

alligator



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UF student's relative one of five people shot in Alachua

TWO OF THE VICTIMS ARE CHILDREN, POLICE SAID.

By Robert Lewis and David Hoffman
Alligator Staff Writers

At least five people, including two children, were shot Monday at about 6:30 p.m. in Alachua, said Sergeant Jesse Sandusky, an Alachua

Police Department spokesperson.

The shootings happened near Northwest 156th Place and North Main Street, Sandusky said, roughly a 30-minute drive from UF's campus. Alachua County Fire Rescue tweeted that it treated patients from a drive-by shooting and took them to UF Health Shands Hospital's emergency room, which was put on lockdown Monday, said Nickie Doria, a

UF Health spokesperson.

Doria said Shands' emergency room was locked down for the safety of the patients, which is standard procedure when a patient is brought in with a gunshot wound and the person responsible has not been apprehended.

The emergency room is no longer on lockdown, Doria said.

One adult remains in critical con-

dition, Sandusky said. Both children injured during the shooting and two adult victims are in stable condition, and their injuries are not life-threatening, he said.

The shootings took place just a block-and-a-half from Maude Lewis Park, where a 27-year-old man was shot to death Sunday, marking the first homicide in Alachua County in 10 years, Sandusky said.

"We believe (Monday's shooting) was retaliation against the incident that happened on Sunday," Sandusky said.

He said both shootings are likely gang related. Alachua Police have not made an arrest, but are pursuing several leads, Sandusky said.

As police searched for the shooter

SEE SHOOTING, PAGE 4

UF publishes, presents report on Alachua County's racial inequity

By David Hoffman
Alligator Staff Writer

Santa Fe College President Jackson Sasser turned to his state senator, Keith Perry, before an audience of more than 200 Friday afternoon and gave a firm message.

"It will take the legislature, it will take the chamber," Sasser said of how to tackle Alachua County's looming racial disparities. "It will take all of us."

Local leaders and activists gathered in East Gainesville's Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, located at 718 SE 11th St., for conversation about a much anticipated report presented by UF's Bureau of Economic and Business Research, "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County." The talk brought forth some glaring examples of inequity in the county, while some participants said the solutions aren't there yet.

UF assistant professor Hector Hugo Sandoval Gutierrez combed through data from the 98-page document to an audience that included Mayor Lauren Poe, UF President Kent Fuchs, city and county commissioners, Alachua County Public Schools board members, the Alachua County Labor Coalition and Gainesville For All organizers and others.

Inspired by a similar study by leaders in Madison, Wisconsin, UF's BEBR — sponsored by Santa Fe College, ACPS, Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, UF Health, and the city and county —

compiled data on issues ranging from child poverty to unemployment among the county's white, black, Hispanic and Asian populations.

For about an hour, Gutierrez reviewed the facts.

At 35.7 percent, black poverty in Alachua County is greater than that of Florida and the U.S. The county's black childhood poverty is 44.6 percent.

Gutierrez also said Alachua County's black residents are over 2.5 times more likely to be unemployed than its white residents.

Alachua County has Florida's highest achievement gap between white and black students on end-of-year exams like the Florida Standards Assessment, the Alligator found.

After the presentation, organizers thought about how to move forward and fix the issue.

Gutierrez suggested attracting businesses to invest and develop in East Gainesville, as well as improving public K-12 education for black students. He said these changes would go a long way toward improving racial inequity overall.

"I believe that to provide a high-quality education experience is significant and will change the life for minorities," Gutierrez said. "College is not necessary to get a good job, but what is essential is to get a good-paying skill set."

Diedre Houchen, the education chair for racial inequity task force Gainesville For All, said although the data was disheartening, it simply confirmed what many activists already knew.

SEE EQUITY, PAGE 4



Shelbie Eakins / Alligator Staff

Angad Gill, a 20-year-old UF biology sophomore, demonstrates choreography at the Gator Bhangra Dance Spring Auditions outside of Ben Hill Griffin Stadium on Tuesday night.

UF Student Body Treasurer Revel Lubin switches party

By Christina Morales
Alligator Staff Writer

In a letter to the Alligator on Tuesday, UF Student Body Treasurer Revel Lubin announced his intention to switch from Impact Party to Inspire Party.

Lubin ran for the executive ticket last year with Impact, and in the letter, he said he thought it would be a move that could

"initiate positive change" in Student Government. He said since then he has witnessed tokenism in the party — as expressed in the resignation speech of Janae Moodie a week ago.

He said minority individuals, including himself, are marginalized. He

said Impact gives positions to fill quotas and uses "diversity" as a buzzword.

"I put the students over the politics and over Impact," he said. "But as time went on, I can't compromise my character to be a part of something that was contradicting everything I stood for."

The criminology and law and African-American studies sophomore said he saw things that were unjust from the beginning

of his time in Impact. Lubin said although he agrees with some of the points Moodie made in her speech, it wasn't her resignation that prompted him to make this announcement.

"This is something I was prompted, just me personally for a long time," he said. "It has nothing to do with what Janae said. I'm taking this uncomfortable position to

SEE LETTER, PAGE 4



Lubin

GATORS SET TO FACE RAZORBACKS TONIGHT

The Florida men's basketball team is hosting Arkansas at 7 p.m. at the O'Connell Center, **pg. 14**



Bright Futures bill approved by Florida Senate
It could bring block tuition to state universities, **pg. 5**

The Avenue:

Looking for something fun to do? Check out upcoming events, **pg. 9**

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Today's Weather



HIGH 50° LOW 23°

Local Events / News in Brief

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Discover Florida Museum volunteer opportunities today

The Florida Museum of Natural History is holding an orientation for adults interested in learning more about volunteering. The presentation is today from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Pre-registration is required, and volunteers must be 18 years or older. For more information or to register, visit floridamuseum.ufl.edu/volunteers/adult-orientation or call 352-273-2055.

Florida Museum's 39th Collectors Day on Saturday

Celebrate the Florida Museum's 39th Collectors Day on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.florida-museum.org.

museum.ufl.edu/collectorsday or call 352-273-2061.

Spring SG Elections Informational Meeting, Qualifying and Slating

To learn more about qualifying or running for office, attend the informational meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Reitz Union chamber. For more information, visit www.sg.ufl.edu/elections.

Study Abroad Fair

The UF International Center will host the Spring 2018 Study Abroad Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24 on the Reitz Union North Lawn. For more information, stop by 1765 Stadium Rd., Suite 170 Hub, or visit online at abroad.ufic.ufl.edu.



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

Got something going on?

Want to see it in this space? Send an email with "What's Happening" in the subject line to jtavel@alligator.org. To request publication in the next day's newspaper, please submit the event before 5 p.m. Please model your submissions after the above events, and keep them to 150 words or fewer. Improperly formatted "What's Happening" submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

The Alligator strives to be accurate and clear in its news reports and editorials. If you find an error, please call our newsroom at 352-376-4458 or email editor@alligator.org.

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UF researchers get grant to find new treatment for fungal infection

THE INFECTION HAS A HIGH MORTALITY RATE.

By Rachel Porter

Alligator Contributing Writer

UF Health researchers plan to use computer algorithms to find a new, more individualized treatment against a common, invasive fungal infection.

The National Institutes of Health granted them \$2.7 million for the project. The infection, aspergillosis, is caused by the aspergillus fungus, which is a fungus in the form of mold spores that can live indoors or outdoors and is inhaled frequently, said Dr. Borja Mehrad, one of the head researchers.

"The most severe illness is in people with a very weakened immune system," Mehrad said.

Currently, the infection is treated with antifungal antibiotics, but problems occur because the infection has

developed a resistance, Mehrad said. It's one of the most common fungal infections and has a high mortality rate.

The symptoms of aspergillosis are similar to pneumonia, Mehrad said.

The new computer algorithm will try to model the infection in combination with testing done on mice, Mehrad said. Mice will be given the infection, and then collaborators at University of Connecticut will put the data from them into the algorithm.

The system will develop a hypothesis that will help determine a treatment and then test that on the mice, Mehrad said.

At the University of Connecticut, professor Reinhard Laubenbacher, director of the Center for Quantitative Medicine, said he hopes this will allow doctors to give customized treatments.

"This is an incredibly exciting time in collecting data, both at the molecular level and the patient level," Laubenbacher said.



Taylour Marks / Alligator Staff

ART AND ANCESTRY

Several portraits from Turbado Marabou are presented in the Hippodrome State Theatre's gallery. The Gainesville artist credits his inspiration for his pieces from the "rich culture and social values" of his ancestors. The exhibit is available for public viewing through Feb. 18.

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GPD: FGCU student pulls out knife in a fight at midtown

HE CUT OFF THE TIP OF A BOUNCER'S THUMB BEFORE A MANAGER DISARMED HIM, POLICE SAID.

By Robert Lewis
Alligator Staff Writer

A Florida Gulf Coast University student is accused of getting in a

fight in front of a midtown bar and cutting off a bouncer's thumb with a knife early Monday, Gainesville Police said.

Jose Javier Navas Heredia, 23, was part of a fight in front of a midtown bar at 1702 W. University Ave. after midnight, according to an arrest report. When a bouncer from the bar came and grabbed Navas Heredia by the shoulders to stop the fight, he turned around and



Navas Heredia

pulled a pocket knife from his back pocket, according to the report.

Navas Heredia opened the knife and held the blade to the bouncer's chest, police said.

Two off-duty bouncers from the bar saw Navas Heredia had a knife

and tried to disarm him, according to the report. He resisted and cut the tip of one of the two men's right thumb in the struggle, police said.

The manager of the bar came outside and was finally able to disarm Navas Heredia, according to the report.

Police said he tried to leave the scene, but a witness pointed him out to officers, and he was detained.

After his arrest, Navas Heredia told police he did not own the knife but may have touched it during the fight.

He was taken to Alachua County Jail where he was released Monday on his own recognizance to U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement.

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Alachua County's black poverty is greater Florida's, study found

EQUITY, from pg. 1

Houchen said whatever solutions people begin crafting need to include the residents themselves.

"I think that whatever is done should certainly include the participation of African-Americans within the county — that's going to be essential," she said. "Their agency at the table is needed."

Perry said he felt the presentation was an important step in canvassing the disparity, and now legislators, especially in Tallahassee, need to help push change forward.

The senator cited his proposed Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Pilot Program, which would financially incentivize school districts to offer 30 minutes of certified music education twice a week for students between kindergarten and second grade.

"We see the gaps start out for students early and continue to grow," Perry said. "What can we do at the youngest of age for them?"

For Rosana Resende, the format of the presentation event amounted to a waste of time.

Resende, a lecturer with UF's Center for Latin American Studies invited to the event by the Latina Women's League, was in awe at the diversity of the audience in the room, filled with nearly every per-



David Hoffman / Alligator Staff

son one could imagine who's working on improving the county, from social workers to politicians.

Despite the talent in the room, there was no time dedicated to workshoping or pausing to let the organizers hash out possible solu-

tions. Instead, people were instructed during the Q&A session to write down questions anonymously and pass them down rows of people to the front where President Sasser read and answered them.

tions.

"A lot of us are professionals who deal with this kind of stuff," Resende said. "We're ready to go, you know?"

Resende said she was entirely disappointed with how the meeting was focused on describing the prob-

lem rather than answering it.

"This is amazing human capital," she said, looking around the room. "Maybe we can't implement solutions right away, but why in the world can't we powwow about this kind of stuff and brainstorm some ideas together?"

President Fuchs also announced during the presentation that, independent of the study, he asked UF's Human Resource Services to look into the university's OPS, or other personnel services, employee classification.

Fuchs said he's concerned some OPS workers — who are paid hourly, are not offered the same benefits as permanent staff and often come from minority and low-income backgrounds — should receive better classification given how long they've worked for the university.

He asked human resources to look into the OPS classification after Hurricane Irma, when hourly paid workers were not repaid for time lost after UF canceled four days of class, according to Alligator archives.

"It may indeed be that we are misusing that job classification," he said. "It may be, frankly, we should have fewer OPS workers and have more of them be regular workers."

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He said minorities are marginalized

LETTER, from pg. 1

stand up."

In the last paragraph of the letter, Lubin said he will switch to Inspire. He said his future plans with SG are still unclear.

"I think I'm taking time to pray about my next step and figure out what I want to do to serve within the party," he said. "I'm unsure as to which direction I will take next."

Lubin said he identifies with Inspire vision.

"I noticed a group of individuals who have like-minded ideas," he said. "It's a fresh group with fresh visions."

Senator Benjamin Lima (Inspire, D) said this is an exciting development for the party. He led Inspire's creation in Fall 2017 as

its president.

"Revel is someone who has a great sense of vision for the Student Body," he said. "A lot of our senators have been collaborating with him on numerous initiatives. Our caucus is very excited to see the potential to have someone of his stature to be able to be affiliated with Inspire Party."

Senate President Pro-Tempore Trevor Schaettle said he didn't understand the necessity for Lubin to disaffiliate.

"I feel like the problem definitely could've been addressed further on, and I feel like this is kind of a scapegoat kind of blaming," he said. "A lot of us were shocked at that."

Senate President Ian Green (Impact, Business Administration) said Lubin's statement has more to do with the political climate

and upcoming elections than the true reality of Impact.

"Specifically for me, I'm the third black male Senate President here at the University of Florida," Green said. "I have gotten to where I am because of the work I have put into this university. There's a reason why I have gray hairs and a receding hairline."

Student Body President Smith Meyers, who ran with Lubin on his executive ticket, said he hadn't heard of Lubin's concerns.

"Revel's letter to the editor is the first time in the nine months we have been in office that I have heard about his concerns with Student Government," he wrote in an email.

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Four victims are stable

SHOOTING, from pg. 1

and the victims were rushed to the hospital, Wallace Mazon saw the notification — two back-to-back missed calls from his father.

When Mazon, 23, called back, he learned his nephew, Ron Fairley, 20, had just been rushed into the intensive care unit at Shands.

Fairley was shot seven times — in the arms, chest and once in the chin, Mazon said.

"You hear about these things happening in inner cities like Chicago or Detroit," the UF political science and African-American studies senior said. "You'd never think it would happen in a small town like (here)."

Mazon said when he visited

Shands on Tuesday afternoon, he felt distraught. Fairley was unable to remain fully conscious, only blinking his eyes open a few times.

Mazon, Fairley and another victim all went to Santa Fe High School together, Mazon said.

He said he was unsure if either Clifford or Fairley are the adult the police said was in critical condition.

"I'm just hoping for the best at this point," he said. "I'm having the feeling like he'll have a second chance — anything can happen in these situations."

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SG committee rejects proposal for free tampons, pads

By Elliott Nasby
Alligator Staff Writer

A proposal that would provide free tampons and pads on campus was not approved by the Student Government Budget and Appropriations Committee on Monday evening.

Inspire Party Senator Branden Pearson asked the nine-person committee to use students' activity and

service fees to pay for feminine hygiene products. However, after 20 minutes of deliberations, the committee unanimously voted against the code revision, stating various complaints, including that the funding would benefit only the female half of the UF Student Body.

Pearson cited a change.org petition, launched by student group Gators Matter, Period. in the Fall. The petition has amassed more than

4,000 signatures in support of UF-supplied menstrual care items. He said it was evidence the issue was being directly voiced by students.

"That's what student government is for," Pearson said. "We are here on campus to take student ideas and make them realities."

The committee said the petition was unclear about how many signatures came from students and if the issue was also being voiced by male

students.

Florida State University's student government approved a similar legislation early last year, which Pearson said was reason for UF to consider a policy change of its own. Harvard University, University of California, Los Angeles, Emory University and Brown University have also implemented similar campus programs.

The change was struck down before it was open to Senate review

and plans for the distribution of feminine hygiene products were drawn out. Pearson said he was disappointed with the committee's decision but said there are plans to seek other funding.

"We want to proceed with as many doors open as possible," he said.

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UF Student Senate elects new President Pro-Tempore

By Christina Morales
Alligator Staff Writer

After the former Senate Pro-Tempore resigned, citing a lack of respect for minorities, UF's Senate elected a new officer Tuesday night.

In a 54-20 vote, Trevor Schaettle (Impact, District B) will begin his four-week term as Senate President Pro-Tempore, effective immediately. Schaettle formerly held the position in Spring 2017.

"I'm really excited for the op-

portunity to bring as many qualified, passionate senators into the chamber," he said.

The special election between Zachariah Chou (Inspire, Murphree) and Schaettle, Impact majority party leader, comes a week after the resignation of previous Senate President Pro-Tempore Janae Moodie. Moodie said her party and Student Government tokenize minorities.

Schaettle said he knew about Moodie's plans to resign but disagreed with her and said SG is

diverse.

"I try to stay as unbiased and look more at qualifications and passion when we chose senators," he said. "That's not to say we don't pick diverse senators. As a committee, we shouldn't have diversity be the only thing that we look for."

Senator Mackintosh Joachim (Inspire, Graham) said diversity is an issue that needs to be addressed in the Senate and asked Schaettle's and Chou's approach.

Schaettle said it won't be fixed overnight. He hopes to meet with multicultural groups on campus to learn about their needs.

Before his loss, Chou proposed the idea of exit interviews for all departing senators.

"Student Government is pretty numb about when people leave Senate," Chou said. "It's important to make Senate more inclusive and thoughtful."

The Senate also voted down an amendment proposed by Austin Young, a UF political science and religion senior, in committee. The amendment would change how future constitutional amendments are ratified by not including abstention votes in the three-fifths required to pass. The opportunity for the bill to be debated was voted down 50-24 when amending the agenda.

"The bottom line is that it's simply not right that the judiciary committee would withhold [the bill] from the rest of the Senate," the 22-year-old said. "I think it's wrong for a small committee to decide arbitrarily for the Senate not to vote on it."

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Florida Senate approves bill for Bright Futures

THE BILL WOULD ALSO REQUIRE ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES TO ADOPT BLOCK TUITION.

By Jessica Giles
Alligator Staff Writer

UF students receiving a Bright Futures Scholarship may see more money in their bank accounts if a Florida senate bill passes in the House.

The Florida Senate unanimously passed the "Florida Excellence in Higher Education Act of 2018," on Thursday. The bill, which now awaits consideration in the Florida House, would permanently expand the Bright Futures Scholarships Program for the top two tiers of scholars and require all state universities to adopt a block tuition system. UF spokesperson Janine Sikes said the bill addresses several of UF's highest priorities, but they are still in the early stages of working with the legislators to create the best proposal.

"There's some very, very positive pieces of that legislation that would very much benefit our students," she said.

The bill provides a permanent expansion of the Bright Futures Programs from the change that was made in the 2017-2018 school year. The change was set for a year, but this bill would permanently expand the program for the "Academic" and "Medallion" scholars — the top two tiers of Bright Futures.

Under this bill, students who receive the top Bright Futures scholarship, referred to as "Academic" scholars, will have 100 percent of their tuition and fees covered and receive \$300 for textbooks.

Students who receive the second-tier award, known as "Medallion" scholars, will have 75 percent of their tuition and

fees covered by their Bright Futures scholarship.

Both "Academic" and "Medallion" scholars would be able to use Bright Futures scholarships for Summer term enrollment if the bill passes.

Anthony Leonardi, a UF political science sophomore, currently receives the "Academic" scholar award. Although, he would've liked to see the permanent expansion sooner, he is glad state government is willing to reward students who perform well.

"Right now we're in a situation where smart kids are not rewarded like they should be," the 20-year-old said.

The bill would also require that all state universities switch to a block tuition method by Fall 2018. Under block tuition, students would pay a flat rate each semester rather than per-credit-hour. The block tuition method is meant to improve on-time graduation rates by incentivizing students to take on a larger course load without bearing the extra financial cost.

Students at UF protested the implementation of block tuition in the 2010-2011 school year, which the administration later postponed indefinitely, citing rising graduation rates, according to Alligator archives.

Leonardi doesn't believe students should be pushed to take on more credit hours through the block tuition because it could hinder their involvement outside the classroom.

"I think that there are a lot of extracurricular programs that we also need to incentivize people to take part in," he said. "This is one of the things that the University of Florida has pushed. They want us to be involved in the Gator community."

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Taylor Marks / Alligator Staff

Trevor Schaettle, a 21-year-old UF history senior, was elected Senate President Pro-Tempore at Tuesday evening's senate meeting. The Impact Party senator won 54-20 against Senator Zachariah Chou.

UF Diabetes Institute gets \$1.6 million gift for project

By Elliott Nasby
Alligator Staff Writer

UF researchers will be working with Stanford University to improve healthcare access to Type 1 diabetes patients who don't have access to hospitals.

The UF Diabetes Institute received a \$1.6 million donation Jan. 9 for the collaborative project. Type 1 diabetes can find it difficult to go to recommended endocrinologist appointments every three to four months because of the cost and distance to travel for healthcare,

said Dr. Michael Haller, UF professor and chief in the department of pediatrics.

"It's an opportunity to provide better care for patients living with a chronic disease that requires 24/7 management," Haller said. "Type 1 diabetes is tough even for the patients that have great access to great care."

The money was given to the UF Diabetes Institute by the Leona M. & Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust to fund a state-wide, 18-month pilot project with Stanford University. Haller said more funds could be donated again if the project is successful. The project

is aimed at training primary care physicians across the state to treat patients who live far away in innovative ways.

The research does not emphasize the direct treatment of patients, but instead focuses on increasing their access to care through tools such as telemedicine, or video conferencing, which would not require a physical hospital visit. Haller said telemedicine is more economic and efficient for both patients and healthcare providers.

The telemedicine project is based on a model of care called Extension for Community

Healthcare Outcomes, which is being piloted in Florida and California due to high rates of diabetes within the states' populations of underserved patients. Haller said UF is where research will stem.

"The idea of an ECHO is places with expertise, like us, serve as a hub," Haller said. "If we can prove that this works, theoretically, this would be something that would be used nationwide."

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Editorial

Congress needs to act on DACA

Hundreds of thousands of young undocumented immigrants continue to live in fear of impending deportation as Congress attempts to finalize their fate with a legislative solution.

Many of these young people, known as “Dreamers,” have known no home other than the United States. They were brought here as children, through no fault or choice of their own, and have little to no ties to their native country. They reside in the U.S. under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which grants protection from deportation to children who were brought to the U.S. before age 16 and who have lived in the U.S. before June 15, 2007.

As a result of the Obama-era program, children who were brought to the country illegally have been able to do basic things like obtain a valid driver’s license, attend schools, enroll in college and legally secure jobs. Also, much to the surprise of many conservatives, these “Dreamers” also pay income taxes — despite the fact they are unable to receive advantages like reduced healthcare or financial aid from the state or government for education. They also cannot benefit from unemployment.

DACA allowed for its recipients to apply to defer deportation and live legally in the U.S. for two years and afterward, they could apply again to renew the deferral. Last September, the Trump administration announced the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) would no longer accept applications for new deferred action requests under DACA, nor would it accept renewal applications for those who had been approved for deferred action under the program in the past. As of Jan. 13, individuals who were previously granted deferred action under DACA are allowed to request renewal. New hopefuls, however, are still unable to apply.

New headlines from this past week have hinted that President Donald Trump and leaders in Congress are attempting to reach a bipartisan agreement when deciding the fate of DACA recipients.

On Jan. 9, a federal judge in Phoenix temporarily blocked the Trump administration from ending DACA. This is a move from the judicial branch in checking executive power, but Trump did not see it that way.

“It just shows everyone how broken and unfair our Court System is when the opposing side in a case (such as DACA) always runs to the 9th Circuit and almost always wins before being reversed by higher courts,” Trump tweeted the day after the judge’s ruling.

The future of DACA, as this past week has shown, is still in limbo. But the recipients — who are among the student population at UF and Santa Fe College — deserve better. They have worked hard to get the jobs and education they have.

But talks at the federal level seem to be going nowhere. DACA is not perfect. We recognize this. It lacks a clear pathway for immigrants to gain legal citizenship. But doing away with it entirely is not the solution. Trump himself has endorsed a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

What America needs is for Congress to edit and improve the already existing program and not threaten the way of life that “Dreamers” have been living for years. The benefit of having “Dreamers” is something that is well-acknowledged and accepted.

What we need is Congress to put aside their political differences and stop making it a partisan issue.

Melissa Gomez	Abby Miller	Caitlin Ostroff	Jimena Tavel
EDITOR	OPINIONS EDITOR	MANAGING EDITOR, ONLINE	MANAGING EDITOR, PRINT

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Column

Let's continue to fight for our reproductive rights on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade

Anti-abortion folks never cease to amaze in the tactics they use to prevent access to this entirely lawful procedure. From protesters harassing women and workers at abortion clinics to state-sponsored fake medical centers that attempt to trick and shame women out of abortions, our access is also obstructed by laws leading to too few abortion clinics in our state — resulting in women traveling long distances and taking off multiple days of work — and abortions themselves costing hundreds of dollars. To make access to abortion a reality for all women, we need free abortion on demand. To make that a reality, women must fight back.

This Saturday, National Women’s Liberation (NWL) will celebrate the 45th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the United States Supreme Court decision that legalized a woman’s right to an abortion, as well as the organizing that led to that decision and all the organizing efforts since then to protect it.

Gainesville is the birthplace of second-wave feminism organizing in the south, and here, feminist organizers have been fighting for decades.

Most recently, on Jan. 9, a local abortion provider won against the state in Gainesville Woman Care, LLC v. State of Florida, when a Florida court struck down a 24-hour waiting period for abortions. This recent win was legally possible because the Florida Constitution grants a right to privacy that is similar to the federal-level protection, but stronger. This right to privacy is the primary reason Floridians aren’t subjected to even more extreme regulations other states face, such as 72-hour waiting periods in North Carolina, verbal counseling that



Jennifer C. Boylan
opinions@alligator.org

life begins at conception in Indiana, or informational pamphlets in Texas which tell lies about abortions causing breast cancer.

Our Florida constitutional right to privacy gives a woman’s right to an abortion more protection, but that protection is still under attack. This year, the Constitutional Revision Commission is meeting and is considering changes to Florida’s right to privacy that would weaken our right to abortion. Its

proposed changes will be placed on the November 2018 election ballot. The commission only meets once every 20 years, and its public hearings are held during the work day. NWL organizers will go to the commission hearing in Jacksonville on Feb. 20 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., to put on record our support for a strong right to privacy provision and protection for our right to abortion. If you want to join us, email us at nwl@womensliberation.org.

In the meantime, celebrate feminists organizing wins for reproductive rights. On Saturday at 7 p.m., join NWL at The Woolly, 20 N. Main St., for the 45th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Enjoy amazing feminist bands, meet tireless social justice groups from around Gainesville, see our guerilla theater and raise money for NWL to continue our organizing. The show event is open to all ages. More information is available at www.womensliberation.org.

The only way to protect and expand our reproductive rights is to fight for them and support movement groups. NWL hopes you’ll join us — or another social justice group — and find your own place in the movement.

Jennifer C. Boylan is a UF postdoctoral scholar and a Steering Committee Member of National Women’s Liberation (NWL).

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

Letter to the Editor

UF Student Body Treasurer disaffiliates from Impact Party, announces affiliation with Inspire Party

As a first-generation college student I was eager to learn about all of the different opportunities that UF presented both academically and professionally — not only for myself, but for every student. I viewed each position in leadership and campus involvement as an opportunity to make a positive difference in my peers' lives, make their experiences better, and to encourage them to become the best versions of themselves. This is ultimately what led me on my path to Student Government — knowing leadership was my best chance at a meaningful way to create lasting change for my peers and the students who would come after us.

I joined Impact with the intent of facilitating positive change, and as I grew to work with the people involved I learned that our goals may have been the same, but our paths were not. I came to the realization that for them — for Impact — everything in SG was going to happen through business: Their concern quickly became prioritizing politics over people and pride over progress.

I have witnessed countless students become marginalized by Impact's administration, including myself. Impact leadership gave positions in order to fill quotas. Its seemingly diverse membership gave Impact leadership the ability to employ diversity as a buzzword in their marketing because there was a body of people that could be pointed at should the party's commitment to equality come

into question. This is to say that our voices and perspectives were not entirely valued. Impact treated many among its ranks as though they were there to fill seats rather than to make a difference. My authority was consistently undermined by exclusive meetings and by political positioning meant to discredit me. I was not welcomed as an equal, but I was treated like a distant observer behind the shadows of Impact's operations.

Impact claims that it works to serve the students, but my experience suggests otherwise. I have consistently witnessed its administration delay actions and hinder progress in order to cripple bipartisanship because of the party's inability to receive all of the glory for key initiatives. I sincerely believe that student leadership should not be about blind allegiance to a party or desperate pursuits of positions, but I believe that student leadership should be about using platforms to positively influence students' lives. I became uncomfortable in Impact's ranks; it became draining to put on an Impact shirt because I did not believe in Impact. I had to keep reminding myself that it was not about me, but it was about the students that I had the opportunity to serve.

Members of Impact leadership are not all nefarious; however, I believe the culture within the party has lost sight of its purpose. Impact's members understand that if they follow the party's rules, it will help them reach their personal goals. They become willing to compromise what they believe

in so they can reach these goals. They become awestruck by the promises the party makes them, so they turn blind eyes to the injustices happening around them. The work becomes about the empty promises the party makes.

I refuse to turn a blind eye to the injustices that I have witnessed Impact commit — it is for this reason that I have chosen to disaffiliate from Impact. I will, however, continue my term as Student Body Treasurer. To me, leaving my position would only serve as a buyout to the contract that I have with the Student Body. I will remain unwavering in my service to all students.

I want to create a sustainable means of ensuring that all voices are heard and that all students have equal opportunity. It is for this outcome that I have chosen to cast my lot with Inspire Party. Inspire Party is composed of students with genuine intentions to bring accountability, inclusivity and transparency to SG. I have witnessed their effort as a minority party to give a voice to the voiceless — to the everyday Gator. I believe in their purpose, and I recognize that building a party around these values has a greater promise of longevity in serving students than an independent affiliation ever could. I am looking forward to what we can accomplish together for the benefit of the Student Body.

Revel Lubin is the UF Student Body Treasurer.

Letter to the Editor

My period started an hour ago

It came two days later than it was "supposed" to. Like many women, my period's schedule has never been particularly predictable. Without birth control, mine would arrive weeks late or early, last many days longer than it should and come with excruciating pain.

I'm lucky. I have access to birth control, and it works for me. Some women cannot afford the kind they need. Others are still looking for the kind that may actually help them. Sometimes, even when we have birth control and it does help, our period still hits us two days late with a wave of cramping pain that makes you want to sit at a computer and rant about it.

An hour ago, when I felt that wave, I went to the bathroom, sulked for a minute, then did what I had to do. I reached for a pad that I received from the Field and Fork Pantry on campus, where menstrual products are often offered for free, if available.

I was a freshman when the pantry didn't exist. I remember sitting in the bathroom at the Hub and calming myself down from a panic attack because my period came early again. The P.O.D. Market was right around the corner, but first, I had to carefully wind up the thin toilet paper, hoping my makeshift diaper would prevent any bleed-throughs as I made the quick trip to purchase the cheapest product there. The package I bought came with only five pads. That would last me two days if I was lucky.

When these problems caused a late homework submission or a missed quiz, I fought with myself over whether I should drop the p-word to my male teacher who I barely knew in order to provide a legitimate excuse, or try to convince

him that I somehow got sick again with no doctor's note.

What's a doctor's note for a period emergency? My P.O.D. receipt?

The initiative started by Gators Matter, Period, provided me with immense hope for a university community that finally showed compassion and understanding for students who found themselves in similar situations. I knew the Field and Fork Pantry offered some products, but their supply is never guaranteed, and their allotted quota for students of three hygiene products per weekly visit is not enough for the average menstrual cycle. A guaranteed availability of products across campus would undeniably improve the educational experiences of all genders.

The SG budget committee's unanimous vote against providing free menstrual products to students is outrageous, and its comments from its 20-minute deliberations are disgusting.

I should not have to justify how this helps men, too. The students who don't use gyms are not consulted before planning new gyms. When it came to deciding which library or study center would be kept open for 24/7 access, no one sought to find the opinions of students who preferred studying at home.

Among the growing #MeToo and #TimesUp movements trying to bring women's voices to the forefront of social action, UF is still holding back on decisions meant to help women over concerns for what men prefer. The budget committee members owe the Student Body an apology and a reconsideration of this necessity in order to adequately serve the majority of their constituents.

Megan Newsome is a 21-year-old UF astrophysics graduate student.

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Indie rockers Prawn, Dikembe and more to perform

By Emma Witmer

Avenue Writer

Indie rock bands Prawn, Dikembe, Caravela and Alumine are set to take the stage at downtown venue Loosey's on Friday night.

Loosey's is a downtown staple located at 120 SW 1st Ave. The bar and venue is known for good drinks and good company. Friday's show kicks off at 9 p.m. with an \$8 admission fee to those ages 18 and up.

Both Dikembe and Alumine are local Gainesville performers. Alumine is the stage name for friends and bandmates Alumine Soto and Pedro Sanchez.

Soto was born in Argentina and grew up in Miami, adding a Latin flare to the band's indie sound. Soto, who first started learning guitar at 13, said he was never the standout musician among his friends. Still, there was something that connected with him about making music that was more than just a hobby.

"I just got really in sync with the creative outlet aspect of it really young. I just felt like I could express myself," Soto said. "All the kids that I was learning guitar with were playing a certain type of music, and I was always kind of shying away from that and focusing on learning chords and singing."

Soto said that for the boys of Alumine, music is inevitable. Regardless of commercial success, both Soto and Sanchez are devoted to giving music their everything: time, money and focus.

"Music shapes my entire experience,"

Soto said.

Following the release of their debut self-titled extended play in March 2017, Alumine toured the West Coast for the first time last year. Now, the boys of Alumine have their sights set on an international tour, including stops in Canada and Mexico.

Although the band is hesitant to release too many details, Soto said fans should expect some major announcements in the next month or so via the band's social media.

Caravela is made up of brothers Frank and Stephen Graniero. Born in suburban New York near the Hudson River Valley, the two have been playing music as long as they can remember. Frank says they were practically born with guitars in their hands.

Though the brothers played in separate bands in their high school years, they always found themselves playing together one way or another. Now, Frank said he couldn't imagine playing with anyone but Stephen.

"It's amazing," Frank said of working with his brother. "He's the best partner I could ask for in this crazy music game that we're doing."

In March, Caravela released their single "Champagne," the first piece of a larger project that Frank said has been in the works for nearly two years. Now it is nearly complete. Caravela is preparing to release their next full-length album within the next few months.

"It's the closest to our most authentic sound," Frank said. "We just can't wait to play these songs live."



Courtesy to the Alligator

New Jersey-born band Prawn will hit Gainesville this week, with local groups Dikembe, Alumine and more set to offer opening support.

Frank said that Caravela's set at Loosey's will be jam-packed with the new and unreleased tracks.

The members of Prawn and the Graniero brothers have been friends for years, even sharing a house in Brooklyn some time ago. Now, Caravela is joining Prawn on their national tour that includes this stop in Gainesville.

The drive to create and share music is

like an addiction for Frank. The connection that music creates with others and the feeling that it produces keeps him coming back for more.

"It's like there's no better feeling than when you write that part that you didn't see coming that takes you to a place that you've kind of always dreamed about and never knew," Frank said. "It's a feeling that I'm constantly chasing."

First Magnitude Springs Run to expand into Springs Fest

By Taylor McLamb

Avenue Writer

For the first time ever, First Magnitude Brewing Company's popular 7.2K Springs Run, which raises money for springs protection, will be followed by Springs Fest, a fun day full of activities. After breaking a sweat for water preservation, Gainesville residents will be able to enjoy some art, have a beer and listen to live music Saturday.

According to a Facebook post, artists and craft vendors Curtis Whitwam, Jenna Horner Art and Crooked Path Forge will be in attendance in addition to family friendly workshops. The Florida Springs Institute will also show a documentary teaching attendees about springs conservation.

The annual Springs Run benefits the Howard T. Odum Florida Springs Institute, an educational non-profit in High Springs dedicated to ensuring the restoration of the Florida springs.

Amelia Cecilia, a 24-year-old Gainesville resident, praised the importance of the Florida Springs Insti-



Courtesy to the Alligator

First Magnitude Brewing Company's annual Springs Run will get a whole lot bigger this weekend, with the event expanding into an all-day event called Springs Fest.

tute and how having events like this can help strengthen our community.

"It's important to get together as a community for this event because we all share this planet, and we all share the water," Cecilia said. "It is all of our responsibilities to maintain our local ecology and do our best to leave the planet better than

it was when we got here."

Cecilia owns a small business called The Comfort Zone, which focuses on providing event service geared toward creating a safe and comfortable environment for children and families. She will be at Springs Fest painting faces and facilitating arts and crafts to ensure a

kid-friendly vibe at First Magnitude.

Cecilia said she will provide the kids with crayons and markers for coloring and that she plans on making sun-catchers and spirit flags as well.

"Other amenities I plan on providing include a reading corner and kid friendly beverages and, of

course, face painting," said Cecilia. "It should be fun."

The party will continue after the sun goes down. There will be live music from popular bands Aquanova, Locochino, Observatory, Noah Mac Music, The Funky Miracle and new Gainesville band Headstash.

"I think I am most excited to see Headstash," Cecilia said. "They're a fairly new band that is full of talent and heart. I'm also excited for the Funky Miracle because I just saw The Meters in St. Pete last weekend, and I'm still ready to boogie down."

Similarly to the Springs Run, a \$10 donation at the Springs Fest will account for discounts on beer and art while supporting the Florida Springs Institute.

"They are doing a great job of educating people on the importance of protecting our water sources, and they are doing the best they can to combat overpopulation and climate change through education and awareness," Cecilia said.

Springs Fest 2018 will be at First Magnitude from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. directly after the annual 7.2K Springs Run.



Keep up with the Avenue on Twitter. Tweet us @TheFloridaAve.

Check out upcoming January events: From music to yoga, see upcoming events, pg. 9

The Avenue reviews 'The Post'

A writer's take on how the movie depicts a monumental moment, pg. 10

MUSIC

The Top to host Winter barbecue benefitting local shelter

By Gabriella Paul
Avenue Writer

This weekend at the Depot Event Space, you can find beers and briskets that will give hope to the homeless.

Local restaurant The Top is hosting a winter barbecue at 201 SE Depot Ave. on Saturday, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. to benefit Grace Marketplace, a local homeless shelter.

Admission to the event grants you full access to an all-you-can-eat barbecue, including Texas-style brisket and St. Louis-cut ribs, along with bottomless beer provided by a handful of local breweries, like First Magnitude Brewing Company and Cigar City, according to the event's website.

Bailey Bruce, the events director for The Top, said there are a limited number of tickets.

"We're not trying to do, you know, this massive festival for the entire northeast of Florida," Bruce said. "This is something we'd like for it to be intimate."

People interested in attending are encouraged to buy pre-sale tickets, available online at depotwinterbbq.brownpapertickets.com for \$35 before fees until Thursday at 2 p.m.

Bruce said that the vision for the winter barbecue was not to make a profit, but to provide the community with a quality experience while giving back to a local nonprofit organization.

"We wanted the money coming from this event to go into someone else's pockets," Bruce said.

Grace Marketplace is a nonprofit homeless assistance shelter in northeast Gainesville that is completely funded by local sources, state and

federal grants and private donations.

"We definitely see a homeless population in Gainesville that is not getting enough support," Bruce said. "We visually see it every day."

He said they're excited to support Grace Marketplace because they have a great mission.

"It just felt right," Bruce said. "They do something really important for our community. These are human beings that deserve help."

Jon DeCarmine, the director of Grace Marketplace, said everything they do is a community effort.

"Anytime folks from the community recognize the value of what we do and are willing to use their resources to help us and homelessness — it makes everything we do easier to achieve," DeCarmine said.

DeCarmine has been with Grace Marketplace since it opened in 2014, but was involved with planning stages as far back as 2005.

"I think about when my kids ask me why people are homeless when there are so many empty houses in our community," DeCarmine said. "There's really no good answer for that."

DeCarmine said Grace Marketplace is a one-stop homeless assistance shelter and emergency center on a 25-acre campus. The organization and its partnering agencies provide Gainesville's homeless population with a variety of services every day, from laundry and showers to legal service and health care, according to its website.

DeCarmine said that every night, Grace Marketplace offers 113 beds in what is known as a low-barrier setting.

"That means we provide services to anybody wherever they are — we

don't have requirements for people doing chores or having income, or any of the other restrictions that some other shelters have in place that prevent people from getting the help they need," he said. "Instead, we focus entirely on how we can move someone from the streets into permanent housing as quickly as possible."

Since opening four years ago, Grace Marketplace has moved 400 people into permanent housing, 80 percent of whom remain housed a year later, he said.

"And so that tells us that not only are we having an immediate impact, but also a long-term, sustainable impact," he said. DeCarmine said The Top has been a huge supporter of Grace Marketplace in the past and he's excited to continue the relationship.

"They're a model of what downtown business relationships with organizations working to end homelessness could be," DeCarmine said.

DeCarmine is attending the barbecue himself, and he expects most people attending to walk away with a better understanding of what our local homeless population looks like.

"Right now there are about 800 men and women on the street in Alachua County," DeCarmine said. "And unfortunately, the folks who are out panhandling tend to be 100 percent of who people see and recognize as homeless."

DeCarmine said events like this provide the Gainesville community with an opportunity to contribute in a way they can feel great about.

"If any community can end homelessness, Gainesville is the one that can do it," he said.

Courtesy to the Alligator

This weekend, local favorite The Top will host its winter barbecue, which seeks to give back to the homeless by donating proceeds to Grace Marketplace.

January Event Calendar: Who to see and where to see them

By Natalie Rao
Avenue Editor

Between musicians, storytellers, yoga instructors and more, Gainesville is bursting at the seams with events of all kinds for January. Although some of these events get covered extensively each week within Avenue, there are many more that deserve some attention.

Here's a handful of must-see shows, talks and other events set for the second half of this month.

Thursday, Jan. 18: Story Summit at Heartwood Soundstage

In an event that's slightly different from the norm, Heartwood Soundstage will host its Story Summit on Thursday. Some of Gainesville's best storytellers will come out to share personal narratives. Gail Johnson, a local woman running for Gainesville City Commission At-Large Seat 1, will also be there to tell a story of her own. Tickets are available at eventbrite.com for \$15 and \$20 on the day of the show.

Wednesday, Jan. 24: BUKU and YOGA at Plaza of the Americas

Courtesy to the Alligator

Blunts & Blondes will hit Gainesville next week in Lucid Nightlife's "Hometown Heroes" series, which gives attention to talented producers and DJs from the Florida area.

For the music and yoga lovers (and those on a budget), UF student Krista Kingsbury is hosting a free Vinyasa-style yoga class on campus next Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The event also serves as a precursor to Buku Music + Art Project, a vibrant

New Orleans-based music festival that will take place on March 9 and 10, which conveniently falls during UF's Spring Break. Attendees can practice their skills and hear music from Buku performers throughout the class.

Friday, Jan. 26: Flipturn, Arrows in Action and more at The Atlantic

Local indie rockers and Swamp Records band Flipturn will bring their talents to The Atlantic on Friday along with Arrows in Action and more. Florida music festival Okeechobee announced last week that Flipturn earned a spot to perform at March's four-day event, and the band will no doubt be riding high from that news at the show. Tickets are available for \$8 at showlix.com and \$12 at the door the night of the show.

Friday, Jan. 26: Blunts & Blondes at Simon's

Rising Tampa-based producer Blunts & Blondes will hit Simon's Nightclub next Friday as a part of Lucid Nightlife's "Hometown Heroes" Concert Series. In addition to opening for artists known around the world, Blunts & Blondes has performed at festivals across the southeast such as Okeechobee Music Festival and Imagine Music Festival. With a heavily bass-influenced sound, the artist is sure to bring the energy for local electronic lovers and more. Tickets are available at eventbrite.com for \$12 to \$23.

Review: Streep and Hanks in 'The Post' support the press

By Alex Watson Tremellen
Avenue Writer

Steven Spielberg's "The Post" serves as a timely reminder that the press must hold its government accountable no matter how much those in power wish to silence it. The film chronicles The Washington Post's pivotal decision to publish the infamous Pentagon Papers, a study of classified documents that revealed the U.S. escalated involvement in the Vietnam War despite knowing it was unwinnable.

In 1967, Secretary of Defense

Robert McNamara (Bruce Greenwood) commissioned the study, which was set to remain classified until the war's end.

But in 1969, Daniel Ellsberg (Matthew Rhys), a study contributor, became opposed to the war and felt the public deserved to know the study's results. He leaked the documents to several newspapers in 1971.

This preface is summarized within the first five minutes of the movie, which speaks on the earnestness of "The Post."

Once the movie settles down, the narrative focuses on the paper's ex-

ecutive editor Ben Bradlee's (Tom Hanks) and publisher Katharine "Kay" Graham's (Meryl Streep) decision on whether to expose the duplicity of the government.

When Nixon's White House obtains an injunction, forcing The New York Times to stop printing, Ellsberg gives The Post's national editor Ben Bagdikian (Bob Odenkirk) a copy of the papers to ensure they are published.

Bradlee's struggle with the question of whether to publish or wait for the Supreme Court's ruling on the constitutionality of the injunction is

complicated by a number of factors — one being potential jail time.

"The Post" is not only a story about the importance of protecting the Fourth Estate but also a story of a woman finding her voice. At first, Streep portrays Graham as a woman still coming to terms with the amount of power she holds. While sitting in a room discussing publication details, Streep nervously fidgets and searches for an opportunity to get a word in with her all-male board of directors.

When Graham is forced to decide if the paper will publish the papers,

Streep asserts Graham's voice when it's needed most. She sticks by her choice to publish the papers even when all the men around her, albeit Bradlee, insist it will destroy the company.

Hanks truly captures Bradlee's endearing nature as the commander of a freewheeling newsroom. Nevertheless, his performance is no match to that of Streep's layered, vulnerable and subtle portrayal of Graham.

"The Post" encourages today's journalists to continue their work and to deliver the objective truth no matter the cost.

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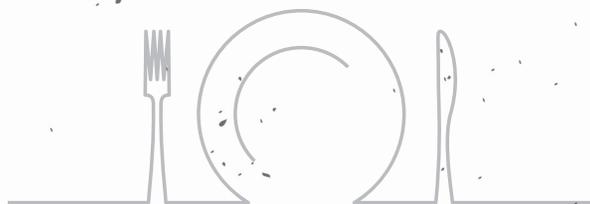
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| 3 Sublease | 8 Electronics | 13 Wanted | 18 Personals | 23 Rides |
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A ₁	I ₁	O ₁	U ₁	T ₁	T ₁	W ₄			
A ₁	O ₁	U ₁	R ₁	T ₁	H ₄	L ₁			
O ₁	O ₁	H ₄	N ₁	R ₁	C ₃	B ₃	1st Letter Triple		
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01-17

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Which 18th-century statesman and inventor sometimes used the pen name "Silence Dogood" in his writings?
- GEOGRAPHY: How many emirates make up the United Arab Emirates?
- AUTOS: What does the name Volkswagen mean in German?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first Roman Catholic to become vice president of the United States?
- ARCHITECTURE: What is the location of the Pitti Palace, built mainly during the Renaissance?
- MOVIES: What was the name of the monkey in the Disney movie "Aladdin"?
- GOVERNMENT: Which amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees a speedy public trial for criminal offenses?
- MUSIC: In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," what was the gift on the seventh day?
- U.S. STATES: What is the smallest state in land area?
- HISTORY: What Greek statesman was considered the greatest of all orators?

- Answers**
- Benjamin Franklin
 - Seven
 - The people's car
 - Joe Biden
 - Florence, Italy
 - Abu
 - Sixth Amendment
 - Swans
 - Rhode Island
 - Demosthenes
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H F E C N B Z Y W L E N V Y G
U S R C H A R A C T E R I T U
N O I T A P I C N A M E D R R
Q P I H N N M O D E E R F E T
M A L O D R E H T E G O T B S
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Y A D E N O E E R F H F E L D

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Character	Equal	Freedom	Liberty
Civil rights	Faith	Hope	Struggle
Dream	Free at last	Join hands	Together
Emancipation	Free one day	Justice	

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Short-handed Gators face Arkansas tonight at O'Dome

By **Andrew Huang**
Sports Writer

The list of injuries was already long for the Florida men's basketball team.

Senior center John Egbunu (6-foot-11, 265 pounds): 17 games missed.

Freshman forward Isaiah Stokes (6-foot-8, 270 pounds): 17 games missed.

Freshman forward Chase Johnson (6-foot-9, 205 pounds): 13 games missed.

Then, at the start of SEC play, sophomore center Gorjok Gak (6-foot-11, 245 pounds) and freshman guard Deaundrae Ballard (6-foot-5, 195 pounds) were added to that list, missing time for various health reasons.

But when Florida (12-5, 4-1 SEC) hosts Arkansas (12-5, 2-3 SEC) tonight at 7, none of that will matter.

Not the fact that in addition to missing Egbunu, Gak — the only other true center on the roster — will likely be sidelined with a concussion.

Not the fact that the size already lost in the frontcourt could be worsened by the absence of Ballard, one of the team's taller guards, who is listed as questionable with flu-like symp-

toms.

Not the fact that those five players have missed a combined 50 games this year, forcing their teammates still standing to pull their weight and then some.

Coach Mike White will look for his short-handed team to play consistent defense against a Razorbacks squad that ranks second in the SEC with 85.1 points per game.

"They're very much up-tempo, but they'll also try to pound you in the paint a little bit," White said. "(Daniel) Gafford has been terrific," he added, calling the 6-foot-11 Arkansas forward one of the top young frontcourt talents in college basketball.

The Gators' offense isn't far behind, sitting at third in the SEC with 81.6 points per game. The infusion of transfer guards Jalen Hudson and Egor Koulechov has been a big part of Florida's offensive success. Hudson leads the team with 16.2 points per game, while Koulechov is second with 15.2 points per game.

White expects a fast-paced game, and with both teams ranking in the bottom half nationally in scoring defense, the Gators and the Razorbacks

SEE **M-BBALL**, PAGE 16



Alan Alvarez / Alligator Staff

Florida men's basketball coach Mike White and the rest of the Gators are entering today's contest against Arkansas short-handed, with as many as five players expected to sit out.

MEN'S TENNIS

Gators competing in main draw of Sunrise tourney

By **Benjamin Brandt**
Sports Writer

After a day of rain and four rounds of competitive qualifying play over the weekend, two Florida men's tennis players will battle in the City of Sunrise Pro Tennis Classic's main draw this morning.

Freshmen Duarte Vale and Oliver Crawford will represent the Gators as the youngest of 32 players in the tournament.

Eight of the 10 players on UF's roster participated in the event's qualifying rounds, with junior Alfredo Perez resting for Monday's home opener against UCF and redshirt senior Joshua Wardell out due to a season-ending injury.

Two rounds into last weekend's action, six Gators remained unbeaten. But third-round losses from senior Chase Perez-Blanco, junior McClain Kessler

and sophomore Johannes Ingildsen left only the two freshmen and senior Jordan Belga undefeated.

Belga fell in the final round of his bracket to Crawford (6-1, 6-1).

Crawford is scheduled to play the 512th world-ranked singles player, Fred Gil of Portugal. The match will mark Crawford's greatest challenge so far in his first season with Florida.

Vale's first round opponent is Strong Kirchheimer, who played the No. 1 singles court at Northwestern before graduating last year. In November, Kirchheimer held a top-900 singles ranking in the world.

The two will play no sooner than 11 a.m. and will be immediately followed by Crawford's match against Gil.

@bhb1227
bbrandt@alligator.org

Morgan Meets the Eye / Opinion

Let's talk about race in NFL broadcasting

In games that I have no emotional stake in, I root for chaos. And punts — both blocked and returned — provide a good chance of something ridiculous happening.

Having learned this stupid fact, there's one moment that stands out to me during the crazy NFC divisional playoff game between Minnesota and New Orleans.

No, not the Diggs catch and run. Not even the goosebump-inducing chants of, "SKOL! SKOL!" ringing throughout U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis before the kneel down on the extra point.

I'm thinking about a pivotal moment that happened earlier in the fourth quarter.

With 5:28 remaining and the Vikings up 20-14, the Saints forced a fourth-and-14 punt. On the snap, Saints defensive end George Johnson got penetration up the middle, jabbed his left hand toward Vikings punter Ryan Quigley's right foot and blocked the punt. The ball was recovered at the Minnesota 40-yard line, and the Saints took the lead shortly after.



Morgan McMullen

twitter: @MorganMcMuffin

The 30-year-old Johnson is on his fourth team, having not started a single game in eight of his nine NFL seasons. It was a great play that merited attention and praise.

In the moment, however, he received relatively little of either.

The Fox broadcasting team of Joe Buck and Troy Aikman was too busy fawning over a Saints

player coming off the edge, Taysom Hill.

Hill is a third-string quarterback who coach Sean Payton likes to use in special teams packages. He was also credited initially by Buck and Aikman for blocking the punt.

After the replay showed that was not the case, Buck hastily corrected himself. Hill didn't block it, he said, but his *motor* and his *heart* certainly contributed. Buck and Aikman proceeded to practically bend over backwards to give Hill credit for that block.

Hill is a white man. Johnson is black. Do you see what I'm getting at here?

This wasn't the first instance of this sort of

SEE **COLUMN**, PAGE 16



Florida's football team, led by new strength and conditioning coach **Nick Savage**, began its offseason conditioning program on Tuesday morning, going on a 2.2-mile run around campus.

Gators rank No. 1 in preseason poll

Florida's baseball team was ranked No. 1 in *D1Baseball.com's* preseason poll released on Tuesday. UF is coming off its first national championship in program history, sweeping LSU, 2-0, in the 2017 College World Series Final.

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For updates on UF athletics, follow us on Twitter at @alligatorSports or online at www.alligator.org/sports



GATORS IN THE NFL

Fowler Jr. fired up as Jags advance to AFC Championship



The Associated Press

Former Florida defensive end Dante Fowler Jr. didn't mince words after the Jaguars' 45-42 playoff win over Pittsburgh on Sunday. "For everybody that was down on us, they can eat that," he said.

By Tyler Nettuno
Sports Writer

When it came to addressing the NFL community that had overlooked his team all season, former Florida and current Jacksonville Jaguars defensive end Dante Fowler Jr. did not mince words.

"We're a Super Bowl-contending team," Fowler Jr. said after the game, according to the Florida Times-Union's Phillip Heilman. "For everybody that was down on us, they can eat that. They can take all that s--- and shove it up their a--."

In addition to his fiery rhetoric, Fowler Jr. also recorded one tackle in the Jaguars' thrilling 45-42 upset win on the road over the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday in the divisional round of the playoffs.

On the other side of the ball, former Florida offensive linemen Marcus Gilbert and Maurkice Pouncey helped Pittsburgh keep Jacksonville's defense — which ranked second in the NFL in sacks this season — in check, only giving up two sacks in the loss. That protection allowed Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger to torch the Jaguars secondary for 469 yards and five touchdowns. Gilbert exited the game in the first half and was placed under the NFL's concussion protocol. He did not return.

For Pittsburgh, former Gators cornerback Joe Haden also had four tackles and a pass deflection.

Fowler Jr., alongside his former college teammate outside linebacker Lerentee McCray, will take on the defending Super Bowl champion New England Patriots in the AFC Championship this weekend.

The duo is a component of Jacksonville's physical front seven that has led the team to its first AFC Championship appearance since the 1999 season, as well as a shot at its first Super Bowl appearance in franchise history.

In Philadelphia, safety Keanu Neal gave the Atlanta Falcons momentum early on, recovering a fumble in the first minute of the game after Ricardo Allen laid a hard hit on Eagles running back Jay Ajayi.

Neal recorded six tackles in the game, including one tackle for loss. His teammate, Falcons cornerback and former Florida player Brian Poole, recorded three tackles.

However, Neal was also responsible for one of Atlanta's costliest gaffs when he failed to intercept an errant pass from Nick Foles, instead allowing the ball to bounce off his knee and into the open arms of Philadelphia receiver Torrey Smith for a 20-yard gain.

The Eagles eventually won the game 15-10, due in large part to their lone touchdown of the contest: a 1-yard rush on fourth and goal from LeGarrette Blount. Former Gator Trey Burton lined up in front of Blount in the I-formation and provided a key block that led to the touchdown.

Burton and the Eagles will take on the Minnesota Vikings at home on Sunday in the NFC Championship. Philadelphia will attempt to return to the Super Bowl for the first time since the 2004 season, when it lost to New England in Super Bowl XXXIX.

@TylerNettuno
tnettuno@alligator.org

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Gators struggle in season-opening Freeman Memorial

By River Wells
Sports Writer

Of the four Florida women's tennis players who competed in the Freeman Memorial in Las Vegas over the weekend, three of them were freshmen looking to make an immediate impact on the team. Overall, UF's first-year players mostly fell flat.

Victoria Emma was the lone bright spot for Florida, making it all the way to the semifinals before falling to UCLA's Jada Hart (6-1, 6-4). She only played two matches to get there, however, as a walkover in the first round gave her a bye.

The other two freshmen competing — McCartney Kessler and Katie Kubicz — were eliminated in the first round of the tournament. Kessler dropped her match to North Carolina's Alexa Graham (6-1, 4-6, 6-4), while Kubicz fell to UNLV's Izumi Asano (6-4, 6-3).

Kessler made it to the semifinals in the consolation bracket but was disqualified from the match. Kubicz won her first match in consolation play against Stanford's Naomie Rosenberg (6-4, 6-3), but was quickly defeated in the ensuing round by Petra Granic of Texas (6-3, 6-2).

Peggy Porter, the lone senior of the group, had arguably the worst performance of the week-

end. Porter was eliminated in the first round of the regular bracket by Oklahoma State's Vladica Babic (6-3, 6-2) before losing again in the first round of the consolation bracket to Pepperdine's Evgeniya Levashova (6-0, 6-1).

The doubles draw didn't look much better. The team of Porter and Kubicz was eliminated in the first round by North Carolina's Makenna Jones and Chloe Ouellet-Pizer (7-5) and the team of Emma and Kessler was also eliminated in the first round by Caroline Lampl and Kimberly Yee of Stanford (6-4). Porter and Kubicz made it to the semifinals in the consolation bracket but were defeated by UNLV's Anna Bogoslavets and Samantha Li (6-3).

"We learned a lot from this weekend and I think everyone's determined to work really hard to get ready for the season," coach Roland Thornqvist said in a release. "Although our performances were too up and down, there's no question we have the ability to improve a lot in the next few weeks."

Florida will come back home to Gainesville for ITA Kick-Off Weekend starting Jan. 27 when it goes up against Cal State Fullerton.

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THIS WEEK IN UF SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. ARKANSAS, 7 P.M., ESPN2

MEN'S TENNIS @ ITF FUTURES, ALL DAY

THURSDAY, JAN. 18

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL @ ARKANSAS, 7 P.M., SEC NETWORK

*MEN'S TENNIS @ ITF FUTURES, ALL DAY

FRIDAY, JAN. 19

GYMNASTICS @ KENTUCKY, 7 P.M., SEC NETWORK

*MEN'S TENNIS @ ITF FUTURES, ALL DAY

MEN'S/WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD @ CLEMSON INVITATIONAL, ALL DAY

SATURDAY, JAN. 20

MEN'S/WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING VS. AUBURN, NOON

MEN'S BASKETBALL @ KENTUCKY, 8:15 P.M., ESPN

*MEN'S TENNIS @ ITF FUTURES, ALL DAY

MEN'S/WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD @ CLEMSON INVITATIONAL, ALL DAY

SUNDAY, JAN. 21

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. OLE MISS, 1 P.M., SEC NETWORK

*MEN'S TENNIS @ ITF FUTURES, ALL DAY

*If Necessary

White is undefeated against the Razorbacks

M-BBALL, from pg 14

could end up in a shootout.

UF will follow the lead of point guard Chris Chiozza, who has flourished in his first season running the Gators' offense full time. The senior is averaging career highs in points, assists, rebounds and steals.

Forward Keith Stone and center/forward Kevarius Hayes have held their own anchor-

ing the team's thin frontcourt. Both Stone and Hayes have seen significant increases in playing time as their fellow bigs recover from injury.

Stone has shaken off a slow start to the season, scoring in double figures each of the last four games, including a career-high 23 in Saturday's loss to Ole Miss. In UF's previous 13 games, Stone only scored more than 10 points once.

"(Stone is) playing with a high level of in-

tensity," White said. "He's flying to the offensive glass. He's improving weekly defensively as well."

Hayes has not provided the same scoring boost as Stone, but his 2.3 blocks per game lead the team and rank tied for third in the SEC. Hayes is also second on the team in steals, trailing only Chiozza.

The two SEC foes will meet tonight riding opposite waves of momentum. The Gators suffered their first conference loss of the sea-

son last weekend against Ole Miss, 78-72, snapping a six-game winning streak, while the Razorbacks are coming off a 65-63 win over Missouri to end a three-game losing streak that included a 21-point home loss against LSU.

White is 4-0 against Arkansas during his tenure in Gainesville but downplayed the streak, saying his team is trying to stay in the moment.

"It'll have nothing to do with (this) game," he said.

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The Associated Press

New Orleans Saints third-string quarterback Taysom Hill nearly blocked a punt in Sunday's divisional round playoff game, prompting praise from Fox broadcasters Joe Buck and Troy Aikman.

NFL broadcasters need to watch their word choice

COLUMN, from pg 14

language used to describe players of different races, and it certainly won't be the last.

For example, I've heard some of these words attached to players like Tom Brady or Julian Edelman: *Scrappy. Film buff. Competitor.*

Let's compare that with adjectives used to describe players like Richard Sherman or Dez Bryant: *Hot-headed. Freakish. Outspoken.*

Hill is a great athlete, sure. Check out some of his highlight reels from his days at BYU if you don't believe me. But the extent to which Buck and Aikman went out of their way to compliment Hill on that particular play — a play where Hill did not affect the outcome in a meaningful way — is a potential example for the racial bias that exists in sports broadcasting.

The camera operators for Fox followed Hill to the sideline after it was known Johnson was credited for the block. Heck, even the

Saints' and BYU's Twitter feeds gave him the credit without mentioning Johnson.

It's not their fault per se, but they are a symptom of a larger problem in sports. Players like Sherman and Bryant are given so much more grief when they shout at a referee or an opponent than Brady does. Look at how Twitter talked about Sherman's post-game interview after Seattle's 2014 playoff win against San Francisco. Words like *crazy* and *unhinged* immediately pop up.

It's 2018, people. I propose we put these tired clichés to bed. Instead of labeling Marshawn Lynch, one of the nicest, most interesting players in the league, a *thug* or *head case*, we ought to lift him up.

Let's make sure we're accurate with our words. Athletes are people, and they hear and read what we call them.

Morgan McMullen is the Alligator's online sports editor. Contact him at mmcmullen@alligator.org.

The Grog
Bar & Grill
HOUSE

WEDNESDAY LADIES NIGHT

LADIES NIGHT
Free Drinks for Ladies
— Live DJ —

THE SOCIAL

AT MIDTOWN

restaurant & rooftop bar

\$9.99 LUNCH SPECIALS

11 am — 4pm

WEDNESDAY

Cali Steak Wrap

THURSDAY

Cajun Chicken Pasta

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

7pm-12am

\$5 Mac N' Cheese
(Buffalo chicken or BBQ pork)

\$3 Sangria of the week

\$3 Craft Cocktail of the week

\$ Craft Beer of the week

Live DJ 9pm - close

THURSDAY LADIES NIGHT

7pm-12am

\$5 Flat Breads
(Margherita or Buffalo chicken)

\$2 Premium Wells

\$2 Glasses of Wine

Live DJ 9pm - close

THURSDAY NIGHT ROOFTOP PARTY

All You Can Drink Wells @ 10pm - 12pm

Door @ 9pm