

A.J. Puk and the UF baseball team begin a three-game road series against Kentucky today. Read the story on page 14.



Annual spring arts festival to draw 100,000 visitors

It'll take place downtown

KRISTINA CABRERA
 Alligator Contributing Writer

Pink roseate spoonbills on the Indian River Lagoon capture a perfect Floridian scene on the 45th annual Spring Arts Festival's poster. "We all know the oak trees and the rolling hills, but let's expose peo-

ple to what else they can find in Florida," said the Ocala artist Jacquelyn Schindehette.

Schindehette is among the many artists from across the country who showcase different mediums of art at the Santa Fe Arts Festival this weekend found in the blocks from Northeast Eighth Avenue to North-

east Second Avenue.

Kathryn Lehman, coordinator of culture programs at Santa Fe College, said Schindehette's painting captures the essence of the festival because it documents the beauty of Florida.

"The Santa Fe Springs Arts Festival really represents the spirit of our community," Lehman said, adding that she expects to match, if not surpass, the 100,000 visitors who at-

"The Santa Fe Springs Arts Festival really represents the spirit of our community."

Kathryn Lehman
 culture programs coordinator,
 Santa Fe College

Cami Cupples, a 19-year-old UF architecture sophomore, said she has never attended the festival but wants to go this year to see the art and speak with the people who created it.

"I have my perception of something, but when I talk to an artist, I get to see what's going on in their brains," Cupples said. "Art to me is the materialization of someone's thoughts."

tended the festival last year.

The free festival will consist of a range of activities fit for all ages including crafts for children, live performances, music and food.

Universities seek to shield researchers from activists

BEATRICE DUPUY
 Alligator Staff Writer

bdupuy@alligator.org

Their fear has caged them into silence. They have done what they can to hide their identities. But oftentimes, it's not enough to escape the threats and harassment.

Animal researchers from public universities around Florida are now fighting to keep their personal information out of the hands of animal rights activists.

A bill moving through the House of Representatives would exempt the personal identification information of animal researchers at public research facilities from being public record.

UF, along with several state universities, is lobbying for the bill to protect researchers from potential danger and harassment.

In Gainesville, an animal rights group has made UF's involvement personal.

The Eleventh Hour for Animals, which works to expose "the taxpayer-funded animal torture industry inside the University of Florida," has published personal identification information on UF animal researchers on their website. The group, known primarily for targeting UF primate research-

ers, has publicized personal phone numbers, addresses and pictures of animal researchers at UF.

Disturbing pictures of primates being examined by researchers are featured on the organization's website along with posters with quotes like "stop the holocaust inside UF, free the monkeys."

After a three year lawsuit, the organization, formerly named Negotiation is Over, obtained UF's public veterinary records last April.

The researchers named in public records were the first ones to be targeted by animal rights activists, said Janine Sikes, a UF spokeswoman.

"The university wants to be very open and honest about its research," she said. "It wants to stop these personal attacks against our researchers."

Sikes said the animal rights activists have made harassing phone calls, targeted family members and made death threats to UF animal researchers. Due to this, the Eleventh Hour for Animals is under surveillance from the police department and the FBI.

UF provided much of the language in the bill, which could take effect as soon as July.

SEE MONKEY, PAGE 4



Amber Riccinto / Alligator

Standing Strong

Advocates against acts of sexual violence march during the Take Back the Night rally toward University Avenue on Thursday evening. The event was designed to empower women to speak out.

LOCAL

Rush denies wrongdoing, Yoho responds

KELCEE GRIFFIS

Alligator Staff Writer kgriffis@alligator.org

Despite news reports about his attempts to scrub his online record, Jake Rush's campaign maintains he did nothing wrong.

The local attorney and congressional hopeful caught the spotlight this week after online comments insinuating sexual assault and drug use were traced back to a gaming account connected with Rush's name.

"Jake has never lied about these activities," said Alex Patton, Rush's campaign spokesman. "He didn't make those comments."

Gamer Lee Snyder took responsibility for the comments in a release from Rush's campaign Wednesday.

Rush will face local Congressman Ted Yoho in the August Republican primary. Yoho campaign spokeswoman Kat Cammack told the Alligator Thursday that Yoho doesn't engage in "any of this side-

show distraction."

In a statement released by Yoho's campaign, the congressman distanced himself from the situation. He called the rumors about the sexual and drug references "extremely disturbing," and he said the content does not reflect his values.

"This is an unfortunate distraction, and I remain focused on reducing our \$17.6 trillion dollar debt, creating jobs, and support for our veterans," he said in the statement.

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Gators basketball success shifting downtown business

Away games mean profits at home, pg 5.

Actual, 13-foot alligator for sale on Craigslist

His name is George, and he costs \$6,500, pg 8.



Florida Gov. Rick Scott grants in-state tuition to veterans

Previously, some paid out-of-state rates, pg 3.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Kinetix Sixth Annual Fitness

Extravaganza and 5K

This annual event takes place Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. and promotes health awareness with 17 local vendors, free food and live music. The event at Kinetix Physical Therapy in the Haile Plantation Market Square will provide free health screenings and host a 5K run. All proceeds benefit Balance 180 Gymnastics. There will be giveaways, raffles and more. For more information, visit kinetixpt.com or register for the 5K through active.com.

42nd Annual Showcase:

Ubuntu

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

Public Health Week

UF's College of Public Health and Health Professions will be hosting National Public Health Week beginning Monday. The theme is Public Health: Start Here. The week will kick off at 12:40 p.m. with a surprise event. Other events throughout the week include a Zumbathon, morning yoga, cooking demonstrations and more in the HPNP complex courtyard. For more information, visit phw.phhp.ufl.edu.

RUB Entertainment Presents:

Big Orange Festival

The Gator Nation is invited to the first Big Orange Festival on April 11 at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union. Featuring CollegeHumor Live's Jake and Amir, 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 are interested in attending a large campus Seder, partici-

FORECAST

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
PARTLY CLOUDY 85/61	CLOUDY 84/63	THUNDER-STORMS 84/64	THUNDER-STORMS 80/66	THUNDER-STORMS 77/55

pating in a themed Seder or hosting a smaller one with friends, please register for Passover at 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 rabbiswedroe@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 on 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 fabulous Vixen commemorative T-shirts. Reservations are not necessary but strongly encouraged. You can register online using PayPal here: touchstoneval.com/vixenclinic.html

Earth Day Fest needs groups, volunteers

Earth Day Fest will be April 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Bo Diddley Community Plaza. The event will include solar and sustainable living demonstrations, organic gardening and beekeeping displays, a kids' corner with games, egg coloring and more. Volunteers are needed. Groups interested in attending can send an email to earthdaygainesville2014@gmail.com.

Midnight Fun Run 2014

Join the eighth annual Midnight Fun Run, a 5K run or 1-mile walk around Lake Alice. The event is on 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 cardholders (including students and staff) is \$12, which includes the event T-shirt and breakfast after the event. Gator 1 cardholders 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.

Hippodrome Cinema offers additional student discounts

The Hippodrome State Theatre Cinema is now offering additional student and senior pricing for all of its regularly scheduled shows. Admission for students with a valid ID is \$5.50. In the past, the Hippodrome has offered \$5.50 pricing for students and seniors on only Sundays and Wednesdays. The cinema is located inside the Hippodrome at 25 SE Second Place. For a complete listing of films, visit thehipp.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



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Veterans granted in-state college tuition by Gov. Rick Scott

LYNNA LAWRENCE

Alligator Contributing Writer

Gov. Rick Scott granted in-state tuition to veterans Monday in hopes of making Florida the most military-friendly state, and UF military members are saluting the

efforts.

The bill creates the Congressman C.W. Bill Young Veteran Tuition Waiver Program, named in memory of the military advocate. It aims to expand education and employment opportunities for veterans in Florida by waiving out-of-state tuition fees

at state colleges and universities.

Honorably discharged veterans, National Guard members and reserve components will reap the benefits of the slashed tuition rate, as well as job assistance programs and funds for military and guard base improvements.

Previously, non-Florida resident veterans were required to pay out-of-state tuition fees.

At UF, the in-state tuition rate for 2013-2014 is \$208.77 per credit hour. Out-of-state students pay \$951.34 per credit hour.

Marcus Tucker, a 29-year-old former Marine Corps corporal and UF marketing senior, said he believes that it is unjust to charge veterans out-of-state tuition at public institutions.

"They don't serve one state or another state," he said. "They serve the entire country."

Tucker, who is the president of the UF Collegiate Veterans Society, said he commends the state of Florida for inviting veterans to come to Florida when they leave the military.

He said he believes that veterans are driven, focused on their training and rich with life experiences. By educating them at Florida universities, the state's job market will gain a better workforce and a more productive economy.

UF is home to about 680 student veterans, Tucker said. He knows a handful of student veterans who pay out-of-state tuition, and the bill will help them.

"They don't serve one state or another state. They serve the entire country."

Marcus Tucker

29-year-old former Marine Corps corporal and UF marketing senior

The federal Post-9/11 GI Bill that many veterans use covers 100 percent of in-state tuition and fees. Waiving out-of-state fees allows veterans who qualify for both benefits to get an education essentially for free, Tucker said.

It is common for UF Army ROTC cadets to serve as National Guard members while they're in the ROTC program, said Kyle Everage, the UF Army ROTC recruiting operations officer.

Students who participate in this Simultaneous Membership Program will be eligible for many of the benefits of the new bill.

"It definitely shows that their efforts are appreciated," he said. "The financial piece being taken care of it compensates them a little bit for all the time and effort they have to put in."



AP Photo

Rep. Kathleen Passidomo, R-Naples, speaks to students during a rally for College Affordability and In-state Tuition on Thursday in front of the Old Capitol in Tallahassee.

CAMPUS

Grade-school students compete in solar engineering competition

EMILY JULSON

Alligator Contributing Writer

North Florida's first-ever EnergyWhiz Expo on Saturday will feature competitions to build the best miniature solar car and solar cooker.

County Commissioner Robert Hutchinson will attend the event: a forum for elementary, middle

and high school students to demonstrate their science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills in hands-on, energy-focused competitions.

Hutchinson will officially declare April 5 as Solar Energy Education Day at the event, which will take place at Santa Fe College's track.

The UF Solar Gators, a student club founded in Fall 2011 to build

a solar-powered car, will host the event and have the frame of their own solar car on display.

"The purpose of the event is to basically get alternative energy ideas out there and support sustainable energy," said Aja Garrison, 20-year-old UF public relations senior and UF Solar Gators' public relations chair.

During the regional Junior Solar

Sprint competition, teams of upper elementary and middle school students will race to build the best miniature solar car, powered entirely by solar energy and steered by wires.

In the Solar Energy Cook Off, students in fourth through 12th grade will work in teams to design and build solar cookers and demonstrate their efficiency by creating an original dish of food for the compe-

tion, she said.

The competitions foster education about sustainability among youth, said Jason Rosen, 21-year-old UF material science and engineering senior and UF Solar Gators president.

"We are excited to be involved with the educational aspect of the event and get the community involved," Rosen said.

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White House: 'Cuban Twitter' not covert

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The White House says a "Cuban Twitter" communications network created by the U.S. government was a "development" program and not a covert operation.

Spokesman Jay Carney says he is not aware of individuals in the White House who were aware of the program, but he also says President Barack Obama does support efforts to expand com-

munications in Cuba.

The Associated Press has learned that the communications network was built with secret shell companies and financed through foreign banks.

Carney says the government does take steps to be discreet when working in "non-permissive environments" including Cuba. He says those steps are taken to protect "practitioners and the public."

Some view the project as a

welcome alternative to the decades-old Cold War between the United States and Cuba that has involved more violent efforts to overthrow the Castro government, including a failed plot to give then-President Fidel Castro an exploding cigar. For others, the news sparked fear that the program would only help the Cuban government's efforts to discredit the island's small movement of independent journalists and bloggers.



AP Photo

Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks as she delivers the keynote address at the launch of the U.S. Global Development Lab, an initiative of the U.S. Agency for International Development, on Thursday in New York.

UCF, FIU and USF among lobbying schools

MONKEY,

from page 1

If approved, the bill would exempt the personal identification of researchers in animal records on treatment and care, research protocols and approvals, purchase or billing records, animal care and use committee records, and facility and lab records.

In 2011, a member of Eleventh Hour for Animals posted fliers offering money for information on researchers experimenting with animals. However, Camille A. Marino, Eleventh Hour for Animals founder and executive director, said that the group has never threatened or committed violent acts against the researchers at UF.

"The only violence that is happening is the violence they commit against animals for money," she said. "My intent is never to threaten anyone, only to provide information that the community has a right to know."

On behalf of the Eleventh Hour for Animals, Marino has filed a federal complaint with the U.S. Department of Agriculture requesting an investigation into "apparent egregious and repeated violations of the Animal Welfare Act related to non-human primates being warehoused inside the University of Florida." The letter details the organization's concern for UF's treatment of Booger, a macaque monkey.

Marino said the monkey is showing signs of mental deterioration because of his confinement.

"I want him out of there," Marino said. "I want all of the monkeys out of there. I fully intend to do whatever it takes to have that program shut down and disbanded."

UF is not alone in its fight for privacy. Universities lobbying for the bill include the University of Central Florida, Florida International University and the University of South Florida.

Grant Heston, associate vice president for communications and public affairs at UCF, said animal researchers are being targeted at universities across the U.S.

"We feel it's a responsible measure to help protect those individuals," Heston said.

Due to colleagues receiving threats, a UF researcher has chosen to remain anonymous to discuss possible future primate research.

"I'm extremely concerned about being able to do primate research on this campus," the researcher said. "I don't want my name and my house bombed. I don't want them to stand in front of my house."

The researcher's fear is concern enough to consider not performing research on the primates. The researcher wants to give back to humans with their research but may reconsider for fear of harassment, adding, "I will face a horrific time if my name is not covered."

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LOCAL

Gators basketball success shifting downtown business dynamics

JULIANNE HUHN

Alligator Contributing Writer

The success of the Gators men's basketball team may also lead to increased success for local businesses.

Jeff Hickey, managing partner of Tall Paul's, said the Gators' March Madness bid has enthused downtown and boosted overall dynamics.

"Anytime the Gators are doing well, it brings an energy to the town and people go out more," Hickey said. "They get more excited to go out, stay out and spend some money."

Nicholas Smith, general manager of The Swamp Restaurant, said he has noticed a similar influx of business at the sports bar as the Gators advanced through the season.

"Especially when games are far away ... people have to go watch it," he said. "People want to enjoy sports with their friends."

Smith said since the basketball season started, he has seen a transformation in the restaurant's dynamics.

"It's just a change in atmo-

sphere," he said. "It gets them excited, gets them coming out. It gets them to us."

"As far as Gator basketball, we are peaking right now as far as NCAA Tournament and SEC Tournament, and it is spring. Downtown Gainesville is peaking at the exactly the same time. So, it's like with Gator athletics doing so well and this naturally being a good time for businesses in downtown Gainesville. It's a good formula."

Andrew Poe

*Rockeys Dueling Piano Bar
general manager*

Retail stores are benefiting, too. Christina Rodenwoldt, manager at Gator Plus, 1620 W. University Ave., said March brought an increase in sales of Gators-themed gear.

"We are seeing a lot of interest," Rodenwoldt said. "Especially if there is a home game or right after we have won. The fact that

we got into the Final Four, there is definitely an upswing of people calling Internet orders, coming into the store."

Andrew Poe, general manager of Rockeys Dueling Piano Bar, said although the venue is not a sports bar, it always does well in spring because of fans who want to enjoy downtown Gainesville.

"As far as Gator basketball, we are peaking right now as far as NCAA Tournament and SEC Tournament, and it is spring," Poe said. "Downtown Gainesville is peaking at the exactly the same time. So, it's like with Gator athletics doing so well and this naturally being a good time for businesses in downtown Gainesville. It's a good formula."

The Gators' win against Dayton last Saturday unleashed crowds of people wanting to celebrate downtown afterward, Poe said.

"It was such a big deal — we were going to the Final Four," Poe said. "Everyone got into their cars and headed from wherever they were watching the game to downtown to celebrate it, and we saw a tremendous positive effect from that."



Rachel Crosby / Alligator Staff

Creative Speak

Adrian Hayes-Santos, of Grooveshark, speaks with students Thursday in Weimer Hall. About 10 professionals spoke on the job panel.



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Opinions

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014

WWW.ALLIGATOR.ORG/OPINIONS

Editorial

Is it just us, or was this week not totally hellish? Most of us are in that comfortable lull between midterms and finals, the weather is gorgeous, and McDonalds will be giving away coffee for the next two weeks.

On that note, here it is: Your get-your-free-coffee-while-it-lasts edition of...

Darts & Laurels

A report published on AlterNet this week found that NFL cheerleaders have fewer labor rights than exotic dancers. The depressing article makes us wonder why anyone would choose a career in professional cheerleading: Their handbooks are borderline draconian, all their rehearsal hours are unpaid, and their total seasonal revenue amounts to less than \$5 per hour — in fact, the NFL mascots have higher salaries than NFL cheerleaders. The U.S. Labor Department labels cheerleaders “seasonal amusement.”

Um, what the actual f**k? By that logic, aren't all athletes “seasonal amusement”? Most NFL cheerleaders, AlterNet stated, are trained dancers holding down college degrees and second jobs in order to be cheerleaders. A we-call-bulls**t-on-the-“cheerleading-isn't-a-sport”-argument **DART** to the NFL for exploiting one of its biggest revenue drivers — women who kick ass and look great in thigh-high boots while doing so.

As if we needed another reminder of FSU's inferiority, take a look at their much-talked-about alleged new logo. We realize some of our readers may not have seen it, so allow us to paint a picture: Envision a Seminole Indian scribbled on a Post-It note by the Archie Comics illustrators. Imagine the Seminole's head thrown back in either a ferocious war cry or a mid-sneeze orgasm. The leaked logo has inspired vitriol among FSU students and alumni, who went so far as to start online petitions to keep the old logo. Why all the hate? We think the logo perfectly encapsulates the one university in the country where a student can get college credit for being a clown. A don't-ever-change **LAUREL** goes to the **leaked, cartoonish FSU logo**.

In Gainesville, we love our craft beer. In fact, craft breweries are having a moment right now — so much so that larger beer distributors are taking notice, and they're not happy about it.

Craft brewers in Florida are currently facing a battle in the legislature, as a bill pending in the Florida Senate would stipulate that craft brewers sell their bottles and canned beer directly to a distributor, according to Reuters.

While other states nurture craft breweries, brewers in Florida say the environment for independent beer operations is hostile and dominated by politically influential national distributors seeking to suppress small breweries. This week, we're tossing a Big-Nose-IPA-before-Natty-Light **DART** to **champions of the anti-craft-brew bill**.

The biggest pat on the back of the year goes to our men's basketball team and Billy Donovan. Seriously, we're beyond excited for Saturday. Enjoy your time in the limelight, boys, and keep doing us proud.

For all their hard work, we're giving a dem-muscles-doe **LAUREL** to the **Gators basketball team**. Good luck in Arlington!

Go Gators!

Reader response

Today's question: Would you buy a 13-foot stuffed Gator that wears Tim Tebow jerseys?

Thursday's question: Do you have cable?

60% YES
40% NO
66 TOTAL VOTES

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org

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Column

Embrace the dad jeans: Normcore is in

Spring is abloom, but ignore the flower prints and bright colors: What you should really be digging out of your closet is the pair of dad jeans you bought months ago at the thrift with the intention of turning into distressed cutoffs.

So what if you never got around to doing the dirty work? By now you've missed the peak of the underbutt trend.

The good news is those dad jeans have normcore written all over them.

Normcore is the trendy new way to state you don't care about fashion by wearing things “normal” people would wear. Because just when you thought the word trendy couldn't be any more cringe worthy, it became trendy to be anti-trend.

For those of you who still don't follow, picture a style in which homeless-biker meets off-duty-model, a la baggy white crew-neck T-shirt, your favorite Gators windbreaker and Jerry-Seinfeld dad jeans paired with boxy running shoes.

Does this sound like your go-to outfit for the past six years? Congratulations on being normcore before normcore was a thing.

It's hard to say when the anti-fashion fashion statement became a trend, but I first read about normcore in a New York Magazine article in February that explored the term not only as a way of dress but as a theory that people were moving away from fashion as a statement and viewing way of dress as a form of interconnectivity.

Since then, it seems “stylized blandness,” as New York Magazine writer Fiona Duncan put it, has been creeping up all over the place. Vanity Fair, GQ, Refinery29, Jezebel and even The New York Times have written about the trend. And hashtag-ability aside, I'm convinced it's only a thing because people keep talking about it.

The idea behind normcore is that you wouldn't be able to differentiate a person who actually cares about fashion from a person who wears New Balance sneakers and dad jeans because he's from a time-warped suburban town



Marjorie Nunez
opinions@alligator.org

in Idaho where dressing stylishly is much less of a desired skill than say, drawing magical beasts or hacking computers.

And I get that. No one said dressing well had to be at the top of everyone's to-do list, but when did everyone get so caught up in being indistinguishable?

As far as 2014 goes, everyone is interested in self-branding.

Even normcore icons like Blood Orange's Dev Hynes and comedian Jerry Seinfeld have clearly distinguishable images on social media, and it seems they wouldn't be much different in person.

Some fashion writers have said normcore's purpose is to blend the wearer into the general public so that the wearer can be an Everyman, connecting with the population and eschewing popular fashion.

And that's cool. I can see how wanting to connect with others is an incentive to dress differently.

But the idea of dressing a certain way to cultivate a certain feeling is something that's done regularly. It's why places have dress codes and period pieces have time-sensitive costumes.

If you're having a hard time wrapping your head around this whole normcore thing, don't worry — I am, too.

Where I'm most lost is in the idea of the terminology. Who chose normcore, and why did they choose it?

Dressing like you're stuck in the '90s doesn't make you more normal than someone who's embracing trends that have been inspired by various decades or vice versa.

The whole idea of normcore as a trend is just silly.

Normcore — the anti-fashion fashion statement — because nothing screams normal like, “Hey, I'm dressing this way to be normal.”

Marjorie Nunez is a UF journalism senior. Her columns appear on Fridays.

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

Guest column

Government seeks to destroy privacy

The rapid growth of technology's capabilities is cause to reflect on what privacy means in the 21st century. But the U.S. government is not concerned with such reflection. In the post-9/11 world, the government has made it a top priority not to redefine but destroy the idea of privacy.

By June 7, it was clear that idea of privacy had been under attack for years. A day earlier, former Guardian journalist Glenn Greenwald published internal NSA documents leaked to him by whistleblower Edward Snowden, revealing the U.S. government has had direct access to the data of major American companies. Within 24 hours, President Barack Obama assured the public that the covert programs used to spy on American citizens and peoples abroad were both legal and necessary. By December, a federal judge in California had ruled the NSA spying unconstitutional.

To be clear, the kind of NSA spying differs from the typical Cold War-era espionage that comes to mind. Rather than identifying targets, tapping their phones and intercepting their mail upon suspicion of crimes, the NSA collects all of the electronic communications of every individual communicating within, from and to

Andrew Pentland
Speaking Out

the U.S. Such actions actively negate laws dating back to 1215 with the signing of the Magna Carta — the presumption of innocence. In the eyes of the U.S. government, everyone is born guilty.

We must assume that everything we do on a cell phone or computer will always exist on an NSA server and can be used against us.

Given the nature of the evidence supplied by Snowden, it's easy to persuade a reasonable person that the government is invading his or her privacy. However, a much more difficult task is convincing people to care or fight to stop such injustices from occurring. How does one overcome the oppression of the most powerful force in human history, namely, the United States?

There is no magic formula. Sadly, far too many people are unaware of the government's efforts to destroy the private sphere. We must talk about these issues.

Don't let friends and family tell you that your boring political rants are bumming them out or that they would like to talk about it if only they more informed. Inform them! Bum them out! The time for comfort and apathy is over.

Andrew Pentland is a UF history senior.

Guest column

Accent blunders suggest tokenism

On Monday I was surprised to learn that Accent Speaker's Bureau had to cancel its event featuring former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert after he backed out of the interview. I assumed it was an early April Fools' Day joke. The news of the cancellation came the same day that Olmert was convicted of bribery in a Tel Aviv court for taking \$160,000 in bribes to speed along government permits to build the Holyland housing estate while he was the mayor of Jerusalem.

But that isn't the only reason why students should be wary of hosting Olmert on campus. Olmert was the prime minister of Israel during Operation Cast lead, which left more than 1,400 Palestinians dead in Gaza and, according to the Goldstone Report, is responsible for potential war crimes.

Some Olmert supporters

Eric Brown
Speaking Out

might note his realignment plan that calls for Israeli settlements in 90 percent of the West Bank to be dismantled and evacuated as reason for his being a champion of peace. However, Olmert's plan won't meet the minimal requirements of international law or UN resolutions demanding Israel withdraw to its pre-1967 border, the Green Line.

Instead, under his plan the bulk of Israel's settlements will be consolidated: The Palestinians will not be offered a viable state, and their lives will continue to be dependent on the Israeli army's goodwill. In other words, the occupation will metamorphose but it will still be an occupation.

It is not appropriate for Accent to bring such an individual and justify

it by having Rula Jebreal, a Palestinian correspondent for MSNBC, interview the former prime minister. This practice by Accent is very tokenizing. One Palestinian doesn't speak for all Palestinians.

It is not only offensive to Palestinians to bring such a speaker but also to those who stand against war criminals and believe in the integrity of international law.

If Accent wants to bring speakers concerning this topic, I would suggest they look into names such as Ali Abunimah, Miko Peled, Ilan Pappé or Noam Chomsky.

In the future, we would hope that Accent and others recognize this less as a conflict and more as a struggle of an oppressed, occupied people against settler colonialism, segregation and a state that wants to erase its history and narrative.

Eric Brown is a UF political science junior.

Column

Colbert racism mishap shows satire is lost on Twitter

Sitting behind his anchor desk on Monday night, Stephen Colbert offered the nation a firm and righteous apology.

He was diffusing a situation that began last week with a tweet. In case you haven't heard or read the news for the past six months, there have been repeated and increasingly vehement calls for Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder to change his team's name to something that isn't a word that would be tossed around on the Trail of Tears.

In what was either an incredibly clumsy or totally un-self-aware move, Dan Snyder started the Washington Redskins Original Americans Foundation. Colbert, while in character as the clueless pundit, satirized the foundation with his own Ching-Chong Ding-Dong Foundation for Sensitivity to Orientals or Whatever.

What was clearly a mockery of Snyder's publicity stunt was taken to Twitter. Someone from the Twitter account run by Comedy Central, not Colbert himself, tweeted "I am willing to show #Asian community I care by introducing the Ching-Chong Ding-Dong Foundation for Sensitivity to Orientals or Whatever." But 140 characters doesn't leave much room for context, and soon Twitter's outrage machine was hungry for Colbert blood.

The tweet was seen by prominent Asian-American hashtag activist Suey Park, who has started hashtags before to cultivate discussion on the social network such as #NotYourAsianSidekick. This time, though, the hashtag campaign was aimed squarely at cancelling the Colbert Report, presumed because the hashtag was #CancelColbert.

#CancelColbert gained a lot of publicity, but it also generated a lot of outrage in the opposite direction, with many fans of the show up in arms over the threat to their beloved Report.

The ensuing outrage firestorm caught the attention of the broader news media, generating scores of articles debating things like white privilege and the nature of satire. Two Korean-American



Alec Carver
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writers from Deadspin wrote the eloquently titled "Gooks Don't Get Redskins Joke." The issue was, to say the least, very hairy.

The problem with this whole fiasco is that it was the answer to Snyder's prayers. Any discussion of his team and his foundation, the original inspiration for the offending tweet, was left out of the conversation.

During the height of the madness, a New Yorker piece gave #CancelColbert's mastermind an opportunity to elaborate on it beyond the confines of Twitter. Park explained that she was fighting satire with satire, saying her ultimate goal was to point out the hypocrisy of white liberals who accept more nuanced forms of racism from people they share some political beliefs with.

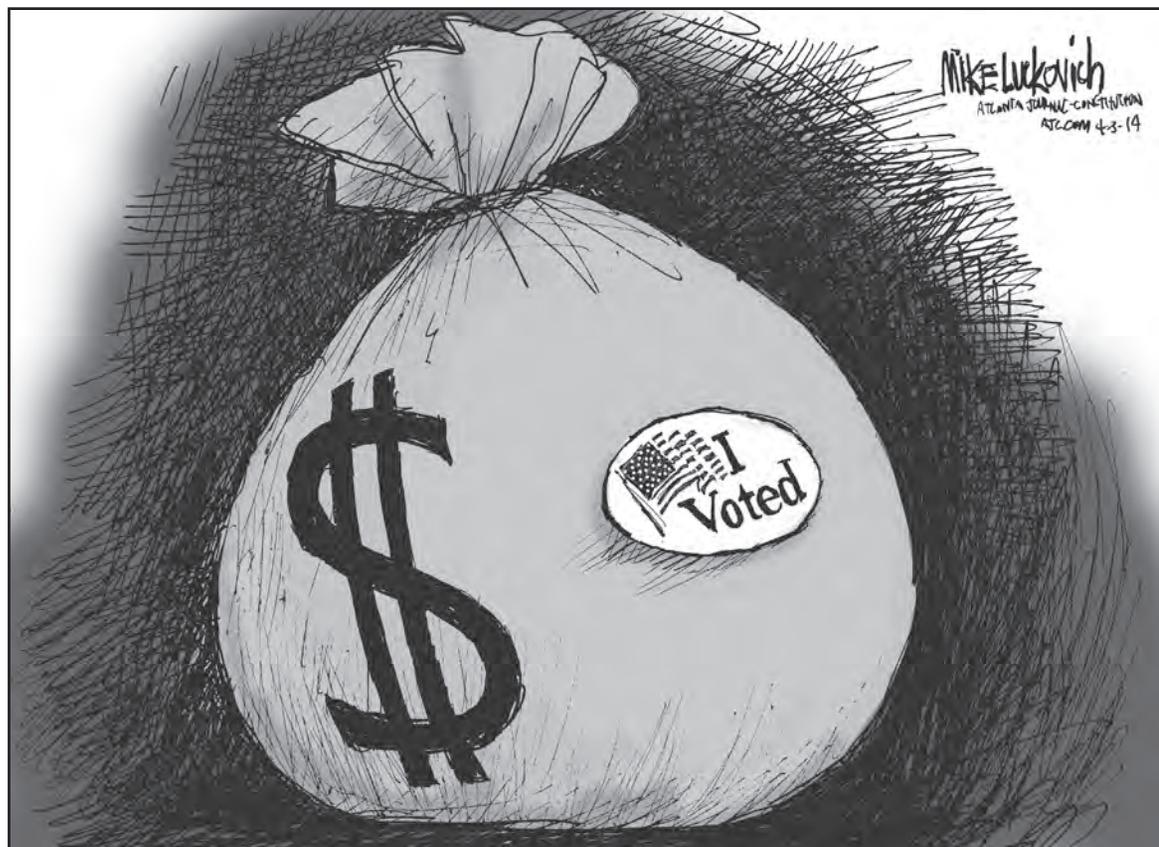
Maybe she's sincere, or maybe she's retroactively changing the conversation. In the wake of Colbert's apology, the whole thing has lost its volatility. The problem with Snyder and his Redskins isn't going anywhere, but neither is the movement to change the name.

The whole deal can serve as a kind of teaching moment.

Assuming racial humor is acceptable because worse forms of racism exist is a misconception, something that gets overlooked by people all too often. Look no further than the "Happy Fortune Buffet" fliers that were posted around campus just before Spring Break. Well-meaning satire, which can be used to fight against injustice and hypocrisy, can backfire horribly. Even people who write and present jokes for a living can make mistakes, so aspiring and amateur jokesters should keep in mind the unintended effects of what they might say.

Especially on Twitter.

Alec Carver is a UF journalism freshman. His columns appear on Fridays.



LOCAL

Actual, 13-foot Florida gator on Craigslist

MELISSA MIHM

Alligator Contributing Writer

A Georgia man is looking to sell a 13-foot mounted bull alligator that's been living under a blanket in his garage.

Don Perkins, 65, of Darien, Ga., got the American alligator after Florida wildlife officials ordered Perkins' cousin

in — a licensed alligator trapper — to kill the animal in Palmdale, Fla. He had the alligator mounted about three years ago and is now hoping he can earn back the money that he invested in the project, which adds up to about \$7,000.

Perkins said the alligator was laid out in the back of his cousin's Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck when he first

saw it. Its head was hanging out of the back of the truck with its snout kissing the pavement.

"I knew there was something I could do with it other than have him turned into purses and pocketbooks," Perkins said.

So he took the animal home and made it his project. He called taxidermist after taxidermist. Most laughed at the request to mount such a large animal in a standing position. He then found Johnny Walker in Deland who turned his vision into a reality for about \$4,500.

Michael Moulton, a professor of wildlife ecology and conservation at UF, said that although opinions may differ on the subject, the animal's death was legal because he was considered a nuisance and killed by a licensed trapper.

Perkins named the animal George after a gator that almost killed him when he was a child. There was nothing more than 3 feet and a fishing pole between 11-year-old Perkins and the gator when the animal opened its jaw and smacked its tail on the water.

The new George now stands 7 feet tall on a green carpeted stand wearing a XXXL Tim Tebow jersey and holding a football signed by UF's three Heisman winners — Tebow, Steve Spurrier and Danny Wuerffel. There are wheels on the bottom.

"You can push him like a shopping cart in a grocery store," he said.

Lately, George hasn't been in the spotlight. He calls Perkins' garage home. His only company is two motorcycles and a lawn mower. Still, Perkins keeps a blanket over him, keeping dust from building up in the cracks between his scales.

Perkins is hoping he can sell George and is asking for \$6,500. He said he would like someone to buy George, auction him off and give the proceeds to charity.

"I'm not trying to make a single dime off of George," he said.

The Craigslist ad can be found at goo.gl/kSk8vs.



Courtesy to The Alligator

A 13-foot-4-inch bull alligator is mounted in the Heisman Trophy pose. He holds a football signed by Tim Tebow, Steve Spurrier and Danny Wuerffel.

Commission votes to control e-cigarettes

E-CIGS COULD BE BANNED ON CAMPUS.

BROOKE AUSTILL

Alligator Contributing Writer

Gainesville city commissioners unanimously voted in favor of regulating the use of e-cigarettes in a commission meeting Thursday.

The proposed ordinance would prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes to minors. It would ban selling them through vending machines, and it would ban their use in tobacco-free areas like UF's campus.

Kathy Nichols, assistant director for UF Area Health Education Centers Program, spoke during the meeting about the use and preliminary dangers of e-cigarettes.

Nichols said e-cigarettes contain nicotine, polyethylene glycol — which creates the smoke effect — and other questionable flavored chemicals.

She said although some dangers have been found involving e-cigarette use, more information is still needed to determine long-term effects of the product.

She said some research shows the product is popular among teens.

"There are youth who are starting to use the product who have never used traditional cigarettes," Nichols said.

Mayor Ed Braddy said during the meeting that the e-cigarette could be a starting point for children to use traditional tobacco.

"I would think just intuitively, especially for kids, that it's probably more like a gateway to cigarettes," he said.

Allison Justice, a UF mass communications graduate student, participated in preliminary research that suggests e-cigarette advertising messages target adolescents. Justice, 24, said that while some of the messages could persuade cigarette smokers to transition to the e-cigarette, the ads could also spike a curiosity in children.

"Our youth generation is the e-generation," Justice said. "Anything electronic, they want their hands on."

Although all commissioners were in favor of the motion, the ordinance must go to a second hearing until it can be adopted officially.

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Church volunteer arrested on sexual assault charges

▶ IT INVOLVED A 2-YEAR-OLD.

JENNA LYONS

Alligator Staff Writer

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Gainesville Police arrested a volunteer at a local church Wednesday on accusations of sexually assaulting a 2-year-old girl on the playground.

Officers arrested 64-year-old Floyd Delmer Wilson on charges of sexual battery, according to an arrest report.

Between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Monday, staff members babysat the toddler at Parkview Baptist Church, located at 3403 NW 13th St.

While bathing her daughter that evening, the mother noticed she was hurt. The girl said someone touched her genitals and reenacted the touching on a doll, according to the report.

During questioning, Wilson eventually admitted to penetrating her with

two fingers but said it was by accident when he tried to pick her up. While officers questioned him, he often smiled and also reenacted the hand motions, according to the report.

Wilson did not give a definitive yes or no answer about whether he touched other children at the church. He said phrases like "not to my knowledge," "I do not believe so," and "I can't remember."

A witness told officers on the day of the incident he did not see any inappropriate touching, but when he walked out to the playground where Wilson was with the toddler, she was "hysterically crying."

Parkview Baptist Church released a statement saying it "will have no further comment until we learn more from the criminal investigation."

Wilson is in jail with a \$100,000 bond.

LOCAL

Runoff candidates criticize each other at city issue debate

HANNA MARCUS

Alligator Staff Writer

hmarcus@alligator.org

At the Thursday night City Commission runoff candidate forum, a debate about city issues was partially clouded by sharp comments from each candidate about her opponent.

"We need not just the nicest person but the one who is the most prepared and most qualified for the job."

Helen Warren

City Commission candidate

Helen Warren and Annie Orlando, the commission candidates, will compete for the at-large seat in the election Tuesday. The topics included urban development, transportation and Gainesville Regional Utilities issues.

When discussing the city's budget, Warren said Gainesville is facing challenges the city has never dealt with before.

"We do have a crisis," she said. "There's not a single department out there that can say, 'We haven't already been facing budget cuts.'"

Referencing Warren's comment about the budget, Orlando said she was "glad that Helen finally wants to have a conversation (on budget issues)."

Orlando cited refinancing debt as a way for the city to control the budget and focused her attention on the appointment of a new GRU general manager.

"GRU is going to need to have someone who is forward-thinking so we can evolve and be a viable company," she said.

In the closing remarks, Warren focused on why Orlando should have run for County Commission instead of City Commission.

"(Orlando) shows that if things don't go her way, she sues the city," Warren said. "So Annie, I think you would have been a great candidate to have gone for county."

Orlando quickly questioned how many city committees Warren had served on. She closed by citing her involvement and reflecting on her support.

"We need not just the nicest person but the one who is the most prepared and most qualified for the job," she said.

WORSHIP

guide

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Graduate students shorten their theses for competition

JESSICA PEREDA
Alligator Contributing Writer

The seconds ticked by for contestants striving to cram their massive amounts of research, sometimes amounting to 80,000 words, into three minutes.

"It was a great low-commitment way to find out what people are doing. I wanted to get an exposure to different speech style."

Nina Zagvazdina
UF entomology graduate student

UF doctoral students of all disciplines competed Thursday in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom to win \$500 and the chance to continue to the regional competition. This was the first Three Minute Thesis competition at UF, where 11 contestants compressed their graduate theses into three-minute presentations without

outside props except for one PowerPoint slide.

The winner, Michael Shultz, is a UF graduate student doing research on pediatric osteosarcoma, bone cancer in children.

Nina Zagvazdina, a third-year UF entomology graduate student, went to the event to find out a presentation style she could use for her research.

"It was a great low-commitment way to find out what people are doing," she said. "I wanted to get an exposure to different speech style."

Ruth Perez, a clerk in the UF graduate school who helped organize the competition, said the goal was to expose the audience to a higher level of research.

"Our goal is to demystify what our graduate students are doing," she said. "Sometimes what they are doing can be very complicated — and most of us are not going to get a Ph.D. ourselves — so we can't speak to them at that same level."



AP Photo

Military Memory

Roses left for shooting victims are seen at the feet of Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn and other military during a news conference near Fort Hood's main gate Thursday in Fort Hood, Texas.

CAMPUS

Student tops Wing Zone sauce contest

AKEILA BROWN

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF student and Delta Chi brother Shane McCann is so hot right now.

He's leading Wing Zone's Flavor Face-Off competition, in which people from across the country go head-to-head to find the next sauce flavor in a Sweet Sixteen-style bracket.

McCann, a 23-year-old UF anthropology senior, has more than 1,000 votes for his jalapeno cheddar flavor.

His opponent's Baked-Potato Blast flavor has about 450 votes.

"New flavors are important to the franchise."

Dan Corrigan
Wing Zone's marketing manager

The winner, who will be announced Monday, will receive a 46-inch flat-screen TV, a tailgating party for 20 friends and a \$100 Fanatics.com gift card, among other rewards.

McCann said he found out about the contest through a flier he received with his Wing Zone delivery. He joined it to get the 10 free wings that were awarded to each con-

testant for entering.

The flavor idea was inspired by a pepper- and cheese-loaded burger he ate the night before.

"I thought it would taste delicious on a wing," he said.

Dan Corrigan, Wing Zone's marketing manager, said this is the second time Wing Zone has held the contest. Participation has increased by about 500 submissions and a couple thousand votes so far.

"New flavors are important to the franchise," he said. "We always check with the customers before making important decisions."

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Classifieds

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014

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Deluxe, Large 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7BR apt/ house, 60 second walk to UF. Remodeled, Old House charm. Central AC, washer/dryer included. Wood floors. With Parking. By Private Owner. 352-538-2181 lv message 4-23-14-72-2

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2 For Rent unfurnished

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CLOSE TO UF - HOUSES - 352-665-7316
3BR/2BA fenced
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611 NW 36th Terr \$1250/mo
630 NW 34th Terr \$1150/mo 4-9-14-10-2

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5 minute drive to UF, 1.5 baths.
Wood floors, community pool.
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DON'T WAIT
PLACE YOUR SUBLEASE AD
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IT'S EASY...JUST GO TO
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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

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6 Furnishings

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

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

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Pillow-top mattress & box. New, unused, still in plastic w/warranty. Can deliver. Call 352-377-9846 4-23-14-72-6

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

COMPUTER HELP AND REPAIR
Call John @ Just PC's
Virus Removal, Cracked Screen
Tutorials, Upgrades, Office
352-246-2231, 6515 NW 36 Terr
9-30-14-73-7

8 Electronics

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

9 Bicycles

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

10 For Sale

●UF Surplus On-Line Auctions●
are underway...bikes, computers, furniture, vehicles & more. All individuals interested in bidding go to: SURPLUS.UFL.EDU 392-0370 4-23-14-72-10

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New, Used and Factory Refurbished
Check Us Out Before You Buy or Sell!!
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352-448-3433 beatyequip@aol.com 4-23-14-72-10

HORSES & GOATS

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

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SCIENCE FICTION: After catastrophic biological warfare, we may not agree on what nature is or what civilization is. WILDERNESS is a novel by Alan Kovski. Available via Amazon.com 4-22-14-20-10

SCIENCE FICTION: Life will change fast amid genetic engineering, climate engineering and economic upheavals. Will we cope? WONDERS AND TRAGEDIES is a novel by Alan Kovski. Available via Amazon.com 4-22-14-20-10

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11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

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4-23-14-72-11

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

11 Motorcycles, Mopeds

★★SCOOTER REPAIR★★
New Scooters 4 Less has LOW repair rates!
Will repair any make/model. Close to UF!
Pick-ups avail. Cheap oil changes!! 336-1271
4-23-14-72-11

★★★★Road Rat Motors★★★★
Largest Scooter Store in Town! Run by Gator Grads! New scooters starting at \$999. 1-2yr warranties with roadside assistance included. 376-6275 RoadRatMotors.com 4-23-14-72-11

Road Rat Motors offers FREE pickup service for any paid scooter repair. LOWEST labor rate, quickest turnaround in town! Will repair ANY brand scooter. Free estimates. 376-6275. RoadRatMotors.com 4-23-14-72-11

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12 Autos

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

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95 Ford Explorer \$1500
92 Toyota Camry \$1999
91 Chevy Caprice \$1300
352-338-1999 4-23-72-12

00 Dodge Intrepid \$1500
99 Infiniti \$799
01 Ford Taurus \$1900
97 Dodge Van \$900
352-338-1999 4-23-72-12

97 Blazer \$2999
00 Jeep Cherokee \$1999
99 Nissan Sentra \$2999
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\$0 DOWN!!!
3 MONTHS TO PAY
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CASH PAID \$300 AND UP!!!
ANY CONDITION-RUNNING OR NOT!!!
FREE TOWING & SAME DAY PICK-UP
NO TITLE NEEDED. Call Steve 352-771-6191
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12 Autos

SUNRISE AUTO RENTAL
EASY TO RENT!!!
NO CREDIT CARD REQUIRED!
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★★★★HEADLINERS SAGGING?★★★★
★★POWER WINDOWS DON'T WORK?★★
Call or google Steve's Headliners
352-226-1973. On site available. 4-23-31-12

13 Wanted

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



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 Candice Jones at (352) 378-9079 or sfhcoor@stfrancis.cfoxmail.com
To make a donation by mail, please send checks payable to St. Francis House P.O. Box 12491 Gainesville, FL 32604

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

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

SCRABBLE BRAND [G₂] [R₁] [A₁] [M₃] [S₁]

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[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	1st Letter Double	[]
E ₁	O ₁	U ₁	U ₁	R ₁	S ₁	P ₃		RACK 1
[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]		[]
E ₁	E ₁	E ₁	F ₄	G ₂	L ₁	B ₃		RACK 2
[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]		[]
E ₁	U ₁	T ₁	D ₂	S ₁	L ₁	L ₁		RACK 3
[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]		[]
E ₁	I ₁	I ₁	V ₄	S ₁	S ₁	M ₃	Triple Word Score	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 140-150
BEST SCORE 215

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 4th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**
For more information on tournament and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com.

04-04

13 Wanted

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

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

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

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

Medical Office looking for part time medical assistant and/or front desk help for busy office. Must be dependable, computer literate, prefer to know some medical terminology. Experience preferred but not required. Please email resume to JAS3FL@aol.com
4-9-14-5-14

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

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

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

Hogan's Great Sandwiches
Now hiring bartenders/counter help. No experience necessary. Reliable transportation required. Apps accepted Thursday 4/3 and Friday 4/4 at the S W 34th street location. 4-4-2-14

BEST PART-TIME JOB IN GATOR NATION
3 Miles from Campus
\$11.25/ Hr to Start | \$12-\$15 After Training
Flexible Schedule | Ideal for Students
Call Today (352) 264- 0044 5-13-14-16-14

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
PT for a doctor's office. Experience preferred. Email resume to: drpohani@gmail.com 4-9-14-5-14

CDL-A Team Owner Operators: \$2,500 Lease Incentive! Team Dedicated Routes. Great Revenue & Regular Weekly Home Time! 888-486-5946 NFI Industries nfi-partners.com 4-4-1-14

DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED NOW! Learn to drive for US Xpress! Earn \$700 per week! No experience needed! Local CDL Training. Job ready in 15 days! 1-888-368-1964 4-4-1-14

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

1				6			9	
		8	2			6		
	5			7				8
	9			1			3	
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Florida to compete in NCAA Regionals

ERICA A. HERNANDEZ

Alligator Writer @EricaAlyssa

The Gators will be more rested than usual when they compete at the 2014 NCAA University Park Regional on Saturday.

Besides competing against four teams that No. 1 Florida (15-2, 6-1 Southeastern Conference) did not face in the regular season, timing will also be different.

"The regional champ is really kind of a different feeling," coach Rhonda Faehn said. "Because

there's a greater variety of schools that we haven't seen all year long."

"The regional champ is really kind of a different feeling."

Rhonda Faehn
UF coach

With six teams in the field and only four events occurring at any given time, two teams will be sitting out on a bye in the rotation. Instead of competing all four events

back to back, the Gators will begin on vault and then take their first bye for the second rotation.

They will then come back to compete on uneven bars and balance beam in the third and fourth rotations, take a final bye in the fifth rotation and then come back to end on floor in the sixth.

The order of the events will be no different than a regular home meet. The only difference will be the approximately 20 minutes in

SEE GYM, PAGE 15



Emily Cochran / Alligator Staff

Bridget Sloan performs on the balance beam during UF's 198.125 - 197.625 win over LSU Feb. 21 in the O'Connell Center. Florida starts competing in the NCAA Regionals on Saturday in University Park, Penn.

Keegan leading UF into SEC matchup

▶ KEEGAN HAS A TEAM-BEST 29 DOUBLES WINS.

IAN COHEN

Alligator Writer @ibcohen5

It isn't often that a freshman leads a team in any statistical category, but for Kourtney Keegan, it has been the norm.

Keegan was named the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week on Wednesday after helping No. 7 Florida sweep Arkansas and LSU last weekend at home.

The rookie is having an revelatory first year as a Gator, tallying 29 doubles victories to lead the team.

Florida (15-4, 7-2 SEC) expects Keegan's consistent play to continue when it travels to face Mississippi State (9-10, 1-8 SEC) at 6 p.m.

The freshman's elevated play has allowed Coach Roland Thornqvist to start her and senior Olivia Janowicz on Court 1 in doubles. The move has been very successful — the duo is 10-2 as a team this season.

"They have a tremendous amount of confidence,"

Thornqvist said of the tandem.

"At [Court] 1, against the really good teams, you can't hit and look. You got to be able to hit and go. And I think they are [there] now."

"She's an incredible talent, and she's just got all the tools. She's got a great serve, she's got presence, she's willing to move and poach, and she's got great power from the ground. She has all the little things that it takes."

Roland Thornqvist
UF Coach

On a team where the lineup rotates from week-to-week, Keegan has held down the lower courts for the bulk of the season.

The freshman is usually the first Gator to earn a point and has won four of her last five singles matches. Against the Razorbacks on Friday, it took Keegan just 49 minutes to win her singles match.

"She's an incredible talent, and she's just got all the tools," Thornqvist said.

SEE TENNIS, PAGE 15

BASEBALL

Gators look to improve with runners in scoring position

ADAM PINCUS

Alligator Staff Writer @adamDpincus

Buddy Reed stepped to the plate with runners on first and second in the ninth inning against Florida Atlantic. Florida needed one run for the walk-off win. It never came. The Gators' leadoff batter reached base in the ninth and 10th frames only to leave the go-ahead run on the bases.

Reed bunted too hard and too close to FAU pitcher Kevin Alexander, who easily threw out John Sternagel on the force out to third base. Two straight fielder's choices by Casey

Turgeon and Richie Martin ended the rally. Harrison Bader singled to start the 10th inning before getting picked off at first base.

Tuesday night marked the first loss for UF in five games. It was also the first time since its run of 13 wins in 16 games that execution wasn't there, as Coach Kevin O'Sullivan said the Gators weren't ready to play. After three first-inning runs, the midweek matchup dragged on and on.

Facing ranked squads like Florida State and LSU has forced Florida to play perfectly on the mound and at the plate. The same level



O'Sullivan

of perfection wasn't there when UF played FAU.

"It was up and down. The hits weren't falling for us. I'm not sure," freshman left-hander A.J. Puk said. "It did seem kind of low."

That'll need to change today when No. 13 Florida (19-10, 6-3 Southeastern Conference) visits No. 22 Kentucky (20-9, 4-5 SEC) for a critical SEC series. Florida is tied for first with No. 2 South Carolina in the Eastern Division and will be-

gin an eight game road trip at UK, USC, FSU and FGCU.

Against the Owls on Tuesday, O'Sullivan brought the team together in the third inning for a meeting. After scoring three quick first-inning runs, the Gators' bats went silent. Florida finished 2 for 9 with runners in scoring position and left eight runners on base.

"The bottom line is we score three in the first. We score one run over the next 10," O'Sullivan said. "We threw away a lot of at-bats."

SEE BASE, PAGE 15



The UF men's tennis team plays Mississippi State this weekend. Read the story online at alligatorSports.org

UF track team to compete at home

The UF track and field team begins competition today at the annual Florida Relays, which began yesterday with the high school portion of competition. Events begin at 10 a.m. at the Percy Beard Track.

Murphy waived from Bulls

The Chicago Bulls waived former UF forward Erik Murphy on Thursday. In 24 appearances this season, Murphy averaged just 0.3 points per game.

Gators fourth in SEC with four games left in regular season

TENNIS, from page 14

"She's got a great serve, she's got presence, she's willing to move and poach, and she's got great power from the ground."

"She has all the little things that it takes."

"My serve, I've been working on it for the past couple weeks and it showed. I was working on patterns, with my forehand going across court and opening the court and going down the line. So that's helped me a lot."

Kourtney Keegan
UF freshman

Keegan is diligently working to improve each aspect of her game as the post-season draws closer.

"My serve, I've been working on it for the past couple weeks

and it showed," she said. "I was working on patterns, with my forehand going across court and opening the court and going down the line. So that's helped me a lot."

Florida hopes Keegan and its other freshmen will continue to help propel it to the top of the SEC standings.

The Gators currently sit in fourth place, only two matches behind first place No. 8 Vanderbilt.

If Florida wins today and against Ole Miss on Sunday, a home victory over the Commodores next week could decide the SEC race, and the Gators are 190-1 against SEC opponents at home.

"Playing on the road obviously is the trickier part. Look at what we've been able to do [at home]," Thornqvist said.

"It's tough to win on the road in the SEC in any sport."



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Kourtney Keegan swings at the ball on Oct. 11, 2013 at the Bedford Cup at the Ring Tennis Complex.

Puk struck out six batters in loss

BASE, from page 14

Sternagel provides consistency: Third base always seems to be a never-ending game of musical chairs for the Gators, but it hasn't always been a detriment to the team.

From 2010-2012, a UF freshman third baseman—Austin Maddox, Zack Powers and Josh Tobias—made the SEC's All-Freshman team.

But neither Powers nor Tobias won the job last season, as they platooned and combined to start 29 and 30 games, respectively.

But now, the Gators look well on their way to adding a fourth player in five years to that list with John Sternagel. He arrived at UF after a standout career at

Rockledge High School where he earned Perfect Game All-American honors with future teammates Brett Morales and Puk.

Sternagel has hit .313 with six RBIs in five-straight starts at third and has split time with Tobias and fellow freshman Pete Alonso at the position. O'Sullivan said on Tuesday night that Sternagel gives the Gators a run producer in the latter part of the lineup. He's batted seventh or eighth in each of his nine starts.

"He's stepping up right now. He's definitely coming through when we need him," second baseman Casey Turgeon said. "It's good to see a young player doing that."

Puk continues pitching prowess: Puk had one pitch Tuesday

night he'd like to forget. In the fifth inning, he tossed an 0-2 fastball to C.J. Chatham, who somehow got around on the high offering at his chin for a leadoff home run out of McKethan Stadium.

The left-hander finished with six strikeouts in three-innings that summed up his first season on the mound. He's been a dominant power pitcher at times and a talented left-hander with command issues during others.

"This year obviously I've been better coming out of the pen and I've struggled in my starts," he said. "I'd like to become a starter sometime next year just to get the opportunity, but I just need to work on getting better command and throwing all my pitches for strikes."



William A. England / Alligator Staff

A.J. Puk pitches during Florida's 9-7 loss against Maryland on Feb. 15 at McKethan Stadium. Puk recorded a team-high six strikeouts in three innings during UF's 5-4 loss to FAU on Tuesday.

UF has two byes in regional contest

GYM, from page 14

the second and fifth rotations when the Gators will be waiting in their locker room to get back on the floor for the next event.

"Personally, I think byes are great," Bridget Sloan said. "It's a time to kind of relax because... your adrenaline cannot be at a high for that long."

Sloan experienced byes with the 2013 team at the last NCAA Regionals and in the 2013 Super Six meet. Florida claimed a No. 1 finish in both events.

"It was definitely different but it was awesome because everyone came together as a team for once and we all helped each other kind of calm down a little bit in the locker room," Sloan said. "It was honestly like we had five minutes of chill time, and then we had about 10 minutes to get pumped again. You were able to come down but then get right back up."

The top-two finishers from each of the six regional sites will move on to the NCAA Championships, which take place April 18-20 in Birmingham, Ala.

Florida will compete against No. 12 Oregon

State, No. 15 Penn State, No. 23 New Hampshire, No. 29 Kentucky and No. 36 Maryland in University Park, Penn., on Saturday at 4 p.m. for one of the top two spots.

The 12 teams at the NCAA Championship will compete in two semifinal sessions of six teams each.

"Personally, I think byes are great. It's a time to kind of relax because... your adrenaline cannot be at a high for that long."

Bridget Sloan
UF gymnast

The top three teams from each session compete in the 2014 Super Six field on April 19.

But the Gators are trying not to look that far ahead.

"Of course we bring it up once in a while but Rhonda always tells us that we need to stay in the moment and so that's what we're doing although we want to look ahead," junior Kytra Hunter said. "We really want to go back to Birmingham and get that national title especially after coming in second for SECs."

Freshman stout on defense

► FITZGERALD GUARDING TOP OPPOSITION.

EDEN OTERO

Alligator Writer @edenotero_1

From 2010 until 2013, No. 4 Florida faced the challenge of defending against midfielder Erin Fitzgerald when it played Northwestern.

But UF has its own Fitzgerald now.

Freshman Caroline Fitzgerald is the little sister to Erin Fitzgerald and has proven to be the defensive weapon that the Gators (12-2, 3-0 American Lacrosse Conference) needed to help fill the space that defensive players like Emily Dohony, Sam Farrell, Jamie Reeg and Kayla Stolins left after graduating in 2013.

As a freshman, Fitzgerald has guarded the toughest of offensive players in every game.

Against Syracuse, she played man-to-man coverage against Alyssa Murray — one

of the top offensive players in college lacrosse — and held her to only two goals and one assist.

In UF's season opener at No. 1 UNC, Fitzgerald had two ground balls and two draw controls. In a game where the Tar Heels beat the Gators 20-8, she was one of five Florida players to win a draw control.

Since that game, Fitzgerald has continued to grow.

The Mount Sinai, N.Y., native has focused heavily on defending as a unit with the entire team for its game against No. 9 Johns Hopkins (10-1, 1-1 ALC) on Saturday at noon.

"We are game planning, watching film," Fitzgerald said. "We go out on the field and practice against our offense."

Like the rest of the team, Fitzgerald is looking for a win against the Blue Jays so the Gators will remain undefeated in the ALC.

However, Hopkins won't go down without a fight.

The No. 9-ranked team has only lost one game in its 2014 season, and it was to a tough Vanderbilt team on Saturday.

Fitzgerald and the rest of the defense will have their hands full with Hopkins senior attacker Taylor D'Amore and senior midfielder Sammy Cermack. D'Amore is the Blue Jays' leading player in goals (32) and draw controls (36), while Cermack leads the offense in ground balls (33) and caused turnovers (12).

If Florida can win its next three games, it would end with a perfect record in the ALC and become the No. 1 seed for the ALC conference tournament in May.

Fitzgerald said Florida is ready for the pressure that comes with being undefeated in conference play this late in the season.

"We're looking to keep that alive, and that is going to be a struggle," she said, "but it's going to be a good one."

UF looks to snap losing skid

ERICA A. HERNANDEZ

Alligator Writer @EricaAlyssa

Florida is arguably more eager for a win now than it has been all season. The Gators started the season on a 22-game winning streak that included a five-week stretch ranked No. 1.

Since then, No. 6 Florida (31-8, 5-7 Southeastern Conference) has gone 9-8 and has dropped four straight contests for the first time since 2011 as it opens its three-game series against No. 19 Auburn (31-6-1, 6-3 SEC) tonight at 6.

"I think there's a lot of change that can be made in every aspect," freshman Delanie Gourley said. "You know pitching, hitting, fielding, defense and we'll be ready. We're going to prepare and it'll be a good weekend."

Despite the losing streak, coach Tim Walton said he's not worried.

"There's no panic in the coaching staff, there's no panic in the players," Walton said after Wednesday's extra inning loss to FSU. "We did normal routine work."

Auburn most recently defeated then-No. 10 Kentucky at home in two of three games.

UF Softball

The Gators' record lacks that positive momentum the Tigers will be riding into town. Prior to the start of its losing streak on March 28, Florida had not dropped back-to-back games all season.

"I think it has more to do with the opponents that we've played more than it has to do with us," Walton said. "Are we where we want to be? No, but the season's not over yet and I think our kids have a lot of athleticism and a lot of fight in them."

Despite the mid-season struggles, the team has made a conscious effort to not let its perseverance waver.

"We just have to clear it," junior pitcher Lauren Haeger said. "I mean we practice hard, we go hard all the time so we just have to keep doing what we're doing and not let it bother us."

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REMATCH

The Final Four

Cover illustration Landon Watnick and Jordan McPherson
Alligator, Friday, April 4, 2014

They Meet Again

LANDON WATNICK
Alligator Staff Writer

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UConn point guard Shabazz Napier was on a mission.

With 17.7 seconds left on the clock and Connecticut trailing Florida by only one point, the Huskies needed their senior leader and top scorer to pull one more miracle out of his pocket.

On the previous offensive possession, Napier notched a four-point play to put his team back into contention.

While the Gampel Pavilion crowd stood in suspense and bit its nails, he dribbled down the court and studied his options.

About 10 seconds dwindled. Then, what Florida coach Billy Donovan calls to this day a "freak play" ensued.

Huskies forward DeAndre Daniels ran up to the elbow to set a pick on forward Casey Prather as Napier dribbled to his right, but center Patric Young helped on the pick-and-roll. The two Gators soon trapped Napier and caught the point guard in a bind.

But Napier, aware and agile, successfully split the double team, losing his handle but quickly regaining it. Pressed for time, he then

forced an off-balance jumper at the elbow with about three seconds remaining.

Way off. Before Napier's field-goal attempt clanked off the bottom-left region of the glass, all five Florida defenders rushed to the rim for the board.

"When a shot goes up, the tendency is to want to go in there and want to go rebound," Donovan said. "We obviously ran in way too deep."

It proved to be a fatal mistake. Before any Gator could jump, Daniels back-tapped the ball to an open Napier at the foul line.

"You've got to give him credit that he had the wherewithal just to keep the ball alive," Donovan said. "I don't know if he knew where he was tipping it to."

As a late Prather frantically rushed to stick a hand in Napier's face, the UConn guard was gifted one more opportunity. With victory on his mind and 0.4 seconds left on the clock, Napier pulled the trigger from about 15 feet out.

Bang. ■ ■ ■
For Florida, Dec. 2 seems like years ago.

Since falling 65-64 to Napier's buzzer-beater on that chaotic night in Storrs, Conn., the Gators have won 30 consecutive games — good for a program record and the longest streak in the nation. During that span, Florida achieved a perfect 18-0 Southeastern Conference regular-season record, won its conference tournament and reached its first Final Four since 2007. Aside from a sluggish start against Albany, UF has been a force to be reckoned with in the Big Dance, winning all of its tournament games by double-digit margins.

In the grand scheme of things, the UConn loss seemed like an afterthought — until Sunday.

When Connecticut knocked off Michigan State 60-54 in the Elite Eight, it all came full circle. Saturday at 6:09 p.m. in AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, No. 1 overall seed Florida (36-2) will square off against seventh-seeded UConn (30-8) in the Final Four for a spot in Monday night's national title game.

Following its buzzer-beating win against UF, UConn had its rough patches. Second-year Huskies coach Kevin Ollie saw his group lose eight games — six by 10 points or fewer — and fall outside of the AP poll by week 11



AP Photo

Shabazz Napier reacts after hitting the game-winner on Dec. 2 in a 65-64 UConn win over Florida.

of the season.

But after an embarrassing 81-48 loss at Louisville on March 8, Connecticut turned the ship around and has won six of its past seven games.

Behind Napier's leadership, the Huskies cruised through a difficult bracket in the East Regional, defeating 10-seed Saint Joseph's in overtime 89-81, 2-seed Villanova 77-65, 3-seed Iowa State 81-76 and then the Spartans for perhaps their most impressive postseason victory.

"I would probably say like ourselves, playing them back in December, they're a much, much better team today than when we played them," Donovan said.

As different as both squads' journeys to the Final Four have been, both are still tied to that fateful buzzer-beater on Dec. 2 and think back to it often.

"We took a lot from that game," Ollie said. "The resiliency that we had, we got down in that game and came back. We played hard. We played scrappy."

Added Donovan: "It was a game that really helped our team going forward."

■ ■ ■
It's the SEC Tournament title game. Kentucky coach John Calipari calls a timeout as his team has the ball and trails Florida 61-60 with 14 seconds remaining. The Wildcats have one more chance to draw up a play and make something happen.

But the Gators knew they had to remain disciplined and stay with their man on defense instead of all going for the rebound like they did in the first UConn matchup which resulted in Napier's game-winner.

"We just said, 'Everybody box your man out, so they don't hurt us on the second shot,'" senior point guard Scottie Wilbekin said.

On March 16, the Gators did not let history repeat itself. They have learned that it's the second shot that often beats you — not the first one — in late-clock situations.

But in that contest, UF did not allow UK to get off even one shot on the final possession. After Wildcats guard Andrew Harrison wasted about 10 seconds of clock and then dished the ball to James Young, Wilbekin and sophomore guard Michael Frazier II double-teamed the Kentucky wing. Young tripped and lost possession of the ball as time expired.

Florida made a good defensive read and Kentucky goofed, but it's that ruthless mentality to not allow second-chance points that

has benefitted the Gators so much this year. Florida's 61-60 victory in the SEC Tournament title game was the perfect example of how much UF has tightened up its act defensively at the end of games.

Since falling to the Huskies, the Gators are 3-0 in games decided by three points or fewer and on a final play in which their opponent has the last possession.

"Any time we're in a situation like that, even if it's a shot-clock situation," Wilbekin said, "we say, 'Box out. Don't run to the rim.'"

■ ■ ■
Wilbekin, perhaps Florida's best on-ball defender, was not on the floor when Napier sealed UConn's win on Dec. 2.

In fact, he did not even see the buzzer-beater live.

During the final minutes of the contest, Wilbekin was in the visitor's locker room getting treatment for his right ankle — an injury he suffered at the 3:01 mark when he went up for an offensive rebound on his missed jumper and planted awkwardly on Connecticut guard Ryan Boatright's foot.

Because there was no television in the locker room, Wilbekin learned the game's result from Jack Pfaff, a UF assistant athletic director.

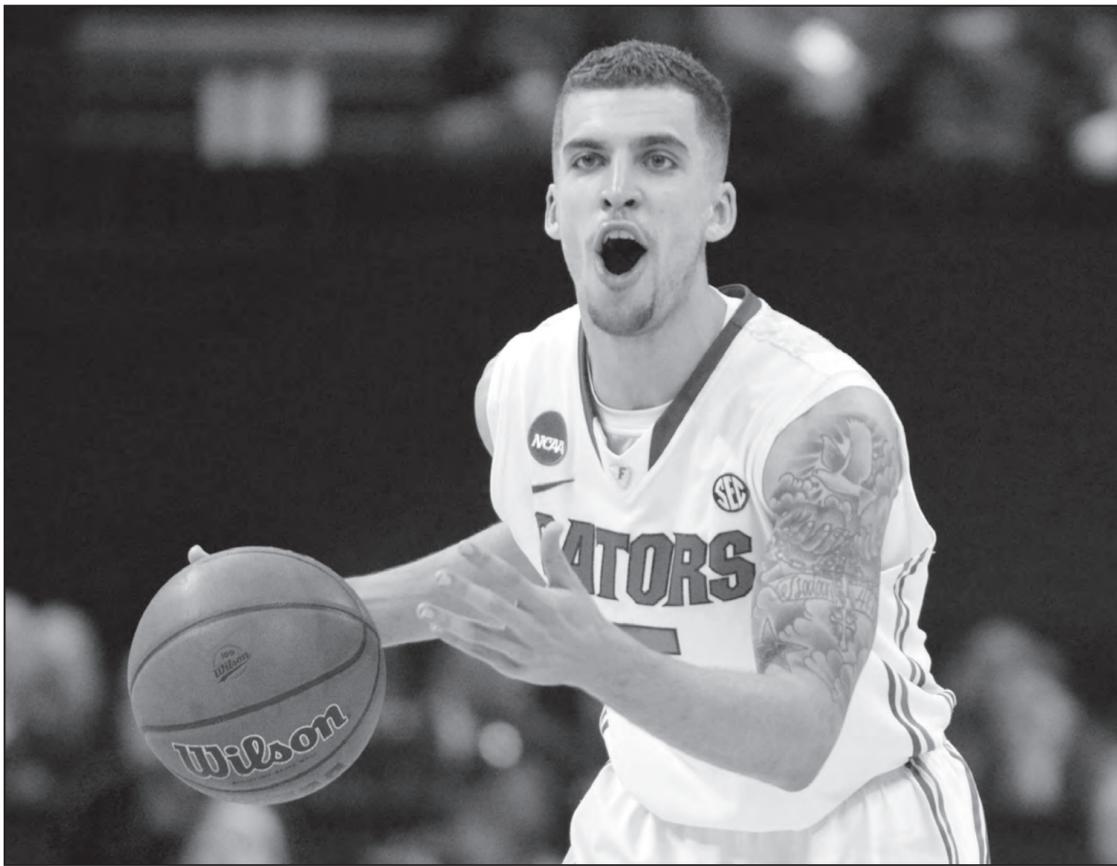
Florida's floor general did not watch Napier's victory jog to the locker room — or the UConn guard's fist-pumping celebration as he returned to the floor. He did not watch his shell-shocked teammates walk off the court in disgust, knowing they let a quality win slip out of their hands.

"I just knew what the score was," Wilbekin said. "It was definitely a disappointing loss." It was obviously a painful day for Wilbekin, but it's one he could now leave in the past.

After a four-month wait, he and freshman point guard Kasey Hill, who missed the UConn game due to a high ankle sprain, will finally get their shot at revenge against Napier and the Huskies.

The "freak play" will forever live on, but Saturday night is a new chapter for both teams.

"The game was such a long time ago," Wilbekin said. "They're playing their best basketball right now, and I think we are doing the same. That's what you have to do to be in this position at the Final Four. I don't expect anything less than them to play their best game."



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Scottie Wilbekin calls out a play during Florida's 62-52 win against Dayton on Saturday in FedExForum in Memphis, Tenn. Wilbekin was in the locker room with a high ankle sprain when Connecticut guard Shabazz Napier hit his buzzer-beater shot to top Florida 65-64 on Dec. 2.



No. 7 seed Connecticut (30-8)

Head coach: Kevin Ollie (second year)

Starters: G Shabazz Napier, F DeAndre Daniels, G Ryan Boatwright, C Phillip Nolan, F Niels Giffey

Key Reserves: G/F Lasan Kromah, C Amida Brimah

Record past 10 games: 8-2

KenPom.com ranking: No. 15

UConn remembers UF well. The last time the two teams faced off, the Huskies won on a second-chance buzzer-beater jump shot by senior point guard Shabazz Napier, handing the Gators their second loss of the season.

"We took a lot from that game," Huskies coach Kevin Ollie said during a teleconference Monday. "The resiliency that we had, we got down in that game and came back. We played hard. We played scrappy."

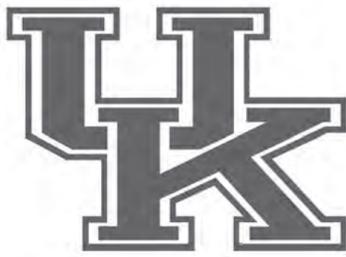
UConn finished the regular season 24-7, but it went just 5-4 against teams who made it to the Big Dance, including two losses to eventual No. 4 seed Louisville.

Despite its lackluster record against top opponents in the regular season, East Region champion UConn has

played better than its No. 7 seed ranking throughout the tournament. The Huskies head to Arlington, Texas, after topping No. 3 seed Iowa State 81-76 in the Sweet 16 and defeating No. 4 seed Michigan State 60-54 in the Elite Eight in Madison Square Garden.

While Napier, the most outstanding player of the East Regional, leads the Huskies with 18.1 points, 4.9 assists and 1.7 steals per game this season, DeAndre Daniels has had a breakout postseason.

The junior forward is averaging 17 points per contest since the NCAA tournament began. Against Iowa State in the East Regional semifinals, Daniels recorded his fourth double-double of the season by logging 27 points on 10-of-15 shooting and grabbing 10 rebounds.



No. 8 seed Kentucky (28-10)

Head coach: John Calipari (fifth year)

Starters: F Julius Randle, G James Young, G Aaron Harrison, G Andrew Harrison, C Dakari Johnson

Key Reserves: F Willie Cauley-Stein, F Alex Poythress

Record past 10 games: 7-3

KenPom.com ranking: No. 8

As coach John Calipari would say, Kentucky has seen a tweak in its performance heading into the postseason.

After dropping three of its final four regular season contests and becoming the first team in 34 years to drop out of the AP poll after being ranked No. 1 in the preseason, the Wildcats have been on fire as of late.

Kentucky cruised through its first two games of the SEC Tournament, beating LSU 85-67 in the quarterfinals and Georgia 70-58 in the semifinals, and was one play away from winning the SEC title over Florida.

Through the NCAA Tournament, No. 8 seed Kentucky has had wins against No. 9 seed Kansas State (56-49), No. 1 seed Wichita State (78-76), No. 4 seed Louisville (74-69) and No. 2 seed

Michigan (75-72).

Freshman forward Julius Randle has posted a double-double in all four of Kentucky's tournament games, averaging 15.8 points and 12 boards per contest. Fellow freshmen Aaron Harrison (16 ppg), Andrew Harrison (12.3 ppg) and James Young (10.5 ppg) are also averaging double-digit point totals throughout the NCAA tournament.

But while the Wildcats offense is flourishing down the stretch, they will be without a large cog of their defense with Willie Cauley-Stein doubtful to play against the Badgers on Saturday at 8:49 p.m. because of an ankle injury.

The 7-foot sophomore leads Kentucky with 106 blocks and 44 steals this season and averages 6.1 of UK's 40.6 rebounds per game.



No. 2 seed Wisconsin (30-7)

Head coach: Bo Ryan (13th year)

Starters: F Frank Kaminsky, G Ben Brust, F Sam Dekker, G Traevon Jackson, G Josh Gasser

Key Reserves: F Nigel Hayes, G Bronson Koenig, F Duje Dukan

Record past 10 games: 8-2

KenPom.com ranking: No. 6

Wisconsin's road to the Final Four has not been an easy one.

The Badgers had the second-toughest strength of schedule this season, trailing only Kansas in the category. Despite the rigor, Wisconsin managed to post its first 30-win season since the 2007-2008 season.

The Badgers have kept their momentum going heading into the NCAA Tournament, outscoring their opponents by a combined score of 293-227.

Wisconsin has utilized the same starting lineup all season, and those five players account for 80 percent of UW's points. In the NCAA Tournament, four of the Badgers' starting five have posted at least two double-digit scoring efforts.

Frank Kaminsky paces the Badgers on offense, scoring 14.1 points per game on 52.7 percent shooting.

"He's just a tough young man who really wants to be a player, who has physically and mentally matured into what he feels he's comfortable with as far as his body and mind are concerned," Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan said during a teleconference Monday. "He's learned how to be stronger. He's learned some nuances defensively of positioning and balance."

The 7-foot forward has enhanced his game down the stretch. Heading into No. 2 seed Wisconsin's Final Four matchup against No. 8 seed Kentucky on Saturday at 8:49 p.m., Kaminsky has scored 18.5 points per contest and averaged six boards per game in the tournament.

In Wisconsin's 64-63 overtime win against top-seeded Arizona, the junior posted his second double-double of the season by logging 28 points on 11-of-20 shooting and 11 rebounds.

Donovan's patience pays dividends throughout career

► HE LEADS UF TO ITS FIRST FINAL FOUR SINCE 2007.

JONATHAN CZUPRYN

Alligator Staff Writer

@jczupryn

Billy Donovan was not sent from heaven to coach Florida's basketball team. He is no miracle worker, magic healer or instant fix. On Saturday, he and the No. 1 seeded Gators will appear in their fourth Final Four in 14 seasons, but it took years for Donovan to turn water into wine.

Before reaching the Sweet 16 in the 1998-1999 season, Donovan limped his way to a 27-32 record during his first two years in Gainesville. Four years after Lon Kruger coached Florida into its first Southeastern Conference Championship and its first Final Four, athletic director Jeremy Foley was stuck with a 33-year-old coach whose only prior head coaching experience was with Marshall for two seasons.

But if there's any word that best encapsulates Donovan's coaching method, it's "process."

Back in his playing days at Providence, "Billy the Kid" managed to average only two points per game during his freshman campaign and just three per game the following year. When his mentor and now friend Rick Pitino took over the head coaching job for the Friars in 1985, Donovan finally came into his own — averaging 15.1 points per game as a junior and then 20.6 as a senior.

Providence's 1987 squad, led by Donovan at the point guard position, climbed its way to the Final Four. Although the Friars fell to Jim Boheim's Syracuse squad in the national semifinal matchup, Donovan — a scrawny, 5-foot-11 kid from Long Island — finished his collegiate career with All-Big East first team honors as well as an All-American honorable mention.

"I've never had in my life anyone

work as hard to improve as him, in 35 years," Pitino would later say of his pupil.

After a one-season NBA career with the New York Knicks, Dono-

van began to use his knowledge from his playing career to transition into the coaching realm. And just like his Providence career, Donovan's career as Florida's coach took a

couple of years to get off the ground and flourish.

He brought in future-NBA talent in Mike Miller and Udonis Haslem to transform Florida from a program that averaged 11.5 wins per season before 1996 to a 22-win season in 1998-1999. The very next year, Donovan brought back all but one starter to help his team make its first national championship appearance in school history.

Although Steve Spurrier had brought Florida football back onto the national scene with a national title of his own, Donovan was not far behind in his process of transforming the Gators' basketball program into a winning one. Still, even with the unprecedented success on the court, Foley had a difficult time drawing fans into the stands. So Donovan took a crack at that as well.

As soon as he arrived on campus in 1996, Donovan instituted the "Billy D 3-on-3 Challenge," which pitted him and two of his assistant coaches against three UF students. If the students could take down Donovan, Anthony Grant and John Pelphey in two of three contests, they would each earn a free road trip with the Gators during the regular season.

For eight years, Donovan suited back up and took to the court as part of the annual challenge. Even as his assistants came and went, he was always out there for the students. After winning the first five, he and his coaches lost the next three. Either way, Donovan was winning over the hearts of the Rowdy Reptiles.

He showed he could get NBA-level talent like Joakim Noah, Al Horford and Corey Brewer to stay and fight for a second-straight title in 2007. He showed he could withstand the bad days as well as the good after settling for two straight NIT appearances immediately following the championship years.

And then he showed he had the

patience to build up another championship-caliber team while Kentucky coach John Calipari snagged nearly every top recruit en route to a 2012 national championship. Although Donovan wasn't pulling in the players like Anthony Davis and Julius Randle, he was slowly assembling the right guys for his team.

Calipari has seven McDonald's All-Americans on this year's roster. Donovan has three — two of whom come off the bench if they see the court at all. But unlike Calipari, Donovan has groomed a team strong in every link of the chain.

He took a potential one-and-done center in Patric Young and transformed him into the face of the program. He took a troubled Scottie Wilbekin and molded him into what he called a role model for the community as well as the SEC Player of the Year.

He took a beaten and battered Will Yeguete and gave him one final year to overcome the pain and achieve greatness. And he took a lost Casey Prather and helped him find an identity and become one of the Gators' most dangerous scoring threats.

Because to Donovan, success is not one-and-done. It's a development. It's a journey. It's taking something good and making it great.

For three years, Donovan has put together good teams that always found their way into the Elite Eight. But it took until this year to make this squad a championship one.

"When things don't go your way, it causes you to pause and reflect and to try to find out a solution," Donovan said. "I think one of the greatest things and one of the most difficult things in life is when something doesn't go the way you want it to go [you must] legitimately find the answer and the reason of why it didn't go and make the correction."

Well Billy, problem solved.



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

Billy Donovan looks down the court during Florida's 62-52 win against Dayton on Saturday in FedExForum in Memphis, Tenn.

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