will be April 12 from noon to 4 p.m. on Hume Field. Admission is \$5 per family. All proceeds will be donated to muscular dystrophy research and related causes. There will be a Scooby-Doo bounce house, giant bubble stations, arts and crafts, face painting, prizes, raffles and more. Please contact UPTA at ufupta@gmail.com with any questions.

Celebrate Passover with UF Hillel

Not going home for seder? UF Hillel has got you covered. Passover begins April 14, and UF Hillel will be organizing seders for the first two nights of the holiday. There are many options to satisfy all our students' needs. If you

FORECAST

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
SUNNY 86/56	SUNNY 87/59	CLOUDY 83/61	THUNDER-STORMS 82/61	CLOUDY 83/63

are interested in attending a large campus seder, participating in a themed seder, or hosting a smaller one with friends, please register for Passover at www.ufhillel.org. All food served will be Kosher for Passover. Seders at Hillel are subsidized for students and cost \$15. No student will be turned away due to financial hardship. If you need financial assistance, please email rabiswedroe@ufhillel.org or call 352-372-2900.

Lavender Graduation

LGBT Affairs is hosting its annual Lavender Graduation April 18 at 7 p.m. The ceremony acknowledges the achievements and contributions of LGBT and ally students at UF. The event is to recognize these students' leadership and community service experiences that have made a difference in improving the campus climate regarding LGBT issues. If you are graduating, please notify LGBT Affairs to be recognized and receive a Lavender Graduation certificate as well as a rainbow tassel. LGBT Affairs is also looking for candidates for Spring 2014 Community Impact Awards and Rainbow Alliance Awards for Student LGBT Service and Research.

Velo Vixen MTB Skills Clinic

The second annual Velo Vixen MTB Skills Clinic will be held April 19 at 9 a.m. at San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park. Lunch will be provided by Harvest Thyme Cafe and all participants will receive a fabulous Vixen commemorative T-shirt. Reservations are not necessary, but strongly encouraged. You can register online using PayPal here: touchstoneval.com/vixen-clinic.html

Midnight Fun Run 2014

Join us for the eighth annual Midnight Fun Run, a 5K run or 1-mile walk around Lake Alice. The event is the last day of Spring classes, April 23, at 11:59 p.m. Registration is open on RSConnect at rsconnect.recsports.ufl.edu. The first 150 registrants will receive a RecSports flashing LED light wand. The

registration cost for Gator 1 Card holders (including students and staff) is \$12, which includes the event T-shirt and breakfast after the event. Gator 1 Card holders can register guests for \$20. Participants can register on-site (cash and checks only) for \$10, which includes breakfast but does not include the event T-shirt. For more information, visit recSports.ufl.edu.

Restoring Bambooville

A group of students is working to present a formal proposal to the Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee as well as the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee to bring back Bambooville. To help, find the Facebook page "Restore Bambooville," or contact Elliot Larkin at Larkin@ufl.edu or Nick Chrone at NChrone@ufl.edu. Also, sign the petition on Change.org.

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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Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Sen. Davis Bean, the chair of the budget and appropriations committee, talks Tuesday evening about the academic and student organizational budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Senate sees academic and student organization budget

HANNA MARCUS

Alligator Staff Writer

hmarcus@alligator.org

In Tuesday night's Senate meeting, 71 senators unanimously passed two resolutions and got their first peek at the proposed organizational budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Sen. Davis Bean, chair of the budget and allocations committee, presented the proposed budget. The money will go to academic and student organizations.

Bean said his committee spent more than 50 hours on the budget.

"It really is a big and tedious process going line item by line item through all these (organizations') budgets," he said, "but it's something I enjoy and know the committee enjoys as well."

The student organization budget totaled about \$1 million. The budget committee met with 48 student organizations in about 26 hours.

Of these student organizations, three new groups will receive money from SG: the Iranian Student Association, PhDMoms

and WiSE. Other groups, like Gator Raiders, Pro-Life Alliance and Student Animal Alliance, fell out of the budget cycle.

"It really is a big and tedious process going line item by line item through all these (organizations') budgets, but it's something I enjoy and know the committee enjoys as well."

Sen. Davis Bean

budget and allocations committee chair

The budget also allocates about \$425,000 to 20 academic organizations.

In addition to the presentation, senators unanimously passed two resolutions.

The first resolution honored the life and legacy of Reubin Askew, a Florida governor who recently died. The second resolution supported a strategic response discouraging racism on campus. This resolution was in response to the derogatory fliers posted Feb. 26 aimed at Asian-Americans saying "Wanted Dog for Cash."

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Landowner plans to evict homeless Tent City residents

Shelter opens on May 1

JENNA LYONS

Alligator Staff Writer jllyons@alligator.org

For Gainesville's homeless residents, the city's former correctional facility couldn't become a shelter any sooner: One of the property owners of Tent City plans to evict residents.

The owner wants to clear his property before selling it, and with the eviction looming, the Alachua

County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry is suggesting residents head to the new shelter, called Gainesville Regional Area Community Empowerment, or GRACE Marketplace, when it opens next month.

"It's a shame because some of these people have been there for many years," said Theresa Lowe, executive director for the coalition.

Come May 1, when the shelter

opens, displaced homeless residents could find a new home on Northeast 39th Avenue.

The shelter is set to provide space for about 100 people, Lowe said.

City Commissioner Todd Chase first suggested converting the facility to a shelter. He said he can't say for sure if Tent City residents will flock there but hopes the building will provide relief to any residents trying to get back on their feet.

"For me, the issue of homelessness has come down to trying to provide opportunities to help the

"It's a shame because some of these people have been there for many years."

Theresa Lowe

Alachua County Coalition
for the Homeless and Hungry
executive director

people that want help," Chase said. "My main hope is that people come to the center."

Meanwhile, nearby business owners who heard of the Tent City eviction said, "it's about time."

Miguel Figueroa said he tries not to "judge anyone," but running a repair service for high-end BMWs around the community has been a challenge.

"It's never been good for business," said Figueroa, owner of Best Motor Works, located at 65 SE 10th Ave.

He said the constant "exposure," whether people are walking around or begging for money, alienated some clientele. "We've been trying to be as politically correct or nice as possible," he said.

RESEARCH

Vet researchers find gold may help bone cancer treatment

AMANDA KASTRINOS

Alligator Contributing Writer

The future is rich for bone cancer research, thanks to a new discovery by a team of UF veterinary researchers.

Dr. Valery Scharf and her team found a gold-based drug may slow the growth of osteosarcoma, or bone cancer tumors, in dogs and people.

Scharf said osteosarcoma develops when a group of bone cells become abnormal and start multiplying rapidly. It is typically treated either by surgically removing the tumor or using radiation therapy to kill the abnormal

cells.

Although these methods treat the tumor locally, Scharf said they don't stop the microscopic spread of the cancer cells to the lungs, which is the major issue with this type of disease. She said by the time the tumor is removed, cancer is usually already affecting the lungs.

"The life expectancy with those treatments is still often around a year in dogs," she said. "So what we're looking for are different medications that we can use to make that time period longer."

The drug aurothiomalate, or gold salts,

The life expectancy with those treatments is still often around a year in dogs."

Dr. Valery Scharf

UF veterinary researcher

had previously shown positive results fighting lung cancer in humans. Scharf said her approach was to take this research and see if it would be effective in dogs and cats.

"A lot of the good chemotherapy drugs have had a metal molecule in them," she said. "So that's why people decided to start looking at gold and seeing if it had similar effects."

Although it's not shiny like gold, Scharf said the yellow compound has shown positive results slowing tumor growth both in petri dishes and in mice. Scharf said her team still has a lot of research to do before the drug can be used on animals or humans.

Larissa Menke, a 21-year-old UF marine science senior, said this discovery promotes "one health," the idea that the same medicines can be used to treat animals and humans.

"That's exactly what I want to do, applying it to humans as well," she said. "It's definitely becoming more common, which is a really important thing for world health."

Students can filter their UF email inboxes

EMAIL,
from page 1

ate student, took notice when ClusterFlunk's emails visited his typically spam-free inbox. Within three weeks, three more emails appeared.

Stone took his concerns to Twitter, where he questioned ClusterFlunk on where it obtained his email. ClusterFlunk apologized and removed him from its mailing list.

He said his issue isn't with ClusterFlunk but with its cluttering of email accounts reserved for educational purposes.

"If everyone found out about this practice, if companies started automatically doing this — it'll be worse than your personal email,"

he said.

As a teacher of an online course for the College of Journalism and Communications, Stone's main mode of communication with his students is through email, he said.

If the volume of spam emails picks up in UF email accounts, he's worried his students won't be able to see his emails or check their inboxes at all.

Although students can't stop anyone from requesting their information, steps can be taken to shield their inboxes from spam.

Florida Bridgewater-Alford, director of campus communications outreach, wrote in an email that students can check the university's help desk wiki for information on how to filter their emails.

Hobby could earn respect among some LARP, from page 1

was mischaracterized by his opposition as a "political hack job." But, he said, "you kind of expect these things when you're campaigning."

The Alligator could not reach Yoho for comment.

In a statement, Rush said that as a Christian, he was "deeply offended that the opposing campaign and their supporters would take a gaming and theatre hobby and mischaracterize it." He also indirectly addressed allegations about the posts.

"The very definition of acting is expressing ideas and thoughts that are not your own," he said.

But some Gainesville community members seemed unfazed and even positive about Rush's hobbies.

Harry Beck, a 21-year-old UF anthropology junior who is the secretary for the campus tabletop gaming club Delta Nu Delta, said Rush would likely "get a lot of respect from the nerd community."

"I think it makes him a lot more human," Beck said.

He noted gaming and role-playing are simply hobbies that shouldn't be considered odd in context.

"Everyone has something that they take part in to blow off steam," he said. "Some people go out to nightclubs. Some people go hunting. Other people play games with friends, and some people LARP."

Journalism junior Lawrence Chan, the 21-year-old main organiz-

er for SwampCon, an anime, gaming and sci-fi gathering at UF, said rumors about Rush's private hobbies shouldn't impact his campaign.

Rush and Yoho will face off in the Aug. 26 Republican primary. The general election for the District 3 congressional seat will be Nov. 4.



Courtesy to the Alligator

Congressional candidate Jake Rush and his wife, Anne, pose in live action role-playing outfits.

Eligible UF students can buy tickets for the game(s) for \$40

BASKETBALL, from page 1

The association delivered with a travel package that includes \$30 round-trip bus tickets and hotel rooms at the Hilton Anatole for about \$250 per room per night. Rooms can fit up to four students. The package is only eligible for 100 UF students who bought tickets through the student sale, according to a UAA press release.

Eligible students can buy tickets for both the Final Four and the national championship for \$40 total, said Alicia

Longworth, marketing and promotions assistant athletic director.

Buses for both travel packages will depart Gainesville Thursday night and arrive in Dallas on Friday morning. Students will arrive back to Gainesville on Tuesday after the national championship game Monday.

For students staying in Gainesville, Arnholz said the athletic association will hold a watch party in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center if the Gators advance to the national championship.

Jake Sillick, last season's president of the Men's Basketball Rowdies, traveled to the Final Four tournament in 2007 and plans to utilize the UAA's travel package this year.

The 25-year-old UF computer and electrical engineering major said the students' presence will give the team a boost.

"I'm out-of-my-mind excited," Sillick said. "This is something I've looked forward to for years."

Man picks up woman at Gator City, charged with sexual battery

His bond is \$1 million

JENNA LYONS

Alligator Staff Writer jlyons@alligator.org

Gainesville Police arrested a local man Friday following accusations that he and another man picked up a woman from a Midtown bar, took her to a hotel and raped her.

Officers arrested 21-year-old Jaser Almutair on charges of sexual battery, according to an arrest report.

A second suspect has not been arrested.

At about 2:20 a.m. Saturday, Almutair told police he and another



Almutair

man met the victim on the dance floor of Gator City. She was too drunk to remember her name or where she lived, he said.

Almutair said they were going to take her home, but she made a sexual reference so

they decided to take her to a hotel, according to the report. He denied the victim ever said no.

In the hotel bathroom, the victim tried to call her friend for help, but her phone was dead. She told police she remembered vomiting and feeling scared — she didn't know where she was, according to the report.

She told police she eventually

laid on one of the beds, and both men forced themselves on her despite her protests.

Afterward, the two men bought food at a Burger King drive-thru and dropped her off at her apartment, according to the report.

Officers booked Almutair into the Alachua County Jail at 11:56 p.m., where he remained as of press time in lieu of a \$1 million bond.

LOCAL

Upcoming apartment complex to have new type of electric meter

BRADLEY NORMAN

Alligator Contributing Writer

Gainesville Regional Utilities is partnering with Trimark Properties in the development of an electrical meter communication system.

The Advanced Meter Infrastructure is being developed by GRU in Trimark's newest property, Savion Park Luxury Apartments, opening in August on Southwest Fifth Avenue.

David Lea, AMI project manager at GRU,

said the system makes electrical operations more efficient.

"It allows us to communicate with those (meters) and operate those from the office without sending people and equipment out into the field," he said.

Additionally, customers will be able to specifically monitor their energy usage and how it's being used every day, he said.

Lea said GRU is testing other meters within Innovation Square businesses and a couple other apartment complexes.

"It's going to save people a lot of time and money."

Josh Stepling

marketing and communications associate at Trimark Properties

Rob Edmunds, the development and construction manager at Trimark, said GRU approached Trimark and asked if it could test its new smart meters on the Savion complex as a part of its pilot program.

Savion tenants will benefit from same-day

service rather than having to call, make an appointment and wait for ground personnel, he said.

Josh Stepling, marketing and communications associate at Trimark Properties, said he thinks GRU wants to make it a positive experience for the consumer.

"Their plans are to make it so that people in the future can form a budget, track their spending throughout the month and submit payments," Stepling said. "It's going to save people a lot of time and money."



Rachel Crosby / Alligator Staff

Building a Legacy

Gene Leedy, an 86-year-old UF architecture alumnus, poses for a photo Tuesday in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house that he designed. His visit commemorated the building's 50th anniversary.

Stores prepare for Final Four craze

► **UF BOOKSTORE WILL BRING EXTRA EMPLOYEES.**

CARLY JUVE

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF students are gearing up for the frenzy of the Final Four, and the success of the men's basketball team has the Florida bookstores scrambling to accommodate the impending rush.

The UF Bookstore has more than 900 Final Four T-shirts ready for students and fans to purchase, said Pamela Grasso, UF Bookstore general merchandise manager.

She said the most popular item will be the T-shirts the team was sporting just after Saturday's win.

"Students want to be a part of it," Grasso said. "They want to represent something specific about bas-

"Students want to be a part of it."

Pamela Grasso

UF Bookstore general merchandise manager

ketball."

During the past few home games, the store was packed and sold out of certain merchandise, she said. The bookstore is bringing in temporary

employees to ease the frenzy.

Alumni Hall, located at 3730 SW Archer Road, has also felt the demand for basketball attire, said store manager Paloma Puig.

"We are really excited to be open for the Final Four, since we have only been open for five months," she said.

Anh Dang, a 22-year-old UF dental graduate student, was searching for the perfect Final Four T-shirt for her fiancée. She said the tournament gives students something to look forward to on weekends when they don't have to study.

"It's something that brings us closer together," Dang said.

CAMPUS

UF student wins award for service abroad, bead sales

HAILEY GERHARD

Alligator Contributing Writer

David Habib grins from ear to ear when he talks about Molly Oloyi, the namesake of his nonprofit organization, Molly's Beads.

UF dual-degree junior Habib, 21, received a 2014 Newman Civic Fellows Award for his work with Molly's Beads and his involvement and dedication to service at UF and abroad.

Habib was one of 197 people selected to receive the award, given to college students who make a difference in others' lives.

Habib said his parents raised him to "have a basic awareness that many people aren't as privileged as we are here in America."

"It started with that basic awareness when I was young," he said. "It wasn't until I stepped out of my comfort zone and went on an airplane with people I didn't know to Africa, where I really felt my calling to service."

On a medical mission trip in 2010, Habib met Molly Oloyi, a woman who made jewelry out of recycled magazine paper to pay for her HIV medicine.

Oloyi was, according to Habib, a "mother to all" who translated for the mission

group, sewed, crafted and educated local children.

"I immediately felt a connection with her," Habib said.

After leaving Uganda, Habib received an email from Oloyi asking him to sell her beads in America, followed by a shipment of 270 pieces of handmade jewelry.

Habib created a nonprofit organization to sell the jewelry, which he called Molly's Beads.

The following year's shipment contained 1,300 beaded pieces of jewelry, which Molly's Beads sold, earning \$11,000 for Oloyi and her community.

Habib's mark has extended to the Gainesville community as well, where he worked with the One Campaign against world poverty as well as the Ronald McDonald House.

Nicole Matuska, a 21-year-old University of North Florida marketing junior, is Habib's close friend and co-founder of Molly's Beads. She said Habib's character is apparent in his interactions with others.

"David has always been one to put others first, which is awesome, but he's also one that brings out the best in other people," Matuska said. "He inspires others to be the best that they can be."

Editorial

Defense against the dark LARPs: a Jake Rush story

Jake Rush caught the attention of websites like Gawker when reports surfaced of the Alachua Republican lawyer's involvement with live-action role-playing games. During his undergraduate years at UF, Rush was part of The Camarilla, the UF chapter of an international gaming society. Around 2009, under the name of his gaming alter ego Chazz Darling, Rush posted messages in a gaming forum with violent and sexual threats, according to Gawker.

While the story admittedly made for a great read-it-laugh-once-and-forget-it Gawker post, complete with excerpts of a 2010 Chazz Darling post in which he threatens rape on a presumably female character, it probably won't have much effect on his campaign.

What the online stories and inevitable late-night talk show hosts won't mention is that Gainesville residents aren't up in arms over the news, even though Rush and Gainesville voters as a whole are pretty conservative.

The comments on online stories about Rush's affinity for LARPing are overwhelmingly positive and forgiving.

Most of them voiced the same sentiment: Who cares what Rush does in his free time?

And, to his credit, Rush has been forthcoming about his LARPing.

According to the Miami Herald, he said, "As a practicing Christian, I am deeply offended that the opposing campaign and their supporters would take a gaming and theatre hobby and mischaracterize it. The very definition of acting is expressing ideas and thoughts that are not your own, just like I don't believe I am MacBeth, which I have played, I am none of the characters."

He has a point. And while the Yoho camp and a handful of online media outlets have gleefully used the news to try to humiliate the rookie politician, Rush has handled the scrutiny with poise.

We believe that Rush's logic holds up. After all, constant readers of Cormac McCarthy, Stephen King and George R. R. Martin — masters of gore and terrifying sex scenes — don't assume that the writers' fiction reflects their morality. Quentin Tarantino directs some of the bloodiest, most graphic films American audiences have ever seen, but viewers don't believe his art reflects a serious character flaw. What Rush chooses to do in his spare time, as long as he's not harming himself or others, is irrelevant to his politics.

In the grand scheme of politicians' bad behavior — like, say, banging your intern and then lying to a grand jury about it — playing a vampire role-playing game in which all parties involved are accepting of the adult content isn't that bad.

The climate is right for Rush to swoop in and claim a victory over Yoho, who's been the laughingstock of Congress since claiming Obamacare is racist and making light of starvation and poverty in America.

Will a little strange press get in Rush's way?
Probably not.

Reader response

Today's question: Do you have any embarrassing hobbies?

Tuesday's question: Should student athletes be paid?

37% YES
63% NO
123 TOTAL VOTES

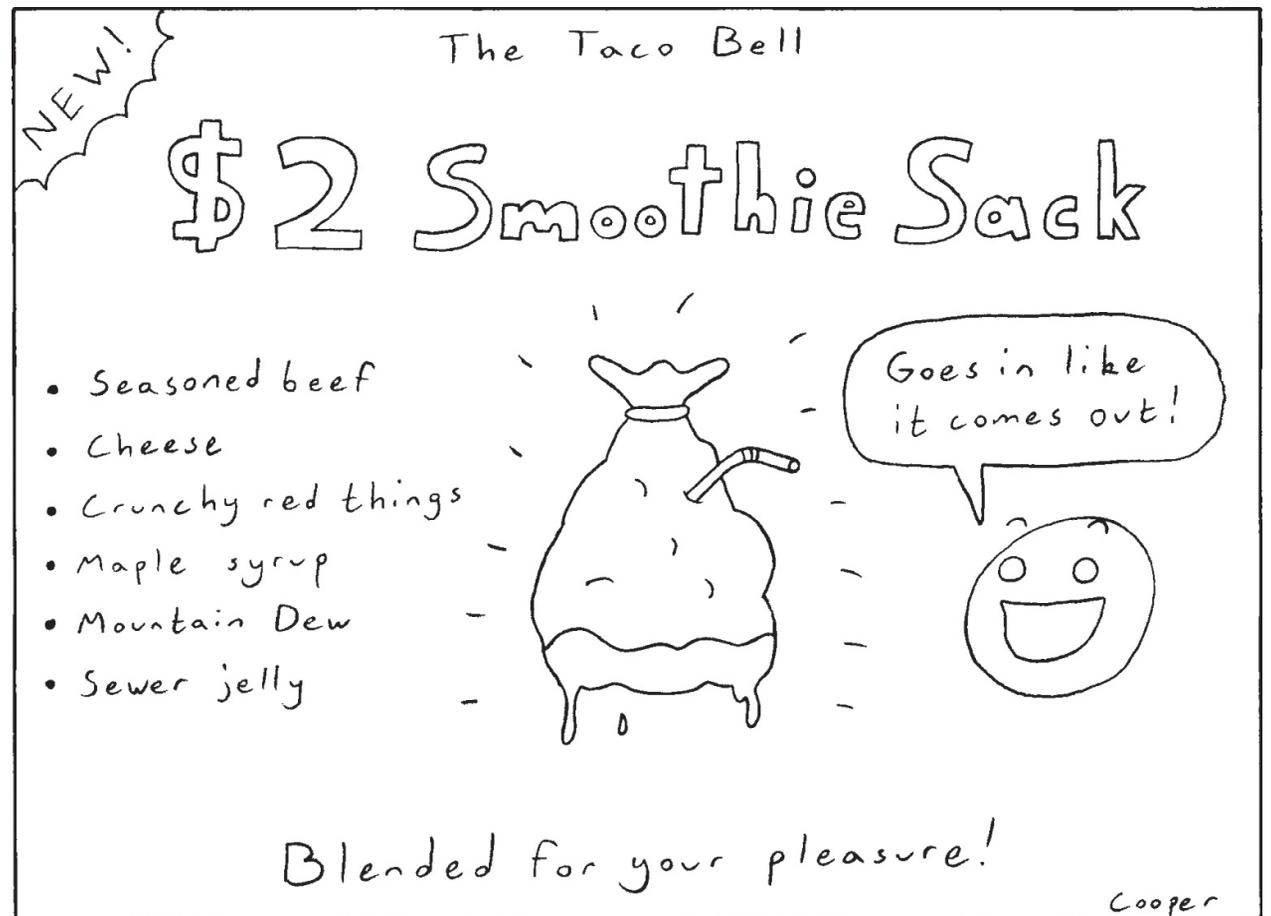
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Column

Obamacare succeeding in spite of Scott

Throughout his administration, Gov. Rick Scott has been a fierce opponent of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, more often referred to as "Obamacare."

After the act passed in 2010, Scott refused to set up an online health care exchange for the state of Florida. In addition, the Scott administration's Department of Health banned "navigators," counselors authorized by the act to help sign people up for insurance, from county health departments.

Until recently, the governor also opposed the expansion of Medicaid included in the act. Although he recently expressed his support for a limited Medicaid expansion, the Republican-dominated Florida Legislature rejected the proposal.

The Legislature's failure to expand Medicaid means that up to 1.3 million Floridians who would have otherwise been eligible for the program will not have that opportunity.

Republicans at the federal level have demonstrated a similar hostility toward Obamacare. On March 5, House Republicans voted for the 50th time to repeal the law, a symbolic measure that has no chance of advancing as long as Democrats control the White House and the Senate.

Despite the governor's best attempts, the Legislature and Republicans in Congress, Obamacare appears to be succeeding in the Sunshine State.

The Associated Press reported that more than 440,000 Floridians have signed up for health insurance through the online federal marketplace at healthcare.gov. This figure means that Florida is on track to surpass the Congressional Budget Office's initial projections for insurance enrollment in the state.

The success of Obamacare in Florida can largely be credited to the efforts of nonprofit groups like Enroll America as well as federal funding for advertising and outreach efforts.

Republican attempts to sabotage Obamacare offer a marked contrast to the last large-scale rollout of a federal health care program.

In 2003, former President George W. Bush signed the Medicare Modernization Act into law. The MMA included a massive new prescription drug benefit program for American senior citizens known as Medicare Part D.



Elliot Levy
opinions@alligator.org

Medicare Part D experienced significant issues in its implementation, just as Obamacare did.

Democrats in Congress and around the country could have seized on the initial failure of the MMA in order to benefit politically. Instead, Democrats dedicated themselves to ensuring that the program was fixed and implemented properly.

Then-Wisconsin Senator Herb Kohl encouraged his fellow Democrats to "put aside any partisan thoughts to work together to get this program running."

Hillary Clinton, then a senator from New York, had this to say about Medicare Part D:

"I voted against it, but once it passed, I certainly determined that I would try to do everything I could to make sure that New Yorkers understood it, could access it and make the best of it."

Although Medicare Part D remains flawed, the joint efforts of Republicans and Democrats helped it grow into a program that now provides millions of senior citizens with affordable prescription drugs.

The Affordable Care Act is not perfect. Its reliance on the private insurance market will result in higher health care costs than a publicly financed, single-payer health care system.

However, Obamacare has helped millions of Americans gain access to reasonably affordable health insurance, even with a massive contingent of the political establishment working to sabotage it. How much more successful would the law be if members of both parties worked together toward its improvement?

Rather than seeking to destroy Obamacare for political gain, Scott and his fellow Republicans should put their effort into making the law work as effectively and efficiently as possible.

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

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

Column

Enough already: Left is hypocritical regarding campaign finances

For the past few weeks, the left has been hell-bent on criticizing Republican campaign donors. The overwhelming amount of this one-sided smearing and demonization borders on the absurd.

While delivering a speech on the Senate floor, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid ventured to say that the Koch Brothers, two of the most influential Republican donors, are “un-American” and have every intention to “buy America.” America is “addicted to Koch,” as the senator put it. The media and even columnists in this newspaper have championed this cause. They have taken up the arduous duty of attacking not only rich Americans but also conservative ones at that.

Let’s clear the air before we move on: I completely understand if you are of the persuasion that campaign finance is out of control and dark money has taken over politics.

If you still hold this belief, you must also decry the efforts on the left to outspend and out-raise the mega-donors on the right. That would only be fair.

The partisans mentioned have criticized the Koch brothers, Sheldon Adelson and other Republican donors ad nauseam, yet remained silent on criticizing donors on the left.

This reeks of blatant and rampant hypocrisy at its finest.

While these self-righteous commentators and politicians wave their hands in the sky and curse the names of these right-wing donors, they turn a blind eye to the big-pocket spenders who help them and their interests.

While this fist-waving and hand-wringing ensues, the number of facts disregarded mounts.

During the past campaign cycle, President Barack Obama outspent Gov. Mitt Romney 7-to-1. Where is Sen. Harry Reid’s floor speech criticizing the dark money that financed the Obama campaign?

Democratic billionaire donor George Soros was instrumental in attacking the Bush agenda. Are Soros’ actions un-American? Reid has yet to comment on this.

In this election cycle Tom Steyer, a billionaire



Michael Beato
opinions@alligator.org

hedge fund manager, vows to push more than \$100 million to Democratic candidates supporting green initiatives.

I have yet to read a scathing article about this development in the Alligator’s opinion section.

All the righteous indignation aside, we can turn to Reid’s campaign to illuminate and educate us on the proper way to conduct official campaign business, if only that were the case. The senator’s campaign bought \$17,000 worth of jewelry from — of all people — his granddaughter.

Ignoring facts is one thing, but wrongfully calling a group of people un-American is disgusting. And — surprise — more facts are omitted when one makes this claim.

Turning to the Koch brothers, the two have donated countless sums to the arts, the state of New York and cancer research. Believe it or not, they have even donated money to Democratic campaigns.

How is this considered un-American?

If this were more widely known, the brothers would be painted in a completely different light than they are now.

But then again, why let reality get in the way of one’s politics?

In addition to this, why are so many on the left so critical of how people — people with whom they disagree — spend their own money?

Everyone is entitled to spend his or her own money where he or she pleases.

If donors want to finance political commercials that will force unsuspecting viewers to either curse at the ad or search their couches for the remote control, that is their prerogative. Then again, Democrats do enjoy controlling other people’s money.

Campaign finance is a big issue that will continue to polarize as the amount of money raised increases.

But when criticizing this issue, leave the partisan rancor at the door and do a little research before making damaging assertions.

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

Guest column

Eyes wide shut: How to survive those boring classes

Have you ever taken a prerequisite that was worse than a middle school algebra class? We know how you feel.

Thankfully, we have a few tips that’ll encourage you to enjoy going to class, no matter how similar your professor sounds to Ben Stein from the eye drops commercials.

Gabrielle Ngyuen
UWire

Reward yourself:

When studying for classes, trying to get through 10 pages of a textbook can feel like you are reading a lot of meaningless words meshed together. If this happens, create short-term goals. After finishing a whole chapter, you and your roommates are entitled to a spontaneous early-2000s-throwback dance party.

Friends:

Designate a friend in your class to get coffee with beforehand.

If you force each other to wake up every Monday, Wednesday and Friday to grab a bagel and some coffee before class, you will be obligated to get up for the sake of your friend. Make sure this friend is interesting or has interesting things to tell you about his or her juicy life so that you are actually encouraged to wake up.

Crushes:

Designate a class crush.

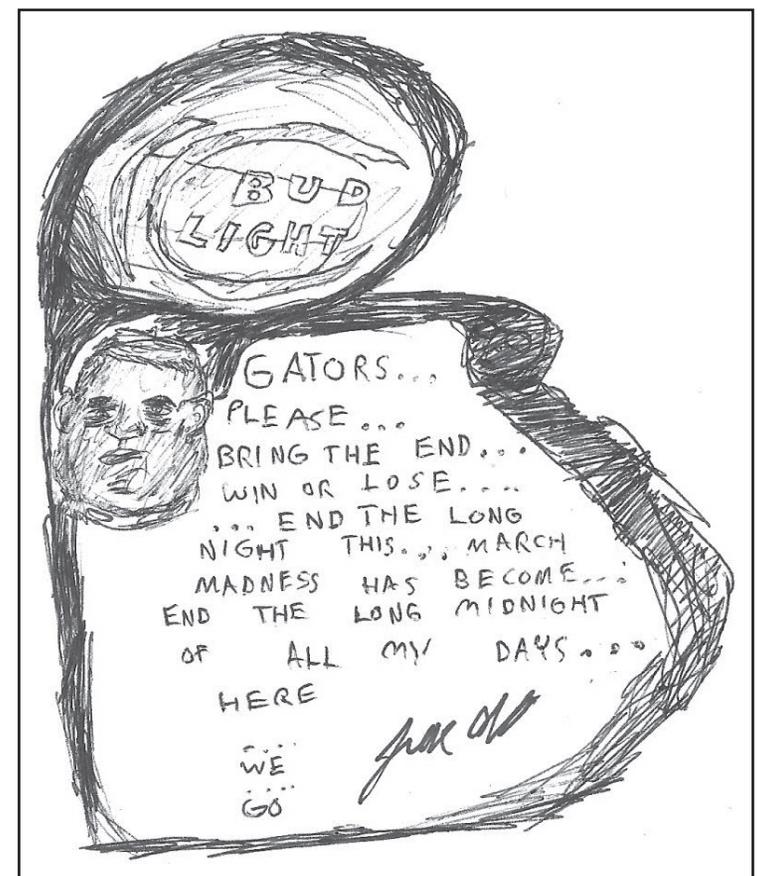
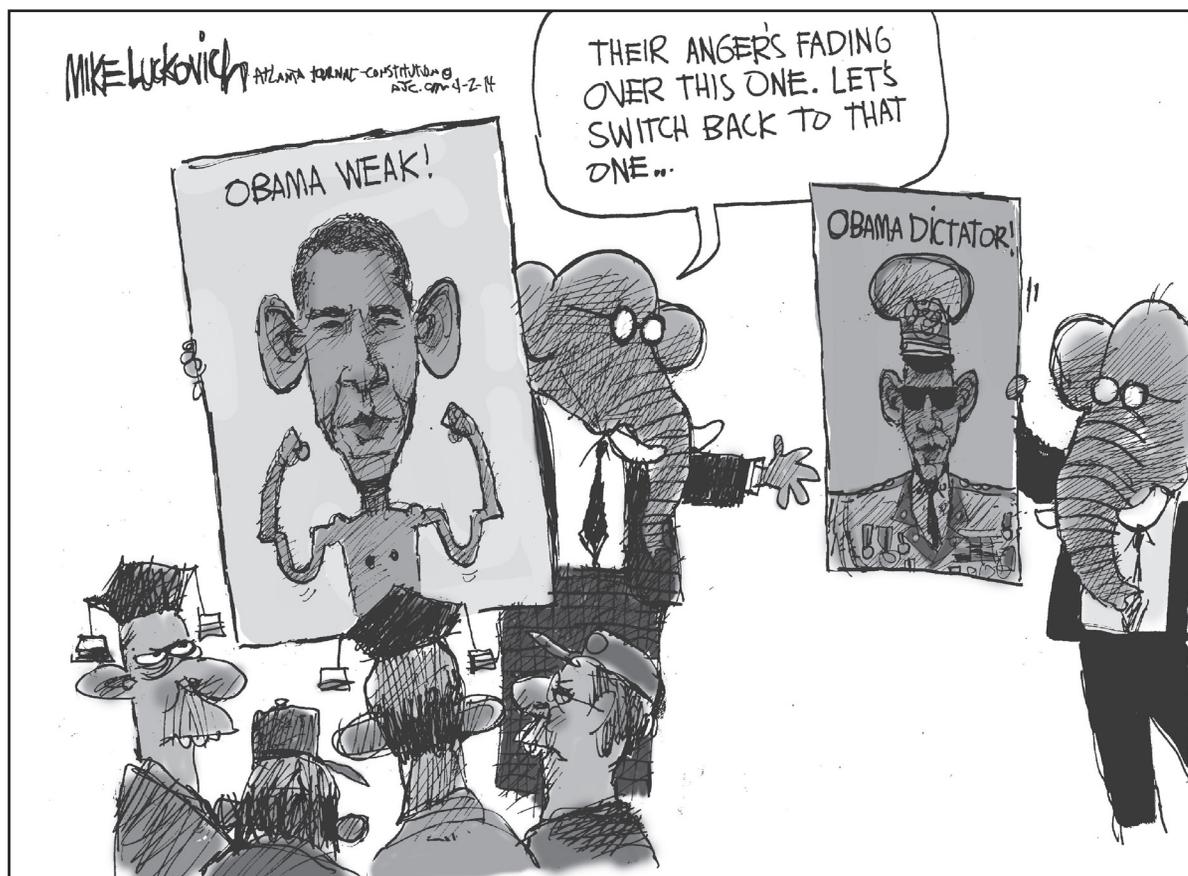
As silly as this sounds, it works. Waking up for a discussion is a lot easier when you know you’ll be sitting next to a hottie (intellectual or physical hottie, of course). This could be your attractive TA, that cute kid who somehow knows the answer to every question, or even the mysterious student in the corner who is always sipping from a Thermos filled with who knows what.

Games:

Make going to class a game.

Give yourself points for tasks that would be otherwise trivial. Competing with your friends from class makes this even better. Create a Google Doc for all your class friends to partake in your ridiculous game. Five points for making a clever comment in a discussion section. Ten points if you actually answer a question with a nonbulls**t answer.

Gabrielle Ngyuen is a writer for the Daily Californian. A version of this column originally appeared on UWire.



CAMPUS

Woman uses YouTube to ask Tebow to military ball for charity

JANA BERKOWITZ

Alligator Contributing Writer

Keira Hornyak is trying to chomp her way into Tim Tebow's heart. She's asking him to a military ball in the hope of securing him as an endorsement for her upcoming cystic fibrosis fundraiser.

Hornyak, a 19-year-old UF political science freshman, made a YouTube video slideshow to share her message. The video includes pictures of Hornyak posing in iconic campus locations with signs asking Tebow to be her date.

"The ball is about celebrating what the Army stands for, and I want to share that with Tebow," she said.

Hornyak said she has admired Tebow for a long time and wanted a unique reason to gain his attention for her

fundraiser. The Cystic Fibrosis Climb, benefiting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, is planned for Fall 2014.

The fundraiser will be a fitness event in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

It is designed to be a challenging course representing climbing to new heights in finding the cure.

Hornyak's inspiration for creating the event lies in her friend Chase Honeycutt, a 19-year-old Santa Fe College business sophomore who has cystic fibrosis.

She said he works harder than a lot of people she knows and changed her view on life.

"If he can get up and do everything he does in a normal day, then I have no excuse to not do what I am supposed to be doing," Hornyak

said.

Honeycutt said this fundraiser has great potential to raise both awareness and money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

He said he also hopes to see the North Central Florida chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation benefit from their work.

"I think it is a great opportunity for the university and the CF foundation, and I just really hope it works out," Honeycutt said.

Although he may not get the chance to take Tebow out on a date like Hornyak, Honeycutt praised her efforts to gain his support in the cause.

"It takes a lot of courage to do something like that," he said. "I think it is a great idea to get him involved."



Courtesy to the Alligator

Keira Hornyak poses with some of the signs she used to ask Tim Tebow to the UF Military Ball. Hornyak wants Tebow to help endorse a cystic fibrosis fundraiser.

Man arrested after shooting neighbor

JENNA LYONS

Alligator Staff Writer

jlyons@alligator.org

On a narrow street off Millhopper Road, there's a quiet neighborhood lined with trees. The place smelled of burnt wood, and on Monday evening, the silence was only broken by birds chirping in the distance.

But earlier that day, the sounds of gunshots filled the air.

At about 4:30 p.m., Randall J. Smith dialed 911 from the neighborhood located at Northwest 69th Drive. He said he had just shot a man several times.

Alachua County Sheriff's deputies arrested the 54-year-old on a homicide charge after he allegedly murdered his neighbor, according to an arrest report.



Smith

When law enforcement arrived, Smith was still on the phone with dispatch. He followed instructions to put down his gun and was detained, according to the report. First responders tried to help the victim, Michael Carreiro, but he was pronounced dead on the scene. He was 47.

During questioning, Smith said he and Carreiro had a history of disputes. He gave police the following account: Before making the call, Smith was spraying herbicide to treat poison ivy on the side of the drive when he noticed a car coming. He saw it was Carreiro and started walking back toward his house. But when he turned around, he noticed Carreiro had stopped and was walking briskly toward him.

Smith said he walked toward Carreiro with his hands up, prompting Carreiro to yell "What the f*** are you doing?" Smith stopped heading toward him, but Carreiro kept advancing and threatened to kill him and his family.

That's when Smith reached behind his back for his lawfully concealed gun. Smith drew the gun, and Carreiro said he wouldn't use it, Smith said.

Smith fired the gun rapidly, and Carreiro fell to the ground, face down. His arms were tucked under him, and he wasn't moving. Smith waited a few seconds, then fired two more rounds into his back. Officers found 14 shell casings.

The men had been neighbors for nearly 10 years, and Carreiro did not approve of Smith's property maintenance on Northwest 69th Drive. Smith said the deceased had made violent threats toward him in the past.

Smith made several reports to the sheriff's office in 2013 to try to resolve the conflicts, according to the report. He said the last time he heard from Carreiro before the shooting was after he spoke with Carreiro's probation officer in the fall.

Officers booked Smith into the Alachua County Jail at about 12:20 a.m. Tuesday, where he remained as of press time in lieu of a \$1 million bond.

UF joins new secure wireless network

► THE SERVICE IS CALLED EDUROAM.

SONIA PORTALUPPI

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF students and staff will no longer have to log into the "visitor" level Internet access when visiting other institutions with the addition of a new secure wireless network.

Eduroam is a secure, worldwide roaming access service developed for international research and the educational community. UF implemented the service last month.

Tracy Gale, communications manager for UF Information Technology, said having eduroam grants quick Internet access for students visiting campuses around the world.

"If the research facility is a member of eduroam, the student or faculty member does not have to wait for anything to be processed," Gale

wrote in an email. "They can get online, check email and get to work."

Anyone with a current GatorLink is automatically granted access to another participating institution's network.

"If the research facility is a member of eduroam, the student or faculty member does not have to wait for anything to be processed. They can get online, check email and get to work."

Tracy Gale

UF Information Technology
communications manager

"Before eduroam, visitors to UF would need to request a temporary GatorLink credential," Gale said.

Now, students visiting other universities will have immediate access because their identity is already confirmed, she said.

The new network allows univer-

sities to better manage who is connecting to their Wi-Fi network.

"There are people who (corrupt networks to) steal research data or personal information, like Social Security numbers and patient records," Gale said. "Universities have to be vigilant."

To prepare a device for eduroam, users should confirm that the eduroam connection link appears on their wireless device, log in and then save the login credentials, according to UFIT's website. This will allow the device to connect at any eduroam member university or facility.

Eduroam is available in 54 countries and more than 5,000 institutions, according to the website.

Mary Ann Ferguson, a public relations professor and researcher at UF, travels frequently and said eduroam will be helpful for her and her students.

"It's very useful when abroad," she said.

STATE

Paparazzo wants damages in Bieber suit

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — A celebrity photographer sought to boost the potential damages he could win from Justin Bieber in a lawsuit that accuses the singer and a bodyguard of battery in a confrontation outside a recording studio.

The photographer's attorney, Mark DiCowden, said at a Tuesday hearing that he has documented at least 11 similar alleged assaults against photographers over two years involving Bieber and his security personnel. DiCowden said a punitive damage award for Jeffrey Binion could deter future assaults against celebrity photographers, known as "paparazzi."

"It's not a financial fishing expedition," DiCowden said in asking Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Sarah Zabel to allow him to pursue unspecified punitive damages. "It is well known around the world that Justin Bieber does not like to be photographed in public."

Zabel did not immediately rule. Bieber attorney Jared Lopez said there is no evidence that Binion was physically harmed in the alleged attack in June — meaning compensatory damages for the photographer might be minimal — and no proof that Bieber himself

told bodyguard Hugo Hesny to go after Binion.

"I don't tell security how to do their job," Bieber said in a March deposition in the case, according to Lopez.

Outside the courtroom, Bieber attorney Roy Black called the lawsuit "frivolous" and intended mainly to generate publicity.

"It's not a financial fishing expedition. It is well known around the world that Justin Bieber does not like to be photographed in public."

Mark DiCowden

attorney

Hesny is facing a misdemeanor battery charge in the Binion case, and he was also recently charged in another photographer confrontation in Atlanta. Other incidents involving Bieber bodyguards have occurred in Los Angeles and Hawaii, according to court papers.

Separately, Bieber has pleaded not guilty to DUI, resisting arrest and driving with an expired license after a Jan. 23 arrest in Miami Beach.

A May 5 trial date is set in that case.

Study: Transfers may affect calculated graduation rates

KATHERINE ARELLANO
Alligator Contributing Writer

Underreported graduation rates could be an effect of student transfers.

According to a new study from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, about 13 percent of students transfer from one college to another during their college education. As a result, the colleges they transferred from aren't credited for their graduations, which can cause misleading graduation rates.

But UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said this report does not have much impact on UF. She said different graduation rates are reported for incoming first-time college students and for transfer students.

"The impact of transfer students on our graduation rate is minimal, judging from our data on success rates. Our success rates are not that different from our regular rates," Sikes said.

Graduation rates for first-time-in-college students are defined as the number of students who entered UF as freshmen and graduated as Gators. The numbers don't include students who transferred out of UF.

However, transfer students are a part of the overall success rate, which is the

number of students who enroll at UF at any point in their education and graduate from the university.

Students like Daniel Roberts, a 21-year-old UF business management junior and transfer student, count in UF's success rate if they graduate. He said he waited to apply to UF until he had the grades he wanted. Now, he said, he appreciates the opportunities the transfer allowed.

"I know that UF degrees hold a lot of value," Roberts said.

First-time-in-college student graduation rates

- 67.05 percent of students who started at UF in 2008 graduated in four years
- 64.22 percent of students who started at UF in 2006 graduated in four years
- 58.76 percent of students who started at UF in 2004 graduated in four years
- 55.16 percent of students who started at UF in 2002 graduated in four years

Source: UF Factbook

Experts disagree about local banking

► STUDY SAYS SMALL BANKS CAN HELP SAVE MONEY.

MELISSA MIHM
Alligator Contributing Writer

A recent study shows that banking locally has the potential to save customers money.

Although many flock to the mega-banks such as Wells Fargo and Bank of America, a study by WalletHub recently suggested that choosing smaller, local banks could end up putting a few extra bucks in users' pockets.

John Kiernan, WalletHub's senior analyst, said consumers tend to go to larger banks because they are more familiar with the brands.

"You're left at the mercy of what

banks happen to be in your area," he said, noting that the availability of free ATMs also plays a big role in

"Across the board, rates are as I expected — quite low, near zero."

John C. Banko
UF finance lecturer

the decision-making process.

For a standard savings account with a minimum balance of \$50, VyStar Credit Union offers an annual percentage yield — or how much an account appreciates over the year — of 0.25 percent. Wells Fargo's standard APY is 0.03 percent, according to the study.

Major banks like Wells Fargo & Co. and Bank of America have rates that can vary up to 550 percent from

city to city, according to the study.

However, these differences don't mean much for college students who likely don't even have four-digit amounts in their bank account, Kiernan said.

John C. Banko, a UF finance lecturer, didn't find the study to be groundbreaking.

"Across the board, rates are as I expected — quite low, near zero," he said.

Smaller banks may offer better rates to establish themselves in particular areas, he said. Still, the rates will have little impact on someone's checking account balance.

"At the end of the year, you have earned about nothing in any case," he said. "In economic terms, the differences are very small and quite meaningless."



Silvia Rueda / Alligator

Bugging Out

Morgan Kerr, a UF biological sciences senior, pets Rosie the tarantula at BugFest in Steinmetz Hall on Tuesday. The event included cockroach races and foods made with insect ingredients.

STATE

Rick Scott signs tougher sexual predator measures into law

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Rick Scott signed four bills Tuesday that will keep the most violent sexual offenders locked up longer and close loopholes in a law that allows the state to send predators to a high-security treatment center even after they've finished their prison sentences.

The bills were a priority for Democrats and Republicans in both chambers and were largely inspired by the death of 8-year-old Cherish Perrywinkle, whose photo was held behind Scott as he signed the bills. Authorities said Perrywinkle was abducted and killed by a repeat sexual offender less than a month after he finished a jail sentence in a case where he targeted another young girl.

"As a father of two girls and the grandfather of three little boys, I think about how the legislation

I'm signing today will affect Florida's families. It will make Florida safer," Scott said. "I want Florida to be the best state in the nation for raising a family, and this legislation will help make this a reality."

The wide-ranging package creates a mandatory 50-year sentence for people who rape children younger than 12, the developmentally disabled and senior citizens. That doubles the current mandatory sentence for the most violent sexual offenders. It also makes changes to the Jimmy Ryce Act, which allows the psychiatric review of sexually violent offenders after they finish their prison sentences. Those considered too dangerous are then committed to a high-security treatment center.

Lawmakers began looking at the Jimmy Ryce Act after Cherish's death and a South Florida Sun Sentinel series that followed. The newspaper researched offend-



Scott

ers who were reviewed for civil commitment but ended up being set free at some stage in the process. They found 594 offenders who committed new crimes, some the day they were released, including 14 killings. The released prisoners also were later caught molesting 460 children and raping 121 women, the newspaper found.

"Florida will not be a catch-and-release state as it relates to violent sexual predators," said Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Shalimar.

Cherish was abducted from a Jacksonville Wal-Mart, raped and strangled. Her body was found the next day.

Donald Smith is charged with murder in her killing. Smith had been reviewed twice before for

civil commitment and allowed to remain free. He was released from jail the month before the killing but wasn't eligible for another review. Only offenders serving prison terms can be considered for commitment. Smith was in jail on misdemeanor charges after a plea deal in a case where he made obscene phone calls to a 10-year-old girl and impersonated a Florida Department of Children and Families child protective investigator to try to get access to her.

The statute of limitations will be eliminated for molesting children younger than 16. Right now, molesters can't be prosecuted if the crimes are reported more than three years later.

The most sexually dangerous offenders will also have to serve their entire sentences and not be allowed a shorter sentence for good behavior.

Sexual abuse survivor Lauren

Book took a break from a 1,500-mile sexual abuse awareness walk across Florida to attend the ceremony. Book has advocated for laws to increase penalties for sexual offenders, help victims and prevent abuse for 13 years, the first as a 17-year-old still recovering from years of being raped by her nanny.

But she said she's never seen a year where the Legislature has acted so quickly to address problems with sexual predators.

"When we first started talking about these things it was like, 'Shhh,'" Book said, holding a finger to her lips. "We're here today talking about these issues and people are looking at them, and that's how we shine into the darkness and prevent and protect those kids from having to go through what I went through or what any of the survivors I've met along the way have had to go through."

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Just off SW 20th Ave & 34th St. 1BR/\$475, 2BR/\$595. 335-7066, visit us on Facebook or Twitter or at madisonon20th.com. 4-23-14-72-2

Spacious 1, 2, & 3br starting at \$475. Many floor plans, some w/ enclosed patios or balconies. Italian tile, BRs carpeted. DW, W/D hk-ups, verticals, CH/AC. Near bus rte, some walk to UF. Sec 8 accepted 352-332-7700 4-23-14-72-2

● Centerpoint - 1220 NW 12 ST \$460 - 1BR/1BA - 530 SQ.FT.

Bike to UF through-tree lined streets or ride the bus located one block away!
No application fee, most pets ok.
E.F.N. Properties, 352-371-3636 or
www.efnproperties.com
rentals@efnproperties.com
5-29-14-68-2

1, 2, & 3BRs. Tile in LR, kitchen & bathrooms & bedrooms. Hardwood floors, cent A/C, ceiling fans, W/D hook-ups. Several locations, some walk to UF. Starting at \$450/mo. Must See! Call 352-215-7780 4-23-14-72-2

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701 SW 62nd Blvd. 352-373-6330
www.spyglassapts.com
4-23-14-55-2

LAKWOOD VILLAS

Large 1,2 & 3BR floorplans starting at \$665
Free Hi-Speed internet, washer/dryer, fitness center, computer lab, swimming pool etc. M-F 9-6, Sat. 10-5
700 SW 62nd Blvd. 352-371-8009
www.lakewoodvillas.com
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1 & 2 bdrm Luxury Apts. starting at \$850.
Granite counters. FREE Hi-Speed Internet.
Parking avail.
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

\$500 spacious 1 BR Apt, private patio w/ locking gate, shade trees,squeaky clean, study/live quietly;1825 NW 10th St. 352 376 0080;postj@bellsouth.net 4-23-14-30-2

4BR/2BA unfurnished house. Close to UF. 605 SW 9th St. Cent AC/heat, W/D. No pets. 1 year lease. From Aug 16th. \$1760/mo. + \$600 sec. To see call 352-359-1508 5-13-15-22-2

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3BR/2BA fenced
3404 NW 7th Pl \$1200/mo
611 NW 36th Terr \$1250/mo
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2br Townhouse for rent - \$750
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Wood floors, community pool.
239-671-0484. Valpotin@aol.com
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3 Subleases

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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

SUMMER SUBLET
Single family house. \$375/mo incl utilities. University and 2nd ave. Furnished 1BR walking distance to campus/midtown. Call 561-312-1993 4-2-14-10-3

Campus Lodge 1/1 summer sublease in a 3/3. \$479/month fully furnished, price negotiable. Clean and quiet roommates. Please email s1134t@gmail.com for more details. 4-11-5-3

4 Roommates

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

\$450/mo, Furn'd Pvt Room + Bath, quiet house w/3 males & cat incl utils, WiFi, TV, W/D. Near UF, Midtown, Applebees, easy bus & bike. No dogs, sorry. ROOM@COX.NET / Ph. 338-1113 4-4-14-3-4

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

GRANDFATHER PROPERTY - central heat/air, new roof, 3BR/2BA. Extra space for storage or office. Lots of parking space. Near everything. NW area. \$124,900/OBO. Call 352-375-6754 4-15-14-10-5

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

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

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

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13 Wanted

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

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



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

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
I AM BLIND & WOULD LIKE HELP WITH:
●Rides to church: Mass at Queen of Peace.
●Learning to rake knit hats to send to Haiti & other places. Call 352-219-6948 4-11-14-72-13

The Alachua County Crisis Center is seeking volunteers to become Crisis Line Counselors. 60 hours of in-depth training are provided. This is an opportunity to impact the lives of fellow community members and to gain life-enhancing communication skills. The next training class begins Saturday, May 17th, 2014. Please contact Jan Greene at 352-264-6782 or visit <http://www.alachua-county.us/Depts/CSS/CrisisCenter/Pages/Volunteer.aspx> for more information. 4-23-19-13

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

14 Help Wanted

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

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 Krys Ragland at 352 455-4267 or Krys@feyc.org. 4-23-14-64-14

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

The U.S. Geological Survey, Southeast Ecological Science Center is seeking a military veteran candidate for the position of Receptionist. Qualified applicants must have excellent communications skills and be courteous, reliable, organized and have the ability to multitask. This is a full-time position with excellent benefits. The Federal government is an equal opportunity employer. Apply at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/365129700>. 4-2-5-14

New Horizons now hiring Bi-lingual (pref not nec) Educational Consultants full time \$24k 352-642-1987 4-9-14-10-14

Nanny wanted for our 1yr-old boy to play with him and to keep him safe (includes some household chores). Located in SW Gainesville. 352-871-5211 4-2-14-3-14

New Biz Opp Hemp Based Co B First on campus Legal in 50 States Immediate WFH will train EarnBig hempcbdlifestyle.com text or call First 2 market 609-891-8411 Rose 4-2-14-3-14

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.

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 expresstrainingsservices.com 4-23-14-72-15

15 Services

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.expresstrainingsservices.com/ww 4-23-14-67-15

Need your home or apt cleaned? Call **SWEEPING SUCCESS CLEANERS**. We offer cleaning services for students, professionals and seniors on the go that need assistance with housework. Call today; 352-636-8563 or sweepingsuccesscleaners.com 4-11-14-10-15

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

ACLS BLS PALS CPR/FA
American Heart Assoc. cert issued. Convenient scheduling. Teaching gators for over 15 years. Safetynet of Florida. Call us today (800)319-5708 6-10-14-40-16

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- AD SLOGANS: What company advertised its services with the slogan, "When there is no tomorrow"?
- HISTORY: What did the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution accomplish once it was signed into law in 1971?
- MOVIES: What was the name of the college that was the setting for "Animal House"?
- MEDICINE: What does the Ishihara test determine?
- MUSIC: Who was the last musician to perform at the 1969 Woodstock music festival?
- TELEVISION: What was Phoebe's twin sister's name on the sitcom "Friends"?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How long does it take for a toenail or fingernail to grow from base to tip?
- WEATHER: Most tornadoes in the U.S. form during what period of the year?
- FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: What 20th century statesman said, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts"?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the only Canadian province that borders the Great Lakes?

Answers

- FedEx
- It lowered the legal voting age to 18
- Faber College
- Color blindness
- Jimi Hendrix
- Ursula
- Six months
- Spring and early summer
- Winston Churchill
- Ontario

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18 Personals

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

★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!b

English not your first language?
EDIT HELP for papers, personal statements, thesis. Same day available. \$25/hr. 786-838-1525. 4-4-14-8-20

Friends don't let friends drive drunk.

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.

Horse Boarding 15 min fr UF \$350/\$500 Eng/West. Lit arena, 527 acres, show jumps, Lg & Sm dres. rings, 150+ XC Hunter Paces. BHS & Parelli instr 352-258-0317 mistymorninghounds.com 9-19-14-62-24

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.

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS™
by David L. Hoyt 4-2-14

1		2		3		
					4	
5						
		6				
		7				

ACROSS

CLUE **ANSWER**

1. Distribute troops EYLPDO

5. Inner _____ UBTES

6. Heroes LSIDO

7. Keen SDWEHR

DOWN

CLUE **ANSWER**

1. Going out NIATDG

2. Issue, print ULIBPHS

3. Situated on land NERHOSO

4. Partisan ESAIBD

CLUE: This actress was chosen by Empire magazine as one of the "100 Sexiest Stars in Film History" (#71).

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.

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ANSWERS: 1A-Deploy 5A-Tubes 6A-Idols 7A-Shrew 1D-Parting 2D-Publish 3D-Onshore 4D-Biased B-Goldie Hawn
Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, Ill. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION

D ₂	E ₁	F ₄	U ₁	N ₁	C ₃	T ₁	RACK 1 =	63
W ₄	A ₁	R ₁	M ₃	U ₁	P ₃		RACK 2 =	21
I ₁	M ₃	P ₃	L ₁	I ₁	E ₁	D ₂	RACK 3 =	62
W ₄	H ₄	I ₁	S ₁	K ₅	E ₁	R ₁	RACK 4 =	84
PAR SCORE 155-165							TOTAL	230

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Freshman point guard battling turf toe before rematch with UConn

LANDON WATNICK

Alligator Staff Writer @LandonWatnick

When Florida last faced UConn on Dec. 2, Kasey Hill watched from the end of the Gators' bench.

At the time, the freshman point guard was nursing a high ankle sprain and could not help Florida as it fell to UConn 65-64 in Storrs, Conn., on a Shabazz Napier buzzer beater.

UF played the final three minutes of the contest without a point guard because starter Scottie Wilbekin suffered his own ankle injury late in the game and did not return.

But Saturday night will be a different story.

"I think Kasey in the tournament, and even going back to the SEC has come on. He's played better. He's improved. I've got confidence in him. He makes our team faster when he's out there."

Billy Donovan
UF coach

Added Hill: "(I've been) just playing with more confidence, playing aggressive. Just trying to play my hardest for this team and give them all I got."

In four tournament games, Hill

has averaged 5.3 points per game and has totaled a team-high 15 assists against only four turnovers.

But what the Umatilla native has done for Florida goes further than the stat sheet.

The freshman has provided solid minutes in the backcourt alongside Wilbekin in a two-point guard lineup, utilizing his blazing speed to create offensive opportunities for him and his teammates.

"Unless you have a guy like him in practice, you can't really simulate that; we need him to get his speed into the game," sophomore

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 15



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Kasey Hill (0) defends Dayton's Khari Price during the Gators' 62-52 win over the Flyers on Saturday in FedExForum in Memphis, Tenn. Hill missed UF's first game against UConn with an ankle sprain and is currently playing through turf toe.

ferent story.

Hill, who has excelled in the NCAA Tournament despite playing through turf toe, will be available for the No. 1 seed Gators when they square off against the seventh-seeded Huskies at 6:09 p.m. in AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

"Kasey can definitely help us; it gives us more depth in the backcourt," coach Billy Donovan said.

"I think Kasey in the tournament, and even going back to the SEC has come on. He's played better. He's improved. I've got confidence in him. He makes our team faster when he's out there."

Florida falls to FAU in extras

ADAM PINCUS

Alligator Writer @adamDpincus

Kevin O'Sullivan gave his team a warning following its sweep of then-No. 8 LSU on Sunday: Don't let up. There's still baseball to be played next week.

The streaking No. 13 Florida Gators (19-10 6-3 Southeastern Conference), whether because of youth or fatigue, didn't come ready to play against FAU (16-12, 4-8 Conference USA) on Tuesday night, and it cost them in a 5-4 loss in 11 innings.

The Owls scored the go-ahead run on

UF Baseball

a first-and-third play with Aaron Rhodes pitching. Tyler Rocklein, the runner at first base, took off for second to get in a rundown and allow Cain Spangler to beat first baseman Braden Mattson's throw home.

Rhodes hesitated before throwing to second baseman Casey Turgeon, whose toss back to Mattson took the first baseman's momentum away from home plate, forcing his throw home into the

SEE BASE, PAGE 15

SOFTBALL

UF hitters slumping in SEC

JORDAN MCPHERSON

Alligator Writer @J_McPherson1126

After winning 22 straight games to start the season and outscoring opponents 181-29 in those matchups, Florida has hit a slump.

Since Southeastern Conference play began, the Gators have dropped seven of their past 16 contests and dropped all three games in a series sweep to No. 2 Tennessee this past weekend.

Outside of leadoff hitter Kelsey Stewart, whose .412 batting average is the ninth highest in the SEC, there is little consistency



Stewart

among the Gators' bats.

"Obviously, we're going through a point in time in the season where we're not playing our best," coach Tim Walton said in a release following Florida's 9-2 loss to Tennessee on Friday. "But there is a lot of the season left."

But No. 6 UF (31-7, 5-7 SEC) hopes to spearhead its way back into the win column when it faces No. 8 FSU (34-4, 12-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) in a midweek

SEE SOFT, PAGE 15



Marquis Dendy rebounded from his poor performance at NCAA Indoors. *Read the story on page 16.*

Final Four "Teamcast"

Turner Sports and CBS Sports announced their plans for team-specific broadcasts of the Final Four and National Championship on Tuesday. UF's Final Four "Teamcast" will be on TNT while the game airs on TBS.

Golfer honored

UF junior Eric Banks was named the recipient of the 2014 David Toms Award on Tuesday. The award goes to a men's golfer who overcame adversity.

Sloan, Gators focusing on team competition in postseason play

ERICA A. HERNANDEZ

Alligator Writer

@EricaAlyssa

For Bridget Sloan and the rest of the Florida gymnasts, the time for individual goals is over.

"I just want the best for this team right now," Sloan said. "I guess regular season you can have those individual titles and stuff, but when it comes to postseason, man, it's all about the team. I always say no one is really going to remember that I won all-around in 2013, but I will guarantee they will know which team won."

No one has forgotten that Florida claimed its first NCAA Championship last year. With only one meet standing between the Gators and the 2014 Championship meet, Florida is focusing in on repeating that success.

"Some teams get a little bit ahead of themselves, they start looking past each completion and just look at the end," Sloan said. "Well there are steps that you have to go through and we learned last year that if you do those steps correctly and in the right order, you can be very successful."

The Gators are gearing up to step back onto the floor after having their first week-end off since the start of the season in January.

"This team, you know they really have started to sharpen up because we gave those few days of kind of taking it down a little bit after SECs and now it's the build up," coach Rhonda Faehn said.

With the first of three postseason appearances out of the way, Sloan said the team is transitioning into the necessary mindset.

"Rhonda always emphasizes for postseason: It's really not about whether you're going to make the routine or not because we know we're going to make it," she said. "It's going to be about whether you want it, how

bad you want it and how well you're going to do it."

Sloan said the week of straight practice was more about skills and details on vault and bars than full routines.



Faehn

"Those were two events that we were so strong on last year, but this year it's like we're taking a little extra time getting in the swing of things on bars," Sloan said. "We're missing the landings on vault a little bit here and there. So we've really been focusing on just the littlest details. ... They make the biggest difference."

Faehn maintained that her team doesn't really feel it has a target on its back, even with a No. 1 ranking heading into Regionals.

"Really use it again as a launching pad as a preparation to feel 100 percent secure with our lineups," Faehn said. "I feel like right now the lineups are going to be identical if not extremely similar as we had at SECs."

The Gators will be the only top-10 team competing when Penn State hosts the NCAA Regionals on Saturday. No. 12 Oregon State, No. 15 Penn State, No. 23 New Hampshire, No. 29 Kentucky and No. 36 Maryland will all be competing with Florida for a top-two finish at Regionals. The top-two teams from each of the six regional sites move onto the NCAA Championship in Birmingham, Ala., from April 18-20.

"Because there's a greater variety of schools that we haven't seen all year long I think it's a wonderful atmosphere," Faehn said. "Our team, I know their sole focus is to go in there and compete aggressively and have a lot of energy and to kind of make that our own home environment."



Rachel Crosby / Alligator Staff

Bridget Sloan performs a balance-beam routine during Florida's 197.525-196.025 win against Arkansas on Feb. 14 in the O'Connell Center.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Seniors hand over team's reins to redshirt junior Lewis

GORDON STREISAND

Alligator Writer

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This season, a small, quick, offensive-minded Florida team made its way to the second round of the NCAA Tournament despite having only eight players for much of the way.

Its leaders were redshirt senior Lily Svete and senior Jaterra Bonds, but redshirt junior Kayla Lewis also had a strong presence throughout the season.

"I brag a lot about Lily and Jaterra," coach Amanda Butler said. "They deserve that, but Kayla was a big, big part of that leadership corps."

"I think there were many things, most of them falling in the intangible category, that separated us from who we've been in the past or from other teams."

Lewis will be Florida's lone senior next season, and the road to becoming a strong team leader has not been sudden.

"I think that was something that she grew into," Butler said. "I've had very high expectations for her entire career."

"Kayla's wildly talented, very smart, very gifted. It's a unique

challenge when you're the only senior, and I think Kayla's a unique individual. She's well-suited for that challenge."

Butler isn't the only one giving

Lewis a vote of confidence.

After living with Lewis for her entire career as a Gator, there isn't anyone else Bonds has more confidence in to take the keys.



Emily Cochrane / Alligator Staff

Kayla Lewis attempts a shot during Florida's 81-76 loss against Missouri on Feb. 20 in the O'Connell Center. Lewis will be the Gators' only senior on the team's roster next year.

"I would say, this year, Kayla's probably the most improved player," Bonds said. "I've seen a different side of Kayla that I've never seen since we first stepped on campus. I told her, 'I'm just so proud of you and happy for the things that you're doing, like become a better person and get closer with God.'"

"I'm just so proud of her and how she's accepted the role of having to play a bigger role for our team."

Another player whose role will be further increased is soon-to-be redshirt junior point guard Cassie Peoples.

After struggling offensively throughout the regular season, Peoples found her stride once postseason play began in both the Southeastern Conference and NCAA Tournaments.

"Really, Cassie was a freshman," Butler said.

"Even though she's in her third year of college, this was the first full season of basketball she had gotten a chance to play."

In conference play, Peoples averaged 8.9 points per contest. In postseason play, she was scoring 14 points a game.

"This is a great starting point for

her going into next year," Butler said. "She's going to be someone that we won't be necessarily surprised by, but relying on her."

The impact of Bonds and Svete's departure will surely be felt. However, the incoming freshman class will add much needed size and depth.

"I brag a lot about Lily and Jaterra. They deserve that, but Kayla was a big, big part of that leadership corps."

Amanda Butler

UF coach

According to espnW, the Gators have the No. 12 recruiting class in 2014. The potential gem of the class is 6-foot-3 forward Haley Lorenzen, who is rated as the No. 5 post player in the nation.

"The obvious thing Haley adds is a great deal of size," Butler said. "What she adds that you don't know about until you get the opportunity to spend time with her is her personality and her work ethic; the spirit that she has."

"She has a high level of skill and she cares a lot about her game."

Merritt hit three home runs against Tennessee

SOFT, from page 13

matchup tonight at 6 at Katie Seashole Pressly Stadium.

The Gators boast an 18-13 all-time record against the Seminoles, including a 9-6 mark at home. Florida swept the series in 2013, winning 7-3 in Gainesville after a walk-off grand slam by Briana Little and an 8-0 win in Tallahassee three weeks later.

FSU is riding a 13-game win streak heading into tonight's matchup. If UF wants to pull out the win, it needs to find a way to get around FSU's dominant pitching staff.

As a team, the Seminoles possess a

0.90 ERA — the second-best total in the country. Junior Lacey Waldrup leads Florida State in the circle. The right-hander is second in the nation with a 0.53 ERA. In 145.1 innings pitched, Waldrup has notched 178 strikeouts and is holding opponents to a .154 clip at the plate.

The Seminoles are also seeing success at the plate with Maddie O'Brien pacing FSU.

The junior shortstop holds a team-best .438 batting average and also leads Florida State with a .893 slugging percentage, 13 home runs and 58 RBIs. In 112 at-bats, O'Brien struck out just 10 times this season.

If Florida wants to win tonight, it will

need to continue to see strides at the plate from players like Kirsti Merritt.

The sophomore center fielder logged three home runs against Tennessee, matching her home run total from the first 35 games of the season.

While Merritt has started to find her stride, Walton hopes to see improvement from his team that batted just .208 and struck out 27 times in three games against the Volunteers, especially because less than one-third of the regular season remains to be played.

"The bottom line is we have to execute," Walton said. "That's going to be the key. We have to execute everything."



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Kirsti Merritt bats during Florida's 8-0 win against Mercer on March 12 at Katie Seashole Pressly Stadium. Merritt hit three home runs in Florida's three losses to Tennessee. The Gators play the Seminoles tonight at 6.

Hill stepping up defensively in NCAA Tournament

HOOPS, from page 13

shooting guard Michael Frazier II said. "When he gets into the game, just rise the temperature of the game."

Hill's best game in Memphis, Tenn., came against the Bruins on Thursday.

He shined in UF's 79-68 win over UCLA in the Sweet 16, racking up a game-high 10 assists, six points and six rebounds.

"I thought what he did in the UCLA game really helped us," Donovan said. "He manufactured a lot of easy baskets for us by getting down the lane."

The freshman point guard has also made strides defensively throughout the tournament, recording five steals, a block and 10 defensive rebounds.

"On the defensive side, definitely feel more comfortable there," Hill said. "Getting out and making plays on the defensive end and stuff like that. I wasn't really doing that at the beginning of the season."

Hill's turf toe has caused him some discomfort during Florida's tournament run, but he said he should be fine moving forward.

Donovan shared the same sentiment Monday.

"I know turf toe is painful, but come on, we're playing in the Final Four," Donovan said.

"He'll be fine. He's a great kid. Hopefully his toe will be OK and he'll be able to play. But I do appreciate him working through that. He doesn't appear to be in a lot of pain when he's running around out there. He's moving pretty well."

Whitson makes first start since being removed from rotation



Alligator File Photo

Karsten Whitson pitches during UF's 5-0 win against USF on Feb. 20, 2011 at McKethan Stadium. Whitson pitched two innings Tuesday.

BASE, from page 13

dirt.

It's a play the Gators practice all the time and a play that they've been drilled on since high school.

That sequence summed up a head-scratching loss where the Gators scored only one run after the first inning.

"I'm disappointed with our approach tonight to be honest with you. I'm really disappointed," O'Sullivan said.

"I would expect our guys to be ready to play all the time. I think they should be excited.

"We're coming off winning 13 of 16. We come off a great weekend, a great week last week, and I didn't think we were ready to play. We tried. We cheerleaded during the game, but there's only so much you can do, and that falls on my shoulders. I'll take responsibility for it, but I'll make sure it doesn't happen

again."

Karsten Whitson, the former ninth-overall pick, made his first start since March 9 and tossed two innings against the Owls. Whitson threw 25 of his 40 pitches for strikes.

The Owls drove in its only run against him on a groundball to shortstop Richie Martin in the second inning. O'Sullivan visited Whitson on the mound in the second following an infield hit to Ricky Santiago. Whitson threw two straight balls to his next batter, Billy Endris, before striking out Endris on three-straight pitches.

Florida pitchers saw their share of success against FAU, striking out a season-high 19 batters, but the offense continuously struggled.

The Gators plated three first-inning runs on a sacrifice fly by Taylor Gushue, a throwing error on an infield single by Mattson and a ground ball to shortstop from Justin Shafer. Freshman John Sternagel drove in

his fourth RBI in two games with a sacrifice fly to left field in the sixth.

Sternagel admitted after his two-RBI performance against Florida State on March 25 that he hasn't played as much as he thought in his freshman season.

Dating back to that game, he's batting .313 with six RBIs and has started every game at third base where he has just one error this year.

"He's putting some good swings on the ball," O'Sullivan said.

"It lengthens our lineup a little bit and gives us a chance to score when we get to the bottom half of the order."

FAU responded in the inning following every run-scoring frame from UF.

Owls designated hitter Esteban Puerta went 4 for 5 at the plate with his hits coming off of four different Gators pitchers.

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Dendy re-emerges after poor performance at Indoors

► JUNIOR WON THE LONG JUMP IN AUSTIN, TEXAS.

LAWRENCE LAGUNA

Alligator Writer @LagunaLawrence

Marquis Dendy is on his way to recovering from the NCAA Indoor Championships.

After failing to score at the national meet last month, Dendy took first place in the long jump at the Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays in Austin, Texas, after jumping 7.93 meters on Friday.

The mark isn't his career best, but it showed coach Mike Holloway that his long jumper is back to the standard Dendy sets for himself.

Holloway said Dendy's pride hurt him when trying to come back from a torn labrum and dislocated arm.

But the junior is realizing that now, and he is taking a different direction in order to be a champion again.

"He's a lot more focused, he's working a lot harder and he understands that he has the ability to get back to where he was," Holloway said.

"He had surgery this fall and I think sometimes when you're young and you're a great athlete, you think you can step back on the

track and it's just going to happen and that's not the way it works."

Dendy's results in the long jump and triple jump have been a roller coaster ride because

of his surgery in September. But he has slowly made his way back to top finishes.

During the indoor season, he finished 11th at the Southeastern Conference Champion-

ship in the triple jump.

He just missed the podium in his other event, placing fourth in the long jump during the same competition.

Similarly, Dendy placed 16th in the long jump at NCAA Indoors and didn't qualify for a triple-jump final.

But after overcoming the adversity from his torn labrum and surgery, the Middleton, Del., native is hoping to build on his win at the Texas Relays.

The significance of placing high at a meet like the Texas Relays gives Dendy more of an upper hand because the level of competition is what the Gators will see at outdoor nationals.

"It prepares us for the future, it prepares us for things we have to get done down the road," Holloway said. "The significance is we get to go to a meet that is a championship caliber race with championship caliber athletes."

Understanding what it takes to overcome defeat is an attribute every athlete must come to comprehend. Dendy said he leaves everything in the past in order to prove himself all over again.

"I know how to keep my progression going," Dendy said. "I don't shy from any type of expectations, I don't say I can't do this. Can't is not in my vocabulary."



Alligator File Photo

Marquis Dendy (far left) races in the 55m on Jan. 17, 2013, during the Gator Invitation-al in the O'Connell Center. Dendy finished first in the long jump at the Texas Relays.

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