

UF quarterback Jeff Driskel will need to be efficient on third down for Florida to have success on offense. Read the story on Page 16.



Two people injured after shooting near Newberry

Police asking for information to help find shooter

MELISSA MIHM
Alligator Staff Writer mmihm@alligator.org

Gun shots erupted at a family home nestled north of Newberry on Monday night, leaving a man and woman injured but the children unharmed.

The victims initially called the Alachua County Sheriff's Office at about 10:30 p.m. to report suspicious people near their

home, located at 3707 NW County Road 235.

But as Alachua deputies made their way to the victim's house, they received another call within 10 minutes to report that two people had since been shot.

It is not clear at this time whether more than one person was involved in the shooting.

When deputies arrived at the scene, the

shooter or shooters had fled.

Law enforcement were able to provide security for the injured man and woman and the two children, allowing them to leave the house safely.

Emergency Medical Services transported both injured adults to a nearby hospital, according to Alachua County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Sgt. Becky Butscher.

The children — both girls, ages 10 and

7 — remained unharmed.

After the family was evacuated from the house, Butscher said deputies conducted a thorough search of the area but were unable to locate anyone or find any additional evidence.

Bullet holes littered the front of the house, fired from multiple locations. They shattered glass windows and splintered wood paneling.

A sheriff's office news release said that the bullet holes patterns are consistent

SEE SHOOTING, PAGE 4



Megan Reeves / Alligator Staff

Dancing Shadows

Members of the UF African Student Union dance to traditional African music at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts Tuesday. The theme of the 2014 Black Student Assembly, "I Was Here," was meant to showcase the positive impact that each individual can make to the black community.

Prez search committee to update brochures

ARIANA FIGUEROA
Alligator Contributing Writer

The UF Presidential Search Committee's Subcommittee held a meeting Tuesday to revise the campus brochure for potential presidential candidates.

"This is a document that is a virtual walk-through campus," said David Norton, a member of UF's Presidential Search Committee's Subcommittee.

Additions to the brochure will include the renovations of the Reitz Union build-

"There are a lot of intricate pieces that we have to be put together."

Janine Sikes
UF spokeswoman

ing and UF's goal to be a top 10 public school university, he said.

The subcommittee's tasks include hosting the potential presidential candidates during the campus visit and interview process.

The committee plans to have the brochure completed by the end of September. The search for the next UF president kicked off last Spring, UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said, and there is much more of the search process that needs to continue.

"There are a lot of intricate pieces that we have to be put together," Sikes said.

The presidential search committee will convene again for a meeting Thursday at UF's Austin Cary Forest Learning Center at 10625 NE Waldo Road.

Having fun isn't hard with a free library card

► THE COUNTY LIBRARIES ARE SIGNING PEOPLE UP.

PATRICK PINAK

Alligator Staff Writer ppinak@alligator.org

Alachua County library cards are available on campus this week as part of a national campaign to encourage students to utilize their local libraries.

This is the first time the Alachua County Library District is participating in September Library Card Sign-up Month.

About 55 students signed up for free cards Tuesday at Library West as part of the promotion. Library district representatives will be at the same location from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Friday and at Santa Fe College on Thursday.

"A lot of students don't know that our services are available," said library district assistant Eric Leppin.

Students can sign up for a library card with either their Gator 1 Card or driver's license. Any Florida resident can get a card for free.

Emily Thompson, a 20-year-old UF family, youth and community sciences junior, got her card Tuesday and said she plans on using it at the downtown library.

"It's a good resource to have to be able to go to some of the other libraries," she said.

Barbara Hood, Smathers Libraries spokeswoman, said it's great that the district is trying to get students interested in local libraries.

"There's just so many resources available," Hood said.

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Florida Georgia Line to headline Tailgate:
The festival will be Oct. 31 in Jacksonville, pg 8.
UF rebrands itself to reach top 10 status:
"For the Gator Good," pg 9.



Solar picnic tables, microwave approved:
Now you can heat up cold food and sit at a picnic table with a USB port, pg. 4.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

First General Body Meeting for Amnesty International

Join us for UF Amnesty International's first general body meeting today at 6:30 p.m. in Little Hall, Room 127. We will discuss what we have planned for the semester in raising awareness for human rights issues around the world, beginning with the violations occurring in Ferguson, Missouri. This is a great way to meet like-minded people who support human rights and equality for all. Pizza and snacks will be provided.

Free Beginner Tango Class

The Argentine Tango Club will be hosting a free tango class for beginners. The class will take place today at 7:30 p.m. at the Corry Village Common Room. Pizza will be served. Find our event on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/uftango.

Hippodrome Hosts Live Skype with "Life After Beth" Jeff Baena

Take part in a Skype Q&A session with Jeff Baena, the director of "Life After Beth" and the screenwriter for "I Heart Huckabees," at the Hippodrome State Theatre on Thursday. The session will take place immediately after the 7:45 p.m. film screening, where audience members will be able to watch Baena's latest film, "Life After Beth," and discuss the film face to face. Admission is \$5.50 for students and seniors and \$7.50 for regular admission. "Life After Beth" will play until Sept. 11.

Reitz Union Goes Radioactive

For one night only, the Reitz Union has become a radioactive zone. Let's have some fun on Friday, from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. Play with danger at the Radioactive Zone Arcade, with glow in the dark mini golf and more. A special performance from our radioactive friends at Theatre Strike Force will be laugh-out-loud hilarious. Get glow-tastic with Michael Parallax, sponsored by Reitz Union Board Bands. We'll end the night with a radioactive foam dance party on the Breezeway. You'll have the time of your life at our radioactive event. Always Friday, always free with your Gator 1 Card.

Collaborating with Strangers on Sex and Gender Differences in Health Workshop

Looking for a way to commu-

FORECAST

TODAY



THUNDER-STORMS
91/72

THURSDAY



THUNDER-STORMS
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FRIDAY



THUNDER-STORMS
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SATURDAY



THUNDER-STORMS
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SUNDAY



THUNDER-STORMS
90/72

nicate and combine forces with others interested in sex and gender differences in health? Collaborating with Strangers workshops connect students, faculty and researchers on campus during 3-minute speed meetings. You'll walk away with more resources, solutions and creative ideas than you ever imagined. The workshop will be held Tuesday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Clinical and Translational Research building, on the corner of Gale Lemerand Drive and Mowry Road, in Room 3161/3162. More information and registration can be found at uflib.ufl.edu under News and Highlights at the bottom of page.

Third Annual Elephant Appreciation Day

Two Tails Ranch in Williston, about 20 miles from Gainesville, presents the third annual Elephant Appreciation Day on Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. and will feature live elephant demonstrations, exotic animal exhibits, music, food and more. Admission is \$10 per person and kids under 3 are admitted free. More information is available at allaboutelephants.com.

Alpha Kappa Psi, Co-Ed Business Professional Fraternity

Does your resume need polishing? Do you cringe every time you go to an interview? Well then, the Alpha Kappa Psi co-ed business professional fraternity is the organization to get you on the right track. AKPsi is open to all majors. We're devoted to helping our pledges and brothers succeed professionally through mock interviewing, resume development and more, while also taking part in community service and social activities. Whether you will be applying to internships or jobs or entering the professional world, our fraternity will help you hone the skills necessary to be successful in any situation you are put into, while also making new friends. Follow us to stay up to date on Fall 2014 Rush on Facebook at Alpha

Kappa Psi at UF, on Twitter @UFAKPsi and on Instagram at uf_akpsi.

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to cwright@alligator.org. To ensure publication in the next day's newspaper, please submit the event before 4 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.

NEWS BRIEFS

Penn State student gains rep as squirrel whisperer

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — A Penn State student is gaining an Internet reputation as a "squirrel whisperer" for befriending, feeding and dressing up a furry little friend she has named "Sneezy."

Junior Mary Krupa tells WJAC-TV that she's able to dress up the squirrel in party hats or get Sneezy to hold doll-sized props, simply by feeding the animal.

Krupa and Sneezy's exploits are chronicled in a Facebook page titled "Sneezy the Penn State Squirrel."

So far, the squirrel is proving quite popular. Its Facebook page has more "likes" than a page dedicated to the school's official mascot, the Nittany Lion.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Solar picnic tables, microwave approved by Senate

ALEXIA FERNANDEZ

Alligator Staff Writer afernandez@alligator.org

Students can heat up a frozen meal in a new microwave in the Reitz Union and then eat it on a solar-powered picnic table by the end of the month, courtesy of UF Student Senate.

"We were going for something that offered more study space on campus and that was more cost effective."

Elliot Grasso

Student Body Treasurer

The installation of three solar-powered picnic tables at the Hub and one microwave in the Reitz Union was unanimously approved Tuesday night.

Student Body Treasurer Elliot Grasso, one of the authors of the solar-powered picnic table resolution, said the idea came from last year's election campaign platforms.

"We saw it was something that students really wanted," he said. "We were going for something that offered more study space on campus and that was more cost effective."

While the microwave was installed before the Fall semester began, the picnic tables will be installed by Sept. 22. The wheelchair-accessible tables, which can also be found at the J. Hillis Miller Health Science Center, the Rawlings Plaza and Diamond Village, have four power outlets each and two USB ports to charge electronics. Each table costs \$9,000.

The single-dish microwave cost about \$250 and is available for anyone to use. One other microwave is available for use in Turlington Hall.

"It's definitely useful for students who want to bring lunch to school," said Sen. Michael Christ of the microwave after the meeting, "but it's no game changer."



Ashley Miller-Shaked / Alligator

From left to right, Sens. Bronco Vuskovich, Jason Richards and Dylan Fisher speak at the Tuesday night Senate meeting. Two resolutions passed that night, which will bring microwaves and solar-powered tables to campus.

There's a \$1,000 reward for info

SHOOTING,

from page 1

with the residents' efforts to move around and shield the children.

A couch one of the girls was resting on was shot multiple times, according to the release.

On Tuesday afternoon, the house was empty. Two cars sat in the driveway about 50 meters back from County Road.

A small red tractor stood still in the grass. Near the

front porch, a light pink cloth draped unevenly over a foldable pink child's chair and a taller lawn chair, hoisting up a makeshift fort.

The garage light was left on.

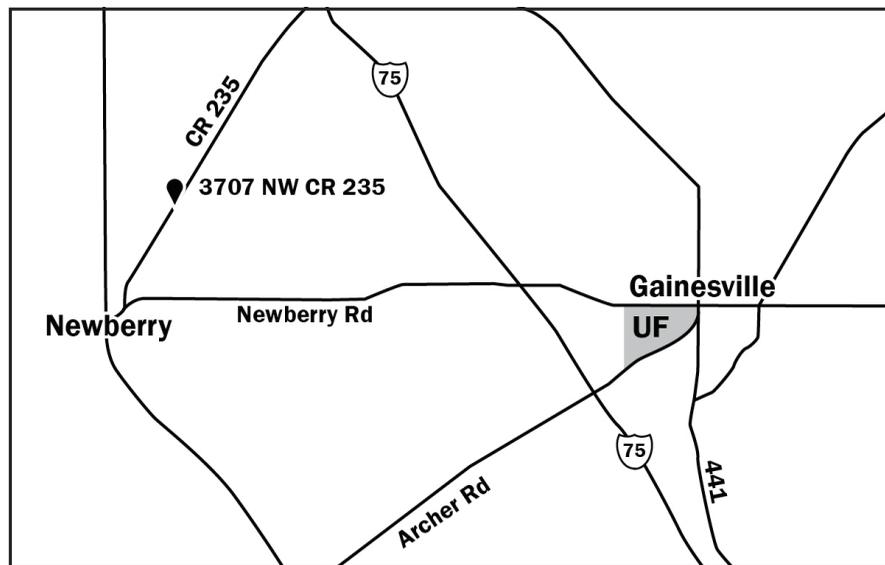
Anne L. Hair, who lives down the road from the victim's house, said she didn't know the family or hear the gunshots but was surprised it happened in her neighborhood.

"Not around here," Hair said, lighting up a cigarette

as she sat on her metal lawn chair.

It was not clear why the family was targeted, Butscher said. The shooter or shooters are still at large.

Detectives ask that anyone with any information regarding the shooting should contact Detective Brett Rhodenizer or send in info anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 352-372-7867. The Alachua County Gun Bounty Program is offering a potential \$1,000 reward.



Alligator Staff

Airline passengers rebel over tight seating arrangements

► THREE FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN GROUNDED DUE TO UNRULY RIDERS.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Squeezed into tighter spaces, airline passengers appear to be rebelling, taking their frustrations out on other fliers.

Three U.S. flights made unscheduled landings in the past eight days after passengers got into fights over the ability to recline their seats. Disputes over a tiny bit of personal space might seem petty, but for passengers whose knees are already banging into tray tables, every inch counts.

"Seats are getting closer together," said Sara Nelson, president of the Association of Flight Attendants, which represents 60,000 flight attendants at 19 airlines. "We have to de-escalate conflict all the time."

Southwest Airlines and United Airlines both

took away 1 inch from each row on certain jets to make room for six more seats. American Airlines is increasing the number of seats on its Boeing 737-800s from 150 to 160. Delta Airlines installed new, smaller toilets in its 737-900s, enabling it to squeeze in an extra four seats. JetBlue Airlines reduced the distance between coach seats by 1 inch.

But passengers aren't just losing legroom; they're losing elbow room.

Airlines sold 84 percent of their seats on domestic flights so far this year, up from 81 percent five years ago and 74 percent a decade ago, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. That means there are fewer and fewer empty middle seats on which passengers can spread out.

The government doesn't break out the reason for diversions, but industry experts say the vast majority occur because of bad weather or mechanical problems. And diversions remain a tiny portion of the 6 million annual flights in the U.S. — less than a quarter of a percentage point.

NATIONAL

30 teens escape from Nashville detention center

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Thirty teens "overwhelmed" their minders at a juvenile detention center by simultaneously breaking out of four dormitories and then crawling under a weak spot in a chain-link fence. By Tuesday evening, seven were still on the run.

Police caught up with some walking along roads or coming out of the woods.

Some turned themselves in, including one at the guard shack Tuesday evening. And some were swiftly returned to the detention center by their own families for their own good.

"He broke loose, he was gone, but he's back now," said LaWanda Knowles, whose nephew joined the escape. "I just want to know that he's here safely and he's OK — I don't want the police jumping on him, nobody beating on him or nothing."

The teens — ages 14 to 19 — left

their rooms at the Woodland Hills Youth Development Center at about 11 p.m. Monday night and gathered in common areas.

With just 16 unarmed adults to keep watch over 78 youths in 12 dormitories, the staff was "overwhelmed," said Tennessee Department of Children's Services spokesman Rob Johnson.

The groups of young men kicked out metal panels under the windows of each dorm to get into the yard, and then ran around for a while before some started slipping through the chain-link fence that encircles their campus.

"Staffing was lighter during the overnight hours, so presumably, they had planned for that," Johnson said.

While juvenile records are sealed, police released the names and mug shots of the remaining eight fugitives, all of whom are 17 or 18 years old.

None are convicted killers, said Melvin Whitlow, the facility's superintendent.

State has lucky streak avoiding major hurricanes

► HURRICANE WILMA WAS THE LAST MAJOR STORM TO HIT THE STATE IN 2005.

JULIA LOPEZ

Alligator Contributing Writer

As Tropical Storm Dolly headed for the Gulf Coast of Mexico on Tuesday night, Florida avoided yet another major storm system.

Dennis Feltgen, a spokesman for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Hurricane center in Miami. Hurricanes, in general, are a game of luck, he said. They are unpredictable and come fast.

The longest the state had previously gone without being hit by a major storm system was six years.

The last major hurricane to hit Florida was Wilma in 2005, causing an estimated \$29.1 billion in damage across the state and the Caribbean, according to the NOAA national hurricane center website.

Allison Stendaro, a 21-year-old journalism senior, recalled her brief encounter with Hurricane Wilma.

"If I remember back in 2005, I was in seventh grade, and I lived at the time in South Florida," she said.

Stendaro's parents stocked up on food and supplies. Even though her house in Miami had shutters on its windows, her parents boarded them up anyway.

"I remember distinctly waking up the next day and seeing tree branches thrown all over the road and in my yard," Stendaro said.

Feltgen said hurricanes aren't the only storms that can cause damage.

He said the Gulf of Mexico is like a giant boiling pot, and a storm can form at any moment.

"One thing we know for sure is that our luck will run out," Feltgen said. "It's just a matter of when and for how long."

Hurricane season is from June 1 to Nov. 30, and according to the NOAA, October is the most active month in Florida.

Waters in the Atlantic start to cool down, but waters in the Gulf of Mexico are still warm.

Even though Florida has not experienced hurricanes recently, individuals should not take these storms lightly. September is National Preparedness Month, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"The more knowledge people have about these storms and what they are capable of, the better off they will be," Feltgen said.



Kaitlyn Anthony / Alligator

Wheel of Fortune

Kacie Ross (left), a 23-year-old UF environmental science senior, and Breana Pauline, a 20-year-old UF psychology junior, watch the prize wheel spin at Reitz Union Board Entertainment's open house event Tuesday.

NATIONAL

Obama: economy calls for higher wages

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — President Barack Obama renewed his push for Congress to raise the minimum wage Monday in a buoyant accounting of the economy's "revving" performance, delivered on behalf of Democrats opening their fall campaigns for the midterm congressional elections.

"America deserves a raise," he told a union crowd in Milwaukee, vowing to keep a hard sell on Congress in much the same way he once courted his wife. "I just wore her down," he said.

"By almost every measure, the American economy and American workers are better off than when I took office," he said, rattling off a string of improving economic indicators, even while acknowledging not all people are benefiting. "The engines," he said, "are revving a little



Obama

louder."

The emphasis on the minimum wage is designed to draw campaign contrasts with Republicans, many of whom maintain that an increase would hurt small businesses and slow down hiring. No one expects Congress to act on it before the November elections.

Thirteen states raised their minimum wages at the beginning of this year. Those states have added jobs at a faster pace than those that did not raise the wage, providing a counterpoint to a Congressional Budget Office report earlier this year that projected that a higher minimum wage of \$10.10 an hour could cost the nation 500,000 jobs.

Until now, Obama and his White

House aides had been reluctant to draw too much attention to positive economic trends, worried that some may prove illusory or that, even if they hold, many working Americans continue to live on the edge of poverty and take no comfort in the upswing.

But now, the White House is encouraging Democrats to draw attention to the recovery as they head into the November mid-term elections.

In an August memo to Congress Democrats, Obama's top two economic advisers underscored the positive news: more than 200,000 jobs created per month for six consecutive months, a six-year high in auto sales, second-quarter economic growth that exceeded expectations and an expanding manufacturing sector.

The unemployment rate stands at 6.2 percent, dropping 1.1 points over the past year.

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Editorial

Republican staff's China trip shows double standard

Two members of Florida's congressional delegation, Sen. Marco Rubio and Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen have gained reputations during their time in office for speaking out forcefully and frequently against communism, particularly the Fidel Castro regime in Cuba.

In February, Rubio delivered a speech on the Senate floor, lambasting his colleague, Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, for praising the Cuban health care and education systems.

"I would suggest to my colleagues, the next time they go to Cuba," Rubio said, "ask to meet...with the dissidents and the human rights activists that are jailed and repressed and exiled."

In 2013, Ros-Lehtinen called communism "an abysmal failure," referring specifically to Communist China.

The legislators' criticism of communism is certainly warranted. Freedom of speech and other rights are violated and repressed in the world's remaining communist countries.

That said, it was surprising to read a report from the Tampa Bay Times that aides from the offices of both Rubio and Ros-Lehtinen recently took an "all expenses paid" trip to China. Those expenses were paid directly by the communist Chinese government that both officials have so strongly criticized.

Alex Conant, a spokesperson for Rubio's office, explained the trip by arguing that China is too important to ignore.

"Senator Rubio has consistently condemned the totalitarian nature of the Chinese government, its record of systematic human rights violations and its illegitimate territorial claims," Conant wrote. "However, China is the most populous nation on earth, has the world's second largest economy, has a significant nuclear weapons arsenal and is increasingly an economic competitor of the United States."

There's no doubt that China plays a vital role in the world economy. Attempting to isolate ourselves from one of the world's most important global powers is not an ideal strategy.

However, Rubio has previously harshly criticized those who visit communist countries, especially Cuba.

"U.S. law clearly bans tourism to Cuba by American citizens because it provides money to a cruel, repressive and murderous regime," Rubio said in a statement after American music icons Jay-Z and Beyoncé visited in 2013.

In a statement, Ros-Lehtinen offered a contrasting view to Rubio's assertions about China's economic importance.

"The world raves about the economic growth occurring in China but we all know that economic freedom cannot be a substitute for liberty and democracy," she said.

Rubio and Ros-Lehtinen do not deserve condemnation. However, their insistence on condemning others who interact with a communist regime is certainly hypocritical.

Both of these legislators continue to oppose efforts to normalize relations with Cuba, such as lifting the trade embargo or allowing tourism. If they are so insistent on forbidding associations with a communist regime, they should hold members of their staff to the same standard.

Reader response

Today's question: Do you think we'll get a hurricane this year?

Tuesday's question: Did you use Uber this weekend? **24% YES**
76% NO
42 TOTAL VOTES

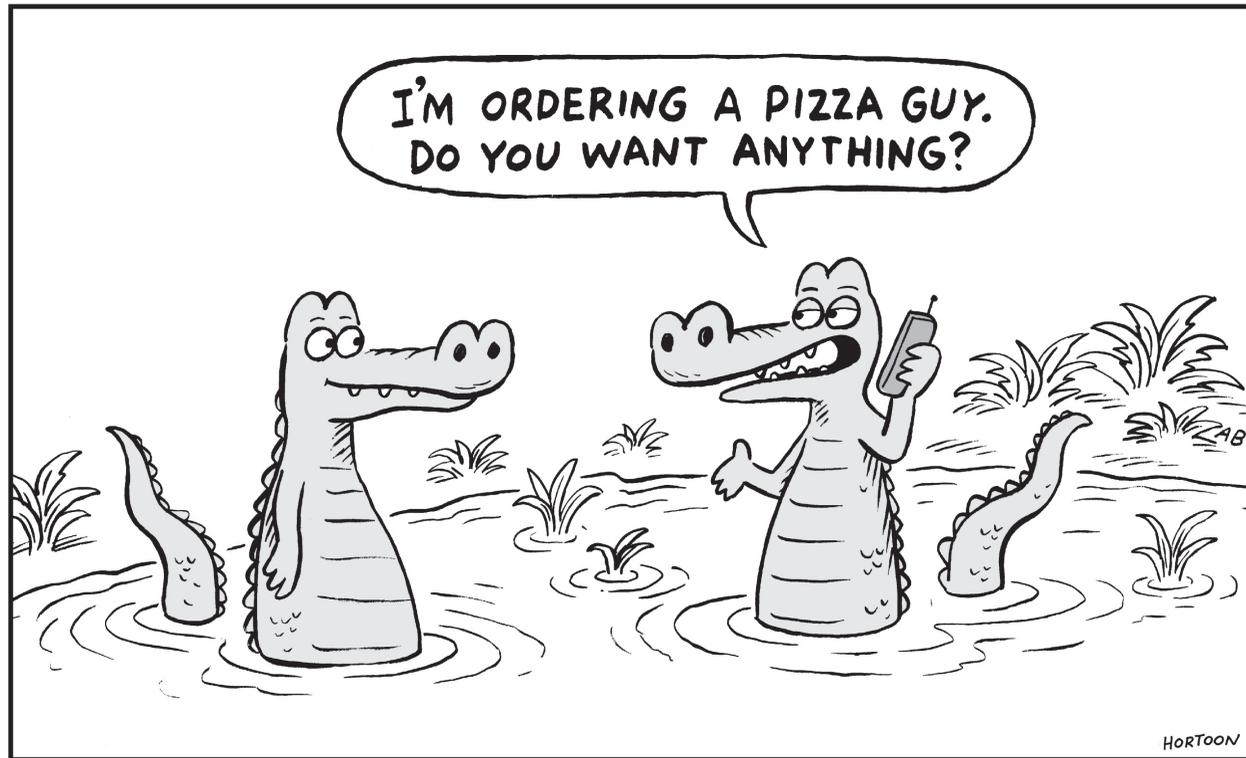
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Column

Nicki Minaj: different kind of feminist

When Nicki Minaj released the cover art for her new single, "Anaconda," the world eagerly awaited the release of the accompanying music video.

Many wondered just how far she would push the envelope. If you have seen the video, you know she pushed it pretty far.

Minaj recently performed at the MTV Video Music Awards, and she has increasingly become a fixture of American popular culture. The feminist statements she makes through her brand seem very intentional.

Chuck Creekmur, CEO of AllHipHop.com, addressed an open letter to Minaj shortly after the infamous cover art was revealed.

Creekmur asked her to consider how young men who are "already conditioned to sexualize girls at a young age" would react to the image of her famous behind in a thong.

It is clear that Creekmur and several other commenters take offense to Nicki Minaj's agency and choice of sexual expression.

But the issue is not with Minaj's body. Even Creekmur states in his letter that "as a man," he "can appreciate the virtues of (Nicki's) perfect posterior."

The issue is the need for men to objectify Minaj's body under any and all circumstances.

When women decide to own their bodies and are sexy because they want to be, the complaints and disapproval run rampant.

But more often than not in American culture — especially in hip-hop culture — these same grievances are not heard when women engage in these same behaviors for the gratification of men.

Hip-hop music videos, especially those in which men are the main performers, frequently use the female body as an object to live on the act.

For example, Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines" peaked at No. 1 in fourteen countries, including the U.S. The explicit music video included completely topless women parading around for the enjoyment of Thicke and featured artists T.I. and Pharrell.

Nicki Minaj, a powerful and independent woman in her



TehQuin Forbes
opinions@alligator.org

own right, has stormed the traditionally male-dominated industry that is hip-hop.

With her overtly sexual lyrics and provocative dance moves, she challenges all conventions that say that women should be appealing only for the enjoyment of the male gaze.

Instead, Minaj is sexy for herself alone. Minaj's independence and control over her own body is evident in the "Anaconda" music video.

Drake, a well-known rapper, is used as a prop. He is present merely as an object for Minaj to twerk on.

The second he gets too handsy for her liking, she swats his hand away and leaves him to sit in an empty room and think about what he has done.

She denies him access to her body because it is her right to do so.

This is what feminism is about — women being allowed to make their own decisions without anyone else staking some unearned claims to their bodies.

When Nicki Minaj shakes her butt on stage and does 180-degree leg raises, she is sending the message that the only person who determines how sexual Nicki Minaj is allowed to be is herself.

Not concerned parents, not people who think that modesty constitutes self-respect, not people who believe a woman should only be sexy in the bedroom for her partner — only herself.

While some people may have qualms with the ways in which Minaj expresses herself, her extravagant and explicit actions drive home the point that no one can tell any woman what to do with her own body.

These actions make Nicki Minaj very important to the feminist movement. Her ability to be a woman and her refusal to apologize for it make her one of the feminist movement's major power players.

TehQuin Forbes is a UF sociology junior. His columns usually appear on Mondays.

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

Column

Freshmen first impressions: Give UF more than seven seconds

I've heard that you have seven seconds to make a first impression. The average person reads around 35 words in seven seconds. Your first impression of this column has been created in 3, 2, 1 — now.

First impressions are everywhere. You are forming an impression of this column, freshmen are creating first impressions of campus, and returning Gators are being reimpressed or perhaps unimpressed.

The newbie freshman class' first impression of this school is now taking shape.

In the midst of deciphering cryptic bus schedules, learning lanyards are unacceptable and questioning whether there is a blood donation bus within ten feet of them at all times (there is, trust me), freshmen are all pulling together bits and pieces of this campus that make a first impression.

By the second semester, remembered moments will morph into one overall impression. Hopefully, the ubiquity of Gator pride at UF hasn't sent you into a psychedelic spin of orange and blue.

I also hope that the hordes of people assaulting you to join student organizations on Turlington Plaza did not leave you in a state of panic.

You also hopefully realized that, contrary to popular belief, there is extra credit in college.

Maybe you've also discovered that teaching assistants are not all that inept and that you can follow HUM2305's path to enlightenment to find out "What is the Good Life?"

A freshman's first impression of UF probably looks different than my continually developing impression.

A freshman may think, "Wendy's in the Reitz Union? Cool!" or "Norman Tunnel is so convenient for walking to class."

In contrast, I want to know what happened to Burger King and its fabulous dollar menu ice cream and why the bike lane in Norman Tunnel, which I long used as a shortcut to class, no longer exists.

The blue trees in Turlington look like they

Lindsay Alexander

opinions@alligator.org

have not been repainted since the senior Bush's administration, and finding a place to lock my bike at the Reitz is still miraculously like securing a DVD at Redbox the day it's released — nearly impossible.

There's a lot of good change, too. The new dorms and the expansion of the Warrington College of Business Administration will beautify two corners of campus, and The Swamp pulled out all the stops for the first game day, even if it was more of a rain day.

Some things don't change at all. Gainesville is still oppressively hot, I still get lost, and I can still smell Chick-fil-A from a mile away.

To freshmen and transfers: Get out there, and get familiar with this school.

Let it make a first impression on you, and make a few first impressions on other people.

Introduce yourself to your professors, and make small talk with your classmates.

You will thank me when you need a letter of recommendation from a professor or when

you take a mental health day and need that day's lecture notes.

Whether you are impressed with or overwhelmed by your first week of experiences, don't let your first impression become permanent just yet.

First impressions aren't everything. My first impression of UF was wrong.

I used to be intimidated by the size of the campus and the number of students, but now those are just parts of my everyday life.

A good first impression and a bad first impression can almost always be reversed.

Take in the orange and blue, embrace the never-ending search for a parking spot, and be pleasantly surprised by how quickly Chick-fil-A employees can prepare your No. 1 with fruit punch and no pickle.

Be impressed or reimpressed by this campus, and if you can, give it more than just seven seconds.

Lindsay Alexander is a UF journalism sophomore. Her columns appear on Wednesdays.

Column

Prosecution of public prayer

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees every American freedom of religion.

Unfortunately, some American organizations have twisted the Constitution's words and are trying to convince us that we should instead embrace freedom "from" religion.

This anti-religious movement is frequently manifested in American schools, with the most recent attack in the Orange County Public School District, located in central Florida.

After receiving a complaint about prayers being performed at high school football games from the Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation, OCPS issued a memorandum with some new rules: one being that volunteer chaplains for football teams can no longer hold the title of chaplain. They must now be referred to as "life coaches."

Additionally, now parents, coaches, chaplains and other school staff are not allowed to participate in or lead prayer before or after football games, even if prayer before the game has been a long standing tradition for many OCPS schools, including my alma mater, Apopka High School.

The memorandum states that "having a team chaplain is not permitted as it is an unconstitutional endorsement of religion in the same manner as a school employee participating in prayer with students."

Additionally, this ruling was further endorsed by Gov. Rick Scott in 2012 when he signed into law a bill that doesn't allow adults to be involved with students leading prayer or other "inspirational messages" at student rallies and other school-sponsored events.

Although I do not consider myself a religious person, I know that religion does give people a sense of hope and stability in trying or stressful times, and for a lot of these high school football players, it is used as a tool to calm their anxiety and get them focused on the game.

Now, because an organization from Wisconsin has complained about something happening in Florida, the players lose this right. Players can still lead their own prayers with their fellow teammates, but now, even the coaches cannot be involved

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— the ones who train and mentor these kids for months upon months, some for years and years.

Players look up to their coaches, but right before the game, when they need them the most, they have to be silent and distant.

What these people from Wisconsin fail to recognize because they don't understand the city of Apopka — given that they are over 1,300 miles away — is that prayer and religion is a part of the culture in Apopka. And OCPS, rather than standing up to the Freedom From Religion Foundation, just gave in to their demands instead of trying to find common ground.

Let's assume for a second that chaplains and coaches leading a Christian prayer is, in fact, unconstitutional. Is the appropriate reaction to such a judgment to simply ban acts of religion on the football field to satisfy the wishes of an organization from another state?

What OCPS should have done instead is inform people that if some people on the team don't happen to be Christians, and they also want to hold a prayer before the game that comports with their own religion, that is OK and encouraged.

By stripping all religion from our public schools and other institutions, we are doing our students a disservice by not exposing them to diversity.

The lack of diversity in American life is a common complaint, but the call for diversity is often accompanied by an insistence on banning and regulating everything, especially religion.

Rather than attempting to shut out religion, we should embrace religious diversity and allow others to learn from each other and develop a broader, more nuanced view of the world.

What we are teaching our students now is that if you believe in something, you must keep it locked up inside of you and not share it with others.

I would prefer to live in a country where we celebrate our differences and not where we shun others for what they believe.

Nick Eagle is a UF economics and political science senior. His columns usually appear on Mondays.

Column

Celebrity phone hacking, photo leak is not a 'scandal'

In recent days and weeks, a number of female celebrities have had their phones hacked, which has resulted in private nude pictures of them being plastered far and wide across the Internet.

Targets of these illegal and invasive hackings include Jennifer Lawrence, Kate Upton and Mary Elizabeth Winstead. Almost as soon as the photographs were posted, the photos and related gossip spread alarmingly quickly online. Popular opinion regarding these phone hackings, which regards the invasion of these celebrities' privacy as a "scandal," is frankly disgraceful.

The intentional, malicious hacking of any person's phone and distribution of their private content is a crime and a form of sexual harassment, not a scandal or a juicy piece of shocking celebrity gossip.

The celebrities in these nude photos did not bring this upon themselves. When gossip websites and TV shows refer to these leaks as part of a "scandal," it implies that these women consensually shared their photos on the Internet, which is clearly false.

It implies that the victims of these actions have done something distasteful and should apologize for their own actions as celebrities have done for leaked nude photos in the past. But no matter what your opinion is on individuals taking and sharing nude photographs, the appearance of these photos on the Internet is not the fault of the women who had their privacy and sexual activity violated.

In modern America's rape culture, which has infected the way we see issues of assault and abuse, there is a terrifying expectation that women, and people in general, are responsible for protecting themselves from abuse.

The focus has largely shifted away from creating pressure not to abuse others in the first place.

Viewing invasion of sexual privacy in this backward manner, women who take nude photographs are supposedly opening themselves up to be exploited.

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This is a misogynistic and distasteful way to view this harassment. Victims are never to blame for the crimes committed against

them.

The celebrities in these photographs are entitled to engage in any kind of consensual sexual activity they choose, as is any person. This goes for the celebrities victimized now and any individual who has had his or her private photos leaked in the past.

The hacker who violated the privacy of these celebrities publicized an intimate activity between these women and their significant others. These personal and private moments were shamefully twisted into a public gossip spectacle.

Anyone who seeks out, views or shares these photos is complicit in the crime against these women by violating their privacy. Whether people search for these photos in order to humiliate and ridicule, or because they think these women are attractive, they are perpetuating the victimization of these innocent women.

It is not acceptable to disregard a woman's privacy because you think she's sexy. Just as with instances of cat-calling or street harassment, women's bodies are not items for public ownership, and objectifying them even with supposedly "positive" connotations is not OK.

I am sorry for the pain and humiliation being experienced by the female celebrities who have had their privacy violated. In today's age of technology, the involuntary disclosure and publicizing of sexual activity is becoming increasingly common, especially with young, mostly college-age women. As a female college student, I can only hope that these disgusting crimes will make more people realize that stealing and sharing the personal photographs of others is an abhorrent and unacceptable crime. These invasions of privacy amount to a form of sexual harassment and should be treated as such.

Sally Greider is a UF English and public relations sophomore. Her columns usually appear on Tuesdays.

AROUND TOWN

Downtown Festival and Art Show actively seeking volunteers

BRADLEY NORMAN

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Volunteer recruitment for Gainesville's 33rd Downtown Festival and Art Show has officially begun.

The annual event is scheduled for the weekend of Nov. 8.

The festival is in need of volunteers in two different areas: the Children's Imagination Station and the Junior Firefighting Challenge, said Linda Piper, event coordinator

for the City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department.

The Children's Imagination Station is a free, hands-on art activity for kids to channel their creativity using various mediums, Piper said.

"There's everything from hat making and mask making, beadwork where you can make necklaces and bracelets, even puppet making," Piper said.

At the Junior Firefighting Challenge, presented by the City of Gainesville Fire Rescue

"Volunteering is an opportunity for personal and community growth and a chance for a free T-shirt."

Drew Daehne
UF English junior

team, children will earn their badges and become honorary firefighters.

Positions working alongside the artists and helping with event coordination have already been filled, and the other positions

will likely be taken within the next two weeks.

Shifts run for four hours and are unpaid, but Piper said volunteers will be given a free commemorative T-shirt.

Drew Daehne, a 21-year-old UF English junior, said he'd be interested in volunteering.

"Volunteering is an opportunity for personal and community growth and a chance for a free T-shirt," Daehne said. "It's definitely important."

Florida Georgia Line to headline Tailgate

GRIFFIN HORVATH

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Country duo Florida Georgia Line will fittingly headline the Tailgate event to kick off Florida-Georgia football game weekend.

The Oct. 31 festival held at the Shipyards in Jacksonville will take place two weeks after the band plans to release its second album.

"With their name and the play on words, it was a no-brainer (to decide on this)," said Billy Catlin, president of Orange Peel Entertainment, which partnered with Gator Bowl Sports and national promoter AEG Live to bring Florida Georgia Line to Tailgate.

Catlin said the event is inspired by large tailgate parties that he's hosted since 1999 at his home. He said a similar event to Tailgate was hosted

last year, which featured Corey Smith and Sister Hazel.

Along with Florida Georgia Line, other musical acts that will appear at Tailgate include Cole Swindell, The Cadillac Three, Clare Dunn, John King and Michael Ray.

The event will feature food trucks and tailgating activities. There will be a VIP section for those 21 and older.

"It's more festival-esque," Catlin said. "We're going to have plenty of activities for everyone."

Nolan Ehinger, a 20-year-old UF mechanical engineering junior, hasn't missed a Florida-Georgia game yet.

"It's always a lot of fun," Ehinger said. "I think having Florida Georgia Line there will make it better."

Ticket prices start at \$23 and can be found on the Tailgate website, jaxtailgate.com.



Megan Reeves / Alligator Staff

Pool Party

Jessica Howard, a 21-year-old UF graphic design senior, sets up to take her shot at the UF College of the Arts Back-to-School Social at Palomino Pool Room on Tuesday.

STATE

FL reporter beheaded by ISIS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NAPLES — Florida Gov. Rick Scott on Tuesday called Islamic State militants "evil" and demanded that President Barack Obama destroy them after a video surfaced purporting to show the beheading of freelance journalist Steven Sotloff who had ties to the state.

Scott launched a two-week re-election bus tour on Labor Day and planned on Tuesday to hold his second political rally of the day at a hardware store. But during the stop, Scott said he was canceling the event, and instead, asked supporters to give a moment of silence to Sotloff.

The Republican governor then criticized Obama for not having a "strategy" to respond to the militants that he called "immoral" and "barbarians."

"He's got to start taking this seriously, we have got to destroy this evil," Scott said.

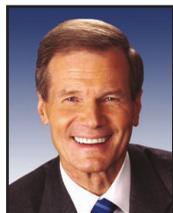
Sotloff's mother lives in the Miami area, and he attended the University of Central Florida from 2002 to 2004.

Sotloff's mother released a video statement last week begging the militants to release her son. He had been kidnapped more than a year ago while working as a freelance reporter covering the Syrian conflict.

UCF President John Hitt said Tuesday

that university officials "join millions of people around the world who are outraged at this despicable and unjustifiable act."

Other Florida leaders on Tuesday also reacted to the news about Sotloff.



Nelson

U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., said in a statement that the U.S. must go after the militants "right away because the U.S. is the only one that can put together a coalition to stop this group that's intent on barbaric cruelty." He also said

he is filing legislation to give Obama clear authority to carry out airstrikes against the militants.

U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., called Sotloff a "man of enormous courage and decency."

"As Steven was a native of Florida, my office has been in contact with his family throughout their ordeal, and today my heart goes out to all who loved him as they make the painful transition from fear to grief," Rubio said in a statement.

Rubio added that the Islamic State militants represented "a threat to the American people, our allies, and the principles of freedom and human rights that we cherish."

Stars' nude pictures leaked

▶ APPLE SAID IT WAS HACKED.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Apple Inc. said Tuesday that hackers obtained nude photos of Jennifer Lawrence and other female celebrities by pilfering images from individual accounts rather than through a broader attack on the company's services.

Meanwhile, numerous sharing sites removed images of the stars, apparently in response to copyright complaints.

However, experts said there is no way to fully scrub the photos from the Internet, and the images could keep popping up in the future, forcing celebrities to file repeated complaints as they play a cyber-version of the arcade game "whack-a-mole."

Apple Inc. said its engineers have determined that hackers breached individual accounts and didn't obtain general access to a pair of the company's services — iCloud and Find my iPhone. The tech giant said it conducted 40 hours of investigation.

Law enforcement inquiries likely will take days or weeks to complete.

The FBI offered no details on its efforts to

identify people responsible for stealing the images that were posted on image-sharing site Imgur.com, the social networking sites Reddit and Twitter and other websites. But the agency said Monday it was aware of the breach and addressing the matter.

Lawrence, an Oscar winner for her role in "Silver Linings Playbook," contacted authorities after the images of her began appearing Sunday.

By Tuesday, a Reddit thread that had been compiling links to images of nude photos of Lawrence and other celebrities had been disabled due to a copyright claim, the website said.

Representatives of Twitter, Reddit and Imgur did not respond to messages seeking comment.

Mark Rasch, a former federal prosecutor who specialized in computer crimes, said investigators will focus on who's responsible for the theft of the photos, the tools they used and the idiosyncrasies of how they program.

"There is a digital trail," Rasch said. "What you hope for (is) the people aren't very good at what they do, that they screw up, that they (upset) other hackers. Or that they leave a trail."

PREMINENCE

UF rebrands itself to reach top 10 status

VERONICA LOPRESTI MINGRONE

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF has launched a rebranding campaign to move the university closer toward its preeminence goal of being a top 10 school.

UF joined forces with branding agency 160over90 to kickstart its new re-energized promotional campaign, "For the Gator Good."

The more than \$700,000 privately funded campaign focuses on UF's global impact.

The rebranding is a progression of the UF Rising campaign, UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said.

"It's important that we talk about the great things that happen at the University of Florida as we work to become a top 10 public research university, which is one of our major goals going forward," she said.

"Two years ago, the state of Florida designated the University of Florida as the state's most preeminent university."

The "For the Gator Good" rebranding launched on Saturday and is airing on select TV spots. The campaign will run over a span of two to three years, according to a UF press release.

The campaign will include stories of UF's research beneficiaries, including that of a 4-year-old boy named Aaron who underwent treatment at the UF Proton Therapy Institute in Jacksonville while battling a rare bone cancer.

Sikes said it is the first time that a single agency has helped with the rebranding of all three UF organizations: UAA, the UF Foundation and UF.

"For the Gator Good" is a fresh take on The Gator Nation campaign, which was launched nearly 10 years ago.

The new campaign shows Gators' ambitions to make a difference that's not only felt on campus but also felt around the world.

Maggie Slomiany, director of client services at 160over90, said the UF projects all have the same strategic foundations and the same themes with their own unique personalities.

160over90's rebranding of UAA includes a revamped style guide and toolkit that allows UAA to independently produce materials that work in tandem with the overall themes of the project.

Nicole Yucht, UF director of marketing for university relations, said "For the Greater Good" campaign will show UF's positive reach in issues such as poverty, cancer and hunger and hopefully create more support for its research.

"We know we can't do it alone, so we are imploring others to join in this fight to help us find solutions to these big issues," she said.

Colleges screen transfers for Ebola

► THEY TEST WEST AFRICAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BUFFALO, N.Y. — College students from West Africa may be subject to extra health checks when they arrive to study in the U.S. as administrators try to insulate campuses from the worst Ebola outbreak in history.

With the virus continuing to kill in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria, the arrival of students from those countries has

U.S. authorities on alert but cautioning against alarm.

"I can see why there would be concern; there's no vaccine for it," said Fatima Nor, an 18-year-old freshman at the University at Buffalo, where about 25 students from Nigeria are enrolled for Fall. "As long as everyone keeps their personal space, it should be OK."

While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have issued no specific recommendations for colleges, some state health departments, including in South Carolina and North Dakota, have spelled out for administrators

what symptoms to look for and how to react.

Elsewhere, universities are drafting their own precautionary plans against the often-fatal hemorrhagic fever, which causes weakness, vomiting, diarrhea, internal bleeding, and sometimes, bleeding from the nose and ears.

"I don't see this as a huge threat on college campuses," said Dr. Susan Even, student health director at the University of Missouri-Columbia and a member of the ACHA, "but it makes sense when you're communicating with students ... to ask a question or two."



Kaitlyn Anthony / Alligator

Wolf Senses

UF sociology junior Noheli Gamez, 20, listens to termite sounds through dog-like headphones at the "Wolf to Woof" exhibit, which ends Sunday, at the Florida Museum of Natural History on Tuesday.

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73-14

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Plentiful
5 Green-lights
10 Fruit-bearing trees
14 "Tiger Beat" cover subject
15 Pentagon quintet
16 Cumming of "The Good Wife"
17 Canadian natural resource manager
19 Desi Arnaz's birthplace
20 10 to the 100th power
21 Party amenity
22 Get on
24 Dramatic backwards hoops move
27 Symbols on poles
29 Play to ___
30 "Carmina Burana" composer
31 Polio vaccine developer
33 Bk. after Galatians
36 Photon, e.g.
40 Photo lab prod.
41 Words said while folding
42 Outer Banks st.
43 Island near Corsica
44 Result
46 Push one's buttons, and then some
51 Facial feature above la bouche
52 Fluttered in the breeze
53 Passionate
55 School where part of "The Madness of King George" was filmed
56 Like many diets
60 Dubliner's land
61 The Little Mermaid
62 Little woman
63 Photographer
64 Shift letters spelled out in 17-, 24-, 36-, 46- and 56-Across
65 Ripoff

DOWN
1 Mending target
2 St. with a panhandle
3 Absent-minded
4 Nevada county or its seat
5 Oklahoma natives
6 Renamed Russian ballet company
7 Throw for a loop
8 "-hawl"
9 Form 1040 ID
10 False front
11 Sweet tweet
12 Equatorial African country
13 Snide commentary
18 Apple invader
21 Fencing ploy
22 Do a makeup job?
23 Bridge immortal Charles
25 Moroccan capital
26 The hoosegow
28 Immature newt
31 Memorial - Kettering: NYC hospital
32 Manjula's husband on "The Simpsons"

By Ned White
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33 Quirky
34 Venue
35 Alamo competitor
37 Rankled
38 Both: Pref.
39 Like Beethoven's Symphony No. 8
43 Reached equilibrium, with "out"
44 Final goal
45 Experience
46 One who may be "adorkable"
47 Proportional relation
48 Target of elephant poachers
49 Politely admitted
50 Parabolic, e.g.
54 Yuletide quaffs
56 Race unit
57 Bruin great
58 Tax shelter initials
59 Spreading tree

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

A	M	A	S	S	F	A	I	T	A	N	N	E			
S	O	N	I	C	A	B	L	E	L	A	O	S			
T	W	O	L	A	N	E	B	L	A	C	K	T	O	P	
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			C	A	L	I	P	H	I	L	O				
			D	O	U	B	L	E	D	E	A	L	I	N	G
P	I	P	E	S	Y	A	W	L	W	A	Y				
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C	U	R	C	L	A	N	A	U	D	E	N				
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			S	T	E	W	S	I	C	K	Y				
A	C	T	A	S	E	Z	R	A	W	P	A				
D	U	A	L	C	I	T	I	Z	E	N	S	H	I	P	
A	T	R	I	R	A	N	I	C	O	O	K	E			
M	E	S	A	E	P	E	E	E	S	S	E	X			

xwordeditor@aol.com 09/03/14

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A ₁	A ₁	U ₁	R ₁	V ₄	B ₃	R ₁											
I ₁	O ₁	S ₁	L ₁	G ₂	P ₃	S ₁											
A ₁	A ₁	E ₁	Y ₄	W ₄	D ₂	H ₄											

4th Letter Triple

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PAR SCORE 145-155
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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**

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 **Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

- COMICS: What was the name of Calvin's neighborhood friend and classmate in "Calvin & Hobbes"?
- LANGUAGE: What does "draconian" mean?
- GEOGRAPHY: On what continent does the Atacama desert lie?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What famous 19th-century author and humorist had only an elementary-school education?
- ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product is "the snack that smiles back"?
- LITERATURE: What Southern author often wrote novels set in the fictional "Yoknapatawpha County"?
- MUSIC: What was the name of Buddy Holly's band?
- FOOD & DRINK: What vegetable is used in making sauerkraut?
- TELEVISION: What was Marge Simpson's maiden name on the sitcom "The Simpsons"?
- HISTORY: In what U.S. city was the Republican National Convention held in 1968?

Answers

- Susie
- Extremely harsh or cruel
- South America
- Mark Twain
- Goldfish
- William Faulkner
- The Crickets
- Cabbage
- Bouvier
- Miami Beach, Fla.

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Roper's first game cut short, offense fails to see field

► FIELD CONDITIONS WOULD HAVE ALTERED PLAYCALL.

MORGAN MORIARTY

Alligator Staff Writer

@Morgan_Moriarty

Although Florida fans were expecting to get its first look at Kurt Roper's new offense, they would have to wait another week to do so as the season opener versus Idaho was suspended Saturday due to unsafe weather in the area.

Kickoff time was delayed two hours and 48 minutes, and the game kicked off at 9:50 p.m.

Valdez Showers returned the opening kick for 64 yards down to the Idaho 14 yard line before both teams were escorted off the field after more lightning was reported in the area.

The game was suspended shortly thereafter due to weather as well as unsafe field conditions.

Roper said that the field

conditions were a bit of a concern in terms of play-calling if the game were to be played.

"You just wondered how hard it was going to be to exchange the football, whether it was between the quarterback and center, center and running backs," Roper said. "And you start wondering how wet it is when you're going to throw it."

"One of the advantages offenses get when it's really wet is you know where you're going and those DBs don't."

The long delay didn't have too much of an effect on quarterback Jeff Driskel while he waited in the locker room for the game to start.

"He's a real even-keeled guy," Roper said.

"He handles things really well. And that's what I like about him; he doesn't ride the wave of emotions like I like to talk about quarterbacks doing. He's pretty

SEE ROPER, PAGE 15



Kan Li / Alligator Staff

Florida offensive coordinator Kurt Roper scans the field during practice on Aug. 14 at Donald R. Dizney Stadium. Roper had concerns about the field conditions in UF's season opener, which was suspended.

Players frustrated over delay

JONATHAN CZUPRYN

Alligator Staff Writer

@jczupryn

Kurt Roper is a football lifer.

Because his father, Bobby Roper, coached at the collegiate level while he was growing up, Kurt grew up on football fields across the country until he was old enough to play on them.

UF Football

After his playing career ended at Rice University in 1994, he took to the sidelines, grabbed a clipboard and has been following in his father's footsteps ever since.

But despite the amount of time he has spent around the sport, Roper has never seen a sight quite like Saturday night's "false start" in the Swamp.

"I'm 42 years old and been around college football my whole career . . . since I was born," Roper said Tuesday. "And that's the first (game) I've ever been around that wasn't played. So, no. It was a first."

After a two-hour, 48-minute weather delay, the Gators took the field for the opening kickoff only to be told immediately following the play that they had to return to the locker room.

Jake McGee, who transferred during the offseason from Virginia, was supposed to make his Florida debut and show the fans his potential in Roper's spread offense.

However, what was scheduled to be a test run for McGee and the new system turned into the redshirt senior's most deflating affair.

"It's one of the weirdest feelings I think I've ever had with football," said the 6-foot-6, 245-pound tight end. "You put a whole week of game prep in, do the whole pre-game, do really everything and then the game doesn't happen. It sort of an empty feeling, I guess."

While Gator fans in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium had the option to either stick out the weather delay or find shelter

SEE SIDEBAR, PAGE 15

AIR JORDAN

Offense debut worth the wait

JORDAN MCPHERSON

Air Jordan

@J_McPherson1126

Kurt Roper has a lot of stories to tell.

His weekly media availabilities are filled with anecdotes about his coaching experiences, growing up as a coach's son and raising his six-year-old daughter Reese — who was probably more upset than Roper about Florida's season opener against Idaho being suspended.

"It got pretty late — she is 6 — and so my wife said 'hey at some point she's got to go home,'" Roper said Tuesday. "So my mother in law started to take her and my son home, and my daughter said, 'I got all dressed' — she had her fingernails painted, toenails painted orange and blue — 'I got all dressed up for this. I'm just so disappointed.'"

But there's one story that fans are waiting to hear from the first-year UF offensive coordinator — the story of Florida's successful offense.

And while that story won't be told until Florida is able to play more than just its opening kickoff (cue Valdez Showers pun here), one thing is certain about Roper's of-



Jordan McPherson

twitter: @J_McPherson1126

fense: The pieces are there.

Florida's offense this season has arguably as much depth at its skill positions as the 2008 team — a group that contains names such

as Percy Harvin, Louis Murphy and Chris Rainey.

The wide receiver position is brimming with talent from redshirt seniors Quinton Dunbar and Andre Debose to true freshman C.J. Worton.

Roper plans to rotate at least six receivers around throughout the three wide receiver positions this season.

The Gators also have a formidable pass-catching option at tight end in Virginia transfer Jake McGee.

The redshirt senior caught 43 passes in his final year with the Hokies — three more than any of UF's returning receivers from 2013.

SEE JORDAN, PAGE 15

J.D. Tomlinson will be one of the leaders on UF's men's golf team in 2014. Read the story on Page 14.

Soccer drops in poll

The UF soccer team dropped two spots to No. 8 in the NSCAA coaches poll, which was released Tuesday. Florida went 1-1 in its first road weekend of the season.

Lacrosse to host tournament during Fall schedule

The UF lacrosse team released its Fall schedule on Monday and will host the Florida Fall Tournament on Oct. 19 at Donald R. Dizney Stadium.

VOLLEYBALL

SEC honors freshman middle blocker

EDEN OTERO

Alligator Staff Writer

@edenotero_1

After an impressive start to her collegiate career, freshman Rhamat Alhassan ended the weekend on a high note as she was named the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week on Tuesday.

The freshman, who started in two of three matches over the weekend against Idaho and Oklahoma, had playing time in all three of Florida's opening matches but saw big numbers in her second collegiate match ever against Idaho.

Alhassan started her first collegiate match against Idaho and made 13 kills on 16 attempts, with no errors and three blocks. In all, she completed the weekend with 23 kills on 35 attempts and only two errors in three games.

She sits in first in the SEC with a .600 hitting efficiency and is second in the league among freshmen with 1.3 blocks per set.

The freshman's performance was the first time a true freshman middle blocker for Florida recorded a hitting efficiency of at least .800 in a match since Cassandra Anderson (.909) in the 2008 NCAA Tournament.

"She went from zero to 60 is what she's done," coach Mary Wise said. "...She's 6'4" and jumping 36 inches. There aren't a lot of players in the college game, not women, that are at that point."

UF men's golf brings seasoned roster into 2014

LUIS TORRES

Alligator Writer

@LFTorresIII

For the first time in 27 years, the Florida men's golf team will have a different leader, as J.C. Deacon is taking over as head coach for Buddy Alexander.

Deacon served as an assistant coach at his alma mater — the University of Nevada, Las Vegas — for four years before accepting the head coaching position with the Gators.

The new coach will have big shoes to fill, as Alexander guided Florida to two national titles and eight Southeastern Conference titles during his tenure.

But Deacon didn't come to UF to replace Alexander, and he knows that no one can completely follow in the footsteps of someone who brought as much success to Florida as Alexander did.

"I'm not going to replace Buddy Alexander," Deacon said. "No one in the world can replace Buddy Alexander, legend, done an incredible job, won two national championships. He's one of the best coaches that's ever been in college golf."

What Deacon does bring is someone who is young and someone who has a fiery personality.

"I'm going to bring a lot of energy to the table, I'm going to demand hard work," the 31-year-old coach said. "Our guys are already doing a great job living up to my expectations and we're going to try and work harder than everyone in the country."

Deacon inherits a team which returns eight players from last year's squad that have playing experience.

Leading the team is senior J.D. Tomlinson, who paced Florida last year with a 72.55 stroke average. Even though he was arguably the best player on last year's team, Tomlinson made it a point to get better in the offseason.

"I just really worked on my game and kind of put my head down and made some changes."

J.D. Tomlinson

UF senior

"I made a couple of swing changes, which took the whole summer, which I'm really happy about," Tomlinson said. "I played some tournaments around the country and I just really worked on my game and kind of put my head down and made some changes."

Tomlinson will be counted on to continue his strong play heading into this season along with fellow senior Eric Banks, who finished with a 73.50 stroke average — good enough for second on the team.

Sophomore Ryan Orr played in every tournament last season, and finished first on the team with two eagles and finished second with 75 birdies in his freshman year.

"Coming in my goal was to just qualify for some tournaments, and to be able to play in all of them was awesome and it gave me a lot of experience," Orr said. "Getting to play against the best players in the country was a really good experience."

Florida didn't qualify for the NCAA Golf Championships last year. The last time that happened was in 2000. The next year, the program won its

second national title under Alexander.

UF will be using the four tournaments in the fall season as a springboard to get back to the NCAAs in the spring. Deacon says the team has been putting in the effort to get back to the Golf Championships.

"The whole point of why we're doing this and putting in all of this time and hard work is to get to nationals and compete at the highest level," Deacon said. "We got to find a way to get back there, but the way we're going to do that is do all the little things."



Jordan McPherson / Alligator Staff

J.D. Tomlinson tees off at the SunTrust Gator Invitational on Feb. 16 at the Mark Bostick Golf Course.

\$300 REWARD

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FOOTBALL

Roper looking for third-down efficiency

RICHARD JOHNSON

Alligator Staff Writer @RagUF

How fast is too fast for an offense? Texas A&M ran 99 plays in its season opener against South Carolina, and Baylor ran 97 in its debut against Southern Methodist.

Offensive coordinator Kurt Roper's former employer, Duke, ran 86 plays Saturday and Eastern Michigan, UF's next opponent, ran 86.

As the hype continues around Roper's up-tempo system, just how fast the Gators will go is a key topic of discussion.

But one down in particular makes the difference, said Roper.

"It all really is determined by how successful you have been on third downs in a lot of instances," he said.

Of the 10 teams which ran the most plays in college football's first week, eight of them converted on 10 or more third down attempts.

Another type of efficiency Roper will need from his offense is from quarterback Jeff Driskel.

Roper said during his career, the benchmark has risen for how accurate a quarterback needs to be in his offense during a game.

A 60-percent completion rate

won't cut it anymore, and in Roper's best season, quarterback Sean Renfree completed 68 percent of his passes for Duke in 2009, leading the Blue Devils to the ninth best passing attack nationally in yards per game.

Jeff Driskel is near that mark already.

Driskel threw at a 63.7 percent clip in his only full season as Florida's starter in 2012.

Before being sidelined against Tennessee in 2013 with a broken fibula, he had a 68.9 completion percentage.

But Driskel is not one to be caught up in numbers.

"When you start to think about numbers, you start to just take easy things to get the numbers up," Driskel said.

"But if you do take what the defense gives you, at the end of the day you'll be at around 65-70 percent. That's kind of a number you want to be at the end of the year."

McGee has strange Saturday: For the first time since 2010, tight end Jake McGee wasn't on the sideline of a Virginia Cavaliers football game as UVA fell to UCLA in a hard-fought 28-20 contest.

McGee was sitting in a hotel

room, getting ready to play for his new team for the first time, a game that never ended up happening thanks to lightning and the condition of Florida Field.

"I watched as much as I could in the hotel," McGee said. "It was tough to watch, a lot of weird feelings but I thought the guys played hard."

Gorman ready for opener: Defensive back Jabari Gorman can't think of anything else but Saturday's opener against Eastern Michigan.

He, like the rest of Florida's team is chomping at the bit to get on the field after having lightning ruin the game against Idaho.

As Florida prepares for Saturday's game against Eastern Michigan, they ready themselves for a run-happy unit, content to pound the rock with power more than they are to play pitch and catch all over the field.

Gorman isn't worried though. "They're a power team, nothing tricky about their formations and stuff like that," Gorman said.

"They just run the power in different formations and with a good defensive line as we got then we look like we'll have a great chance."



Kan Li / Alligator Staff

Jeff Driskel warms up in the rain before Florida's suspended game against Idaho on Saturday in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

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