



Actor Terry Crews talks success, struggle at UF

By David Hoffman
Alligator Staff Writer

Terry Crews jumped out onto the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts stage screaming, flexed his pecks at the audience and turned back to his interviewer, UF journalism department chair Ted Spiker, for a chest bump.

“Man is it good,” Crews shouted into the microphone at a volume that caused some audience members to jump in their seats. “Lord, I love it.”

The actor, known for his roles in comedy movie “White Chicks” and TV sitcoms “Everybody Hates Chris” and “Brooklyn Nine-Nine,” spoke Tuesday night at the Phillips Center to an audience of about 1,400. Accent Speaker’s Bureau paid Crews \$40,000 for the speaking event, according to Alligator archives. All of the free tickets were given away.

Crews touched on everything from funny Hollywood experiences to his troubled upbringing with an abusive

father.

He recounted how he bombed an audition the same day he landed his role in “White Chicks.” Looking back, he said he knows he failed at the first audition because of the fear and pressure he felt.

“You have to trick your brain because it’s going to betray you,” he said. “You’re going to think, ‘Oh my god, it’s the worst thing ever,’ and it’s actually the best thing for you.”

Crews described how he used comedy growing up to cope with trauma. Some of his earliest memories are of his father shoving his mother to the ground, he said.

Before he and his brother cried or hid in another room, sometimes they would laugh, he said.

“Comedy is a way you keep from going insane,” he said. “It’s a way to process; your brain has to process tragedy.”

Friends Peter Nguyenho and Livia
SEE CREWS, PAGE 5



Nate Bustamante / Alligator Staff

Actor Terry Crews smiles for the crowd as he makes an enthusiastic entrance inside the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts on Tuesday night at the ACCENT Speakers Bureau-hosted event.

Challenge Party announces efforts to rename O’Connell

By Christina Morales
Alligator Staff Writer

The Challenge Party has started a petition to rename the O’Connell Center in a video announcement sent to The Alligator and posted on Facebook on Tuesday.

Janae Moodie, who is running for Student Body president with Challenge, said the video was made to educate students on Ste-

phen C. O’Connell’s restrictions on the black community at UF in the 1970s after they told him about their concerns about safety and inclusivity.

In the video, Moodie spoke about Virgil Hawkins, who was denied admission to the UF College of Law in April 1949 because of his race, according to UF’s website. Moodie said when Hawkins petitioned his rejection to the

Florida Supreme Court, O’Connell was a justice who concurred in the decision.

Challenge’s campaign manager Wayne Selogy said they got the information from “African Americans at the University of Florida,” a history book by Betty J. Stewart-Dowdell and Kevin M. McCarthy published in 2003.

“The main reason we decided to make this one of our first ac-

tion points is because of the sheer mass of people who vocalized this,” Moodie said.

The center is a sports, graduation and concert venue. The UF basketball, gymnastics and swim team currently use the venue. It recently went through a \$64.5 million renovation.

O’Connell started as the university president in 1967, one year after the university was desegre-

gated.

On April 15, 1971, also known as “Black Thursday,” the Black Student Union organized a sit-in in the university for not encouraging black students to enroll or employing more black faculty members, according to UF’s website. O’Connell refused to meet with students, but demonstrators didn’t

SEE O’CONNELL, PAGE 5

Two appointed to UF’s Board of Trustees for 5-year terms Both await Senate confirmation

By Elliott Nasby
Alligator Staff Writer

A former banking executive and an Orlando-based lawyer have been appointed to the Board of Trustees.

If confirmed, banker Thomas Kuntz and attorney Daniel O’Keefe will fill the spots

left open by board members Steven Scott and David Thomas, UF spokesperson Margot Winick wrote in an email.

Trustees volunteer to serve on the board, and therefore they do not get paid. Members serve staggered 5-year terms, according to the current bylaws. The last appointment of new members was in June of

2016, according to Alligator archives.

Both appointees cannot become full members until receiving approval by the Florida Senate, Winick said.

“The university is excited to welcome them to our board,” Winick said. “They bring a wealth of important experience with their leadership.”

O’Keefe, appointed by the Board of Governors, received his business degree in 1990 from UF, where he also attended law

school.

O’Keefe plans to bring his years of business and legal experience to the board position, he wrote in an email.

He is a co-managing partner at Shutts and Bowen LLP’s Orlando office, where he deals with real estate and land usage, and for the past five years, he has also served as chairman of the South Florida Water Management District, which manages wa-

SEE TRUSTEES, PAGE 5

GATORS TAKING ON TIGERS TONIGHT

The Florida men’s basketball team is facing LSU at 6:30 p.m. at the O’Connell Center, pg. 18



A hotel is opening up near The Standard

Visitors will share the parking garage, pg. 8

Check out a guide to Changeville

Artists are going to perform for social change, pg. 13

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Local Events / News in Brief

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Workshops for people seeking legal advice

The Alachua County Library District is partnering with the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association to present a series of workshops called Law in the Library: Restoration of Civil Rights. These will be held 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday at Library Partnership, 4:30-5:45 p.m. March 22 at Library Partnership and 5:30-7 p.m. April 5 at Tower Road Branch. Josiah T. Walls Bar Association attorneys and UF Levin College of Law students will provide one-on-one assistance to people who have been convicted of a felony and are interested in applying to have their civil rights restored. They will also meet with people who are interested in having their records sealed or expunged. These presentations are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. For more information, visit aclib.us/law or call 352-334-3900.

Free Citizenship classes

The Latina Women's League will offer free citizenship classes 6-7:30 p.m. every Thursday until March 29 at the Millhopper Library Branch, located at 3145 NW 43rd St. To register, email info@latinawomensleague.org.

Camp GatorNights

The Reitz Union will hold Camp GatorNights on Friday night. The event will allow students to relive summer camp memories by creating friendship bracelets, work on nature-weaving and paint rocks. The event will also feature four square, tetherball and an obstacle course, as well as a tent-building contest. Treats

at the event will include s'mores and a trail mix bar. GatorNights is always Friday, always free for UF students with their Gator 1 Card. Attendees must be current students, and they're allowed to bring a maximum of one guest.

Stomp the Swamp for Autism

Impact Autism, a UF organization, is holding Stomp the Swamp for Autism to benefit the UF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 17 at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. CARD supports individuals with autism and their families through training and assistance. To learn more about autism and to register for "Stomp the Swamp," visit card.ufl.edu or search the Facebook event page.

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers' race

Registration is now open for LifeSouth Community Blood Centers' Five Points of Life Race Weekend on Feb. 17 and Feb. 18 at fivepointsoflife.com. Gainesville's largest running race begins on the UF Cultural Plaza. Both days will include food, free massages and music. All proceeds go to the Five Points of Life Foundation, which educates people on ways to share life with others, including the donation of blood, organs and tissue.

Student Government Elections

Spring Student Government Elections will be held 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Feb. 20 and 21 at locations across campus. All absentee ballot requests are due by 5 p.m. today. Visit sg.ufl.edu/elections to request an absentee ballot before the deadline.

Words on Canvas: Harn Museum Writing Competition

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

Words on Canvas is a poetry and prose writing competition at the Harn Museum of Art, located at 3259 Hull Road, for UF and Santa Fe College students inspired by art. The selection of artwork features a variety of media, including pieces from Asian, Contemporary and Modern collections. Winning contestants will be awarded prizes. See guidelines at harn.ufl.edu/wordsoncanvas. The deadline is Feb. 25.

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.

Correction:

A story published by The Alligator titled "ACSO: Man stabs wife and then cuts himself" and "Gainesville man stabs wife then cuts himself," incorrectly reported Gainesville Police handled the case. It was handled by Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

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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Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Your campus connection for all things UF

UF Welcomes Two New Board of Trustees

Retired bank executive Tom Kuntz and Orlando lawyer Daniel T. O'Keefe have been named to the University of Florida Board of Trustees.

Kuntz, appointed by Gov. Rick Scott, succeeds Steven M. Scott and is appointed for a term beginning Jan. 26, 2018, and ending Jan. 8, 2023. O'Keefe, appointed by the Board of Governors, succeeds David Thomas, who was appointed to the Board of Trustees in 2013. Both appointments are subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

"These two new members have a keen understanding of what our students need to be successful both before and after graduation," UF President Kent Fuchs said. "I welcome them and look forward to working with them as we continue our efforts toward becoming a top-five public research university."

To learn more about Mr. Kuntz and Mr. O'Keefe, visit: trustees.ufl.edu.

UF MBA Rises in the Rankings

UF MBA is leading the way in two categories of the Financial Times' "Global MBA Ranking 2018." The UF MBA Full-Time program earned the No. 1 ranking in value for money in the world and has the highest salary percentage increase among U.S. schools.

Additionally, 88 percent of UF MBA alumni indicated their aims were achieved, meaning the extent to which alumni fulfilled their reasons for pursuing an MBA.

"The program offers concierge-level service with access to all of the resources of a large university," said Todd Hales, MBA '14, Senior Manager at Ryder. "The program allowed me to successfully change industries while more than doubling my pre-MBA salary. To top it all off, the reasonable tuition and generous scholarships make it an unparalleled value."

The Art of Telling a Story

If you're interested in sports, race or gender issues, don't miss this chance to hear from one of the best storytellers in the business. The UF College of Journalism & Communications is hosting ESPN baseball writer, Claire Smith on Feb. 21 at 6 pm in the Pugh Hall Ocora. Smith is the first woman and only the fourth African American to cover major league baseball full time. She is also the first woman to be presented with the J.G. Spinks Award, the top honor from the Baseball Writers' Association of America. She will share her perspectives on race and sports over the past several decades and her most interesting experiences from a long career. This event is free and open to the public.



The Wetlands

Student Government Productions (SGP) will host UF's inaugural student-run music festival on Sunday, Feb. 25 from 3 to 10 p.m. on Flavel Field. The Wetlands festival focuses on celebrating the accomplishments of the student body while bringing together local and national artists.

Snakehips, A\$AP Ferg, and Saint Motel will headline the event with performances from other local artists and students.

"One of the biggest things about The Wetlands is how it will bring together multiple genres and students from different backgrounds and interests," said Alex DesRosiers, SGP chairman. The Wet-

lands will also feature a silent disco featuring student DJs, food trucks, student organization-led activities and art installations made by students.

"This festival is focused on three core ideas: Discovery, Passion and Unity," said Kyle Kocinski, festival director for The Wetlands. "Showcasing the richly creative talent and achievement of UF students is essential to this event."

Tickets are available through the O'Connell Center Box Office. Student tickets are \$15 and general public tickets are \$30. Re-entry will be permitted, so students can pop in to hear their favorite groups or make a day of it. The event is sponsored by Student Government and Gators Going Green.

Learn more at www.wetlandsfest.com.

UF Alumna Making Strides in PyeongChang

Erin Jackson has a new material in her life: Ice.

The 2015 University of Florida Materials Science and Engineering alumna traded her inline skates for ice skates just four months ago. Now she is heading to Pyeongchang, South Korea, for the Olympics as a member of Team U.S.A. in long-track speed skating.

She finished third in the 500-meter race during the Olympic trials in Milwaukee snagging the final of three spots. Before the qualifying races, Jackson had never skated the course in less than 40 seconds. In Milwaukee, she had two personal bests completing the course in 39.22 seconds and 39.04 seconds.

It has been reported that Jackson was shocked to not just surpass her Top 10 dreams but make the team.

Even more surprising, Jackson is from Ocala, where the closest ice rinks are more than an hour away. Though inline skating has been a feeder for top ice speed skating competitors.

During her time in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Jackson worked with Dr. Jack Mecholsky. Her undergraduate thesis focused on fracture mechanics of dental ceramics and was completed in conjunction with UF's Center for Dental Biomaterials.

"I think she developed the skills of organization and timeliness from her love of athletics," Mecholsky said. "Her senior thesis work was outstanding and will contribute to a journal publication." She graduated cum laude with her bachelor's degree.

Show some Gator love and support Jackson here:
Twitter: [@ErinJackson480](https://twitter.com/ErinJackson480)
Instagram: [@speedyj](https://www.instagram.com/speedyj)

— Andrea E. Hall

Cupid's Consent

Gators, let's get consensual. Each year, STRIVE hosts a variety of activities the week of Valentine's Day that teach about consent to sexual activity and intimacy. We share what consent is, what it isn't, and how to navigate uncertainties, all while you're having fun. We want to emphasize that consent and sensuality go hand in hand.

The centerpiece of the week is the Cupid's Consent Fair, which will take place on Valentine's Day between 10 and 2 p.m. at the Reitz Union Terrace. With 15 partner organizations, both on-campus and local, the fair is an amazing opportunity to learn about consent, hear from diverse voices in our community, and take home some Valentine's Day cards for your boo. Students who visit a majority of the tables at the fair will earn a consent campaign t-shirt (while supplies last), as well as many other goodies you won't want to miss.

On Feb. 13, STRIVE, the Women's Student Association and Planned Parenthood Generation Action will host Dr. Laurie Mintz at our General Body Meeting. She will talk about pleasure equality, sex positivity, and her new book *Becoming Cliterate*, followed by a Q&A and book signing. This event is at 6:15 p.m. in the Reitz Union, room 2315. You can also find us at GatorNights on Friday, Feb. 16 where we will have another activity about consent and, as always, more health advocacy tools you can win! Look for information about these and other events on our Facebook page: [@StriveUF](https://www.facebook.com/StriveUF).



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Senator leaves party, preparations for election begin

By **Christina Morales**
Alligator Staff Writer

In a letter sent to The Alligator on Tuesday, Sen. Branden Pearson (Independent, Lakeside) announced his disaffiliation with Inspire Party.

"The party that I slated with back in September is not the party that Inspire is today," Pearson said.

Pearson said Inspire prioritizes their brand before the well-being of students and tokenizes minorities.

Inspire President Ben Lima said he disagrees with Pearson.

"I am certainly fully confident in the vision of Inspire party and our caucus," Lima said.

"We are dedicated to representing Gators from all walks of life."

In Pearson's letter, he said he was attacked by Inspire leadership when he wrote a bipartisan letter in support of the Gators Matter, Period, initiative.

He said when he disagreed with Inspire about their policies and procedures, he was taken off the executive board.

Lima said Pearson was removed from their executive board about two weeks ago — but because he was mistreating members. Pearson disagrees.

"Disagreement to them is divisive," he said.

At Tuesday night's Senate meeting, Inspire and Impact Senators debated an amendment

the Judiciary Committee unanimously failed Sunday. It would limit senators from serving on more than one committee.

Four judiciary committee members serve on two committees. Senate President Pro Tempore Trevor Schaettle (Impact, District B) said he doesn't see a conflict of interest.

"I think that their decision was for the best for all students, not just themselves," he said.

The three political parties also began developing campaign platforms Monday and will continue collecting ideas throughout the week.

Felipe Gatos, a UF economics sophomore and an Inspire Senator, wrote on Inspire's board about issues he's seen.

"There's not enough scholarships and work

opportunities for international students on campus," the 19-year-old said.

Nicole Mooradian, a UF theatre sophomore, spoke with Challenge Party members about inclusivity.

"I think it would be good for all parties to come forward and really talk to the students about what they're for," the 19-year-old said.

Michaela Rechdan, 18, said she went to Impact's table and suggested adding handwipe stations to each floor of UF's libraries, especially for flu season.

"I think we could really benefit from staying clean," she said.

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GUIDE TO DINING OUT

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SOUTHERN

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Wawa convenience store could be coming to Gainesville

By Robert Lewis
Alligator Staff Writer

A popular convenience store may be coming to Gainesville to fill your tank – and your stomach.

Wawa, a convenience store chain which sells gas, made to order sandwiches and other food items, proposed building a loca-

tion on the corner of Southeast 10th Street and East University Avenue, said Jason Simmons, a Gainesville city planner.

The location, which would be at 1021 E. University Ave., would have six gas pumps with 12 pumping spots and a convenience store that would be about 6,000 square feet, Simmons said. They began

the official planning Dec. 19, 2017.

Simmons said the proposal is in its first review cycle with the city planning division. He doesn't know when the location will open.

"What they proposed isn't quite what the land code calls for in that area," Simmons said.

Wawa would have to make expensive changes to its plan, like

bringing the structure closer to the street and moving parking spaces to the back and side of the building, to be approved, he said.

Wawa did not respond for comment. The closest location is in Orange Park near Jacksonville.

Megan Zimmerman, a UF biology senior, said she's a fan of Wawa stores and described them

as "an upscale gas station." She said bringing one to Gainesville is a great idea.

"It's fast, it's easy and I feel like a lot of college students would benefit from that," the 22-year-old said.

Lewis_Robert
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He was paid \$40,000 to speak.

CREWS, from pg. 1

Ledbetter got to the Phillips Center at 5:20 p.m. and were first in line.

When he first saw Crews on "Everybody Hates Chris" at about 12 years old, Nguyenho instantly fell in love.

Now Nguyenho, 20, said Crews' vocal support for victims of sexual assault and disclosure of his own porn addiction is a beacon of what Hollywood should be.

"I really appreciate the way he uses his platform to speak out and really push things forward," the UF psychology junior said. "I

wish there were more celebrities like him."

Ledbetter, a longtime fan of Crews' work in "White Chicks," said she waited more than 90 minutes at the Phillips Center not just to laugh at the actor's comedy but hear his story.

"I like that he's willing to reveal so much about himself," the 20-year-old UF women's studies and sociology junior said. "I feel like with actors we get caught up in their celebrity-ness. We get to see more of his serious side."

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UF's trustees are unpaid.

TRUSTEES, from pg. 1

ter in 16 counties along with efforts to restore the Everglades, O'Keefe said.

"My focus will be on the student experience and making sure that a UF education remains affordable and provides a strong foundation for students obtaining productive jobs," he said.

Kuntz was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott for a term starting Jan. 26, according to a press release. Kuntz is currently serving his term on the Board of Governors, which isn't supposed to

end until Jan. 1, 2019.

He retired from a 35-year career at SunTrust Banks Inc. in 2015. He was the president and CEO of the bank for eight years.

Kuntz has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Rollins College and a degree from the Graduate School of Banking at Louisiana State University.

The Alligator could not reach Kuntz for comment.

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The party said students can vote for a new name.

O'CONNELL, from pg. 1

want to disperse. As a result, 66 students were arrested, and 60 others were placed on academic probation. O'Connell refused to grant amnesty to the students who were arrested. And as a result, 123 black students and two black faculty members left the university.

This is not something that can be solved overnight, Moodie said.

"As an African American student, it'd be very impactful on the overall climate of minority students in general," she said. "This is more than just a black and white issue. Anytime any group is oppressed, it affects the overall climate of the institution."

Moodie said it is a student-driven petition, and she'd let students decide on the center's new name if it were to be changed.

"I know that students haven't only spoken to Challenge Party about this concern," she said. "We're handing the power to the

students to speak."

"I definitely do have some sentiments about having the center named for what it is," Black Student Union president Dwayne Fletcher said. "It's well known that he was against policies to allow more black students to be a part of the university."

The issues that the Black Student Union brought up to O'Connell in 1971 were ignored, Fletcher said.

"Students said 'We're not comfortable here; here are the different things we need

to thrive as students,'" he said. "There were a lot of things that resulted from him not listening to the different needs of the students."

Fletcher said every once in a while people bring up the idea of changing the name of the O'Connell Center.

"In terms of a complete and organized movement, I haven't seen anything like that as of yet," he said. "I'm not really sure where it would go. It would depend on the temperament of people at the time."

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Editorial

Why didn't UF bring Burrito Bros. on campus?

UF does not exist in a vacuum.

As the university continues its outward expansion, taking over surrounding streets with its presence, the impact is felt by local businesses.

It was only natural for the university to pump more money into buildings as it chased the top-10 public institution preeminent goal.

Now, UF is bringing in 500 more faculty members with \$52 million to pursue a top-five spot. This will mean carving out a space for them within the already existing campus or buying more property. UF will continue to extend its reach into the city, which has the potential to create jobs and opportunities.

But the university must acknowledge that everything it touches either thrives or dies, and it has the option to help local businesses thrive.

Its employees and students accounted for more than half the city's population in Fall 2016, according to UF's Institutional Research and Planning and Census Bureau data. With that economic power, UF's impact on local businesses can't be ignored.

UF didn't lead to the direct death of the beloved Burrito Bros. Taco Co., but construction around the university — and the presence of the mammoth The Standard building, which came in response to the student population — strangled the mom-and-pop shop.

In 2016, the university bought the land for Leonardo's By the Slice and Bistro 1245, two mainstay Gainesville restaurants. Though the two have remained open despite the sale, they could one day be forced to close.

With a growing campus and student and faculty population and goals of national and international recognition, it's understandable that UF would want to expand. But this can't be at the expense of the culture that makes Gainesville unique.

Last year, UF brought WingZone, started by two UF alumni in a fraternity house kitchen, to campus. The restaurant had roots in Gainesville, and the university recognized that.

So why did UF just debut its sixth on-campus Starbucks? It had an opportunity to introduce the UF Levin College of Law to a local coffee shop like Karma Cream or Maude's — places that do well on their own but perhaps could do better with more exposure near students. While we don't know whether there is an underlying contractual agreement that allows the coffee chain to have a monopoly on selling coffee products — as the university does with Pepsi Co. — we do know there is an opportunity to bring the Gainesville culture to campus.

Corporate companies are attracted to UF like magnets, and they have the resources to buy the exposure. For instance, there are three Chick-Fil-A restaurants on campus. There are three Subways. Some may argue that three of each is not enough; others might say it's three too many. But when Einstein Bros. left campus, it could have been replaced with a local shop.

In reality, the university could help in countless ways. Professors could connect business, advertising or marketing students with local entrepreneurs through class projects. UF could create an advocacy committee that protects the interests of these local businesses. It could also offer specific space for them.

Unless UF takes action, we will hold it accountable every time a local family loses its business. Co-existing with a top institution should be an advantage, not a drawback. UF should be the springboard for entrepreneurs, not the stumbling block.

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

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Column

Alexa, stop reinforcing gender stereotypes

The Amazon Echo, more commonly known as “Alexa,” was the star of the Super Bowl — at least if you're the kind of person who was in it for the commercials. In the ads featuring the virtual personal assistant, after the automatic voice starts to cough, chaos erupts. While Alexa's sick, Jeff Bezos and some Amazon employees rush to find a replacement. None of them fit the bill: Gordon Ramsay is too hostile, Cardi B plays Bodak Yellow when asked to play country music, and Leslie Jones and J.B. Smoove can't agree on what romantic advice to give a lovesick user. The voice of Alexa returns, assuring everyone, “I'll take it from here.”

With that, all is right in the world again. We all go back to asking her about the weather, instructing her to remind us about things in our calendars and commanding her to tell us jokes. She goes back to speaking when spoken to.

It's clear from the commercials just how much these digital assistants now permeate our lives. The mainstream assistants are all programmed a little differently, with somewhat different personalities and varying witty responses to questions. But the one thing they have in common is the gender of the voice coming out of their speakers.

There's Cortana, Microsoft's version of the female assistant, and there's Siri, which when asked about its gender says, “I don't have a gender,” in a distinctly feminine voice. Even the voice that responds to “OK Google” is that of a female. Finally, there's Alexa from the Amazon Echo. She's our weather forecaster, DJ and, most importantly to Jeff Bezos, a personal Amazon shopper.

In a world that's finally seeing that women are so much more than the subservient secretaries of the Mad Men era, the gender of almost all of our digital assistants' voices is a step in the wrong direction. No, we're not hurting Siri's feelings or diminishing Alexa's self-worth, but we



Carly Breit

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are reinforcing gender stereotypes that women were created to serve people. How that will affect users — especially young ones — remains to be seen.

The problem, of course, isn't that these digital assistants exist. There's no way I'd remember half of my to-do list without Siri's reminders. They serve other important purposes, too — at the command of “Hey Siri, 108,” iPhones will call emergency services; Alexa will read personalized bedtime stories to kids. These inventions make life easier and, at times, better.

What's problematic is that the default voice for all of these products is a female's. Market research showed Apple, Amazon, Google and Microsoft that we'd all prefer our menial tasks be done by a robot presenting as female — and that's another issue.

It's strange that these inanimate objects even need to have a gender either way. People don't need to identify as male or female, so why do robots?

“Genderless voice is hard,” Robert Weideman, a spokesperson for Nuance Inc., which provides the voices for these devices, told the Wall Street Journal. Maybe the key to taking gender stereotypes out of our devices is finding a gender-neutral voice and a gender-neutral name, which doesn't seem too difficult to me. Or maybe it's as easy as giving the users a choice when they set up their phones and creating half of the advertisements with the digital assistants' male voices.

As for me, my new personal assistant, still named Siri, has the voice of an Australian man. He reminds me to sign up for spin class and transcribes my text messages when I'm too lazy to type. You have to start somewhere.

Carly Breit is a UF journalism senior. Her column focuses on feminism.

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

Column

Your nostalgia is rooted in psychology

Today, we can listen to any song in a never-ending music library, and we have the power to stream nearly any movie ever made. But we always seem to revert to familiar classics in both categories. And there's a reason why.

It's the same reason I see rows of '90s hair scrunchie-clad wrists when I walk to class and why Spotify playlists with names like "Middle School Jams" and "'80s Yacht Rock" exist — and are arguably some of the most well-loved.

Nostalgia has been a buzzword in recent years. But a longing for the past, a desire to listen to songs we loved when we were 16 and a newfound love for old accessories are rooted in psychology.

We feel connected to certain images and sounds not only because we associate them with specific memories or a certain time in our lives (typically adolescence), but also because psychologists believe between the ages 12 and 22, the music we love is essentially wired into our brains as we undergo rapid neurological development. Whoever or whatever you listened to during the formative years of your life determines your nostalgia.

Studying nostalgia from the psychological standpoint makes me think that even though we sometimes look to memories as a means of escaping the present, we can't escape some elements of the past even if we wanted to.

A new study shows that our longing for a bygone era even impacts how we engage with content on social media. In a research article about social media engagement published in "Visual Communication Quarterly," University of Missouri School of Journalism professors T.J. Thomson and Keith Greenwood report that more Instagram users have a greater propensity to "like" still photographs



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than videos because photos represent "nostalgia for an images-only environment." Some participants even suggested that Instagram should remove the video-posting feature to preserve the art of the still photograph.

Maybe this explains why Fujifilm's Instax film has been the top-selling photo product on Amazon for nearly two years. There's also a growing prevalence of iPhone photography apps such as Huji Cam, which turns the screen into a makeshift disposable camera and produces perfectly blurry, sun-flared images — complete with a time stamp in the corner that reads "1998."

Some may argue that taking an interest in pop culture of the past is the same as hopping on a trendy bandwagon, but I'd say the adage, "Everything old is new again," is not exactly new. It's rare to analyze fashion, beauty, art or entertainment of any decade and not find an element of the past woven into it.

Others may argue that the return of Polaroid pictures and disposable camera-esque photograph is purely aesthetic, but there's a reason we're drawn to the certain photos or music that look or sound old. Perhaps it's because we're searching for a distraction from the chaos of our current culture or because subconsciously we're trying to mimic experiences of another time.

Coming from someone who grew up listening to my parents' "Madonna" and "Men at Work" cassette tapes, I'll take the ubiquitous scrunchies, choker necklaces and endless throwback jams over some of today's horrific social trends any day.

Darcy Schild is a UF journalism junior. Her columns focus on human behavior and sociology.

Column

Commercials should stick to humor

Igrew up watching Super Bowl commercials that worked within the stereotype of them being created for laughter. They were essentially rodeo clowns.

Their highest aim was to make you laugh until the game resumed. The Super Bowl commercials this year, though, seemed to go in another direction. A lot of companies went for the heart rather than the cheap gag. To be honest, this bothers me, and one commercial in particular was absolutely galling.

We see an elegy to the American dream: firefighters, construction workers, teachers, soldiers and mothers doing the dirty work of life — the type of work that sustains a family, a neighborhood, a community and a nation. The focus is not on the heroes, but on their noble steeds, Ram trucks, which we see sporadically throughout the commercial. "If you wanna be recognized, wonderful," Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. preaches in the background. "If you wanna be great, wonderful! But recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant." The commercial closes with King saying the only thing needed to be a great servant is "a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love." The screen fades, and the words "Built to Serve" with the Ram logo appear innocently on the screen.

What would King say to that? Such powerful words, crafted and spoken with the singular passion of a prophet, used to disguise a wolf in sheep's clothing. Ram didn't use King's sermon to sell trucks but to make you think it's more than that — to make you think that it's not just a profit-hungry company.

What they did was facetious. How can you take a King sermon and use it for public relations with a clear conscience? And yet I saw other companies attempting a similar



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thing: to make themselves out to be thoughtful, enriching, serious organizations generated not by money but by love and ethics. T-Mobile, Hyundai and Toyota had commercials with a message beyond why we should buy their product.

Of course, companies like Tide, Doritos and Amazon went for the big laughs, and, for the most part,

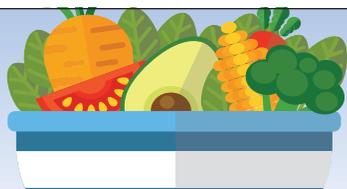
they succeeded. And I'm sure that serious ads have been a part of the Super Bowl experience just as much as the silly ones. Regardless, I personally think companies should stick with being funny because that's the highest form of transparency a company can share with us.

When we watch a funny commercial, both we and the company are aware that at the bottom of the ad a product is being advertised. Let's face it — every company wants your money, and any interaction we have with a company centers around that premise.

Companies have the power to be forces for change, but they aren't nonprofits. They're structured primarily to make money and grow; altruism is a secondary consideration and is only taken seriously when acting in such a way will sell more products. Companies like Doritos know that we know this and just try to make us laugh. They know that any message untethered from promoting their product will be cheapened and debased because, in reality, any greater message is not that great.

Capitalism feeds off money, but human beings need more than that to thrive. We need love, moral guidance, relationships, purpose, etc. — things that Ram cannot, at the end of the day, sell us in a commercial.

Scott Stinson is a UF English junior. His columns focus on popular culture.



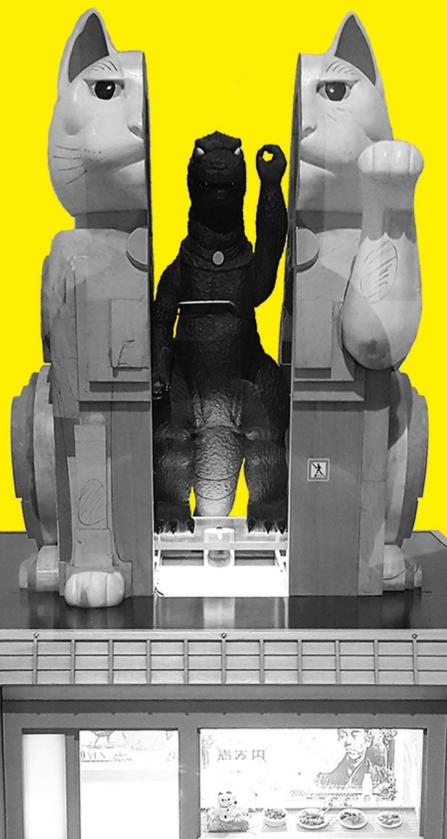
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Man sentenced to 50 years for murder

By Paige Fry
Alligator Staff Writer

A Gainesville man was convicted Monday for killing a retired UF professor and lighting his house on fire in 2015.

Circuit Judge Mark W. Moseley sentenced Stephen Underwood Jr., 40, to 50 years in prison for the murder of Thomas Oakland, a then-75-year-old retired UF education professor, according to online court records.

Attorney Stephen Bernstein, who represented Underwood, said both families wanted to avoid a trial. Underwood pled no contest, a plea that accepts the charges without admitting guilt, and the charge was reduced from first-degree homicide to second-degree homicide so he could avoid a life sentence.

"He has remorse on what happened," Bernstein said. "He took responsibility for what he did."

Underwood will serve 40 years for the homicide charge and 10 for the burglary charge, Bernstein said. His charges of grand theft, arson and tampering with evidence will be served at the same time.

Underwood will be transported to the Florida Department of Corrections, where he'll serve his sentence, excluding 1,068 days — nearly three years — of served jail credit, Bernstein said.

The murder, which occurred March 4, 2015, stemmed from Underwood swindling more than \$37,000 from Oakland since 2013, according to a sworn complaint presented to the court. In May 2014, Under-

wood was incarcerated for fraud after Oakland filed a complaint against him.

When Underwood was released from prison in December 2014, he continued to harass Oakland for more money, the report said. Two months later, Oakland had authorities issue a trespass warning to prohibit Underwood from coming to his home.

Oakland told police he knew Underwood was stealing money from him, but he "just wanted to be a good Christian and help a poor man get back on his feet," according to Alligator archives.

On the day of the murder, Gainesville Fire Rescue officials found Oakland's body after they responded to a fire in his home, where he lived alone, at 1921 SW Eighth Drive.

Underwood had hit Oakland on the head with an unknown object, knocking the elderly man unconscious and killing him, according to a police report. A medical examiner determined he died before the fire.

Underwood, then 38, was arrested two days later in Jacksonville after attempting to flee.

In 2015, Jean Crockett, the former director in UF's College of Education who worked with Oakland for a year before his retirement, said he was an "educator at heart," according to Alligator archives.

"Talking to him, you knew you were talking to a very brilliant man," Crockett said. "But you also knew you were talking to a very kind man."

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Gainesville City Commission candidates present positions at public forums

By Jessica Giles
Alligator Staff Writer

In the first of eight public forums before the March 20 election, City Commission candidates, except for District 1 incumbent Charles Goston, said they felt the commission should maintain control of Gainesville Regional Utilities.

This is one of many issues four out of the five candidates running for City Commission addressed in the forum hosted Monday night at the Gainesville-Alachua County Association of Realtors Conference Center. Both candidates running for At-Large Seat 1, Gail Johnson and incumbent Harvey Budd, were present as well as District 1 candidates Gigi Simmons and Goston. Tyra (Ty Loudd) Edwards was not in attendance.

The candidates shared their thoughts with about 30 resi-

dents in attendance on affordable housing, economic development, Gainesville Regional Utilities governance, the zero-waste mission and primary issues they would tackle if elected.

The GRU governance bill will appear on the ballot in November. If the bills fails, the City Commission will remain in control of GRU. If it passes, a newly formed independent board will take over.

Pat Bartlett, president of the Gainesville Kiwanis Club, attended the first forum and said each candidate brought unique and applicable experience.

"It's so obvious that all of us must come to the table and talk about what's important to us and come up with an agreement for all of us," she said.

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New hotel near The Standard to open

By Jessica Giles
Alligator Staff Writer

Gainesville visitors will have a new hotel to choose from starting this month.

The AC Hotel Gainesville Downtown, located at 151 NW 14th St., in the same building as The Standard apartment complex, will open its doors Feb. 20 and begin renting rooms Feb. 22, said Kristin Bond, the hotel's director of sales. Prices for rooms begin at about \$200. Along with the 144 rooms available, guests will have access to a rooftop pool, fitness center

and lounge.

"There's a lot of really nice things that are really going to elevate the Gainesville area," she said.

The AC stands for Antonio Catalan, President of AC Hotels. The 10-story hotel has a European-style, modern design, Bond said. It will also incorporate local businesses into the experience by serving beer from Swamp Head Brewery and First Magnitude Brewing Company in the lounge.

Megan Morey, a UF finance sophomore and resident at The Standard, likes that AC Hotel is taking the opportunity to promote Gainesville busi-

nesses but has some concerns about it.

She worries that because hotel guests will share the parking garage with The Standard residents, it will become crowded and dangerous, the 19-year-old said.

"The parking garage in general is already pretty dangerous," she said. "For people who don't live there, like, there's really sharp turns. You have to be careful."

Morey also said residents at The Standard can be loud.

"They blare music until like 3 a.m.," she said. "I don't think people who stay there will like it very much."

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FUN & FITNESS

BEYOND THE BEACH BODY

By Natalie Rella

MPH, CPH, CWHC: Health Promotion Specialist and Wellness Coach at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

With Spring Break just around the corner, you may be feeling an unpleasant pressure, in your own mind and from others, to have the perfect beach body. You are not alone in this. UF students across campus are experiencing the burden of negative body image. In the 2016 Healthy Gators survey of UF students, 30% of women and 15% men said feeling fat frequently interferes with enjoying everyday life, 21% of students worried about losing control over how much they eat, 16% said that food dominates their life and 12% said they feel fat when others tell them they are too thin.

So, what exactly is body image? According to the National Eating Disorder Association, body image is how you view yourself in your mind or what you see when you look in the mirror. A person with a negative body

image perception is dissatisfied with their body. They have a somewhat distorted view of their body. Instead of looking at their body as an indomitable whole, they may scrutinize and criticize certain parts of their body (thighs, stomach, arms, nose, etc.) and label those parts inadequate. They feel ashamed, discontent and self-conscious about various aspects of their body to a degree that causes anxiety. A person with a negative body image feels uncomfortable, disappointed and unhappy in their body. Apart from having an impact on everyday quality of life, negative body image perception is the best known contributor to the development of an eating disorder—a potentially fatal condition.

So, what's a Gator to do? You can promote positive body image and help create a culture of body acceptance at UF:

- **Inspire** others by being confident in who you are. Model positive body talk for people around you. For example: "I appreciate my body because..."
- **Recognize** that your body is not an ornament for others' pleasure/amusement, but a vehicle to reaching your life goals and aspirations.
- **Celebrate** the diversity! Appreciate that people come in all shapes and sizes and embrace the diversity of all body types, shapes, sizes, colors!
- **Recognize** that images you see in the media are highly altered and that you are likely programmed into accepting unrealistic and unattainable versions of beauty.
- **Challenge** these unrealistic images/messages by engaging in discussions about how body types are portrayed in the media.
- **Understand** that bodies can be healthy in many sizes; being a certain weight does not determine whether you're healthy.
- **Focus** on positive traits of yourself and others that are not appearance oriented.

In honor of National Eating Disorder Awareness Week (February 26 - March 4), GatorWell Health Promotion Services is hosting the Celebrate EveryBODY event series in an effort to positively impact the culture of body acceptance at the University of Florida. Come join us :

- **MIRRORLESS MONDAY**, February 26th, all day in participating buildings on campus
- **BEYOUTIFUL HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR**, Wednesday February 28th, 11am-2pm at the Plaza of the Americas
- **EVERYBODY CAN MOVE**, Tuesday February 27th, 11am-2pm at the Plaza of the Americas



GET UP TO GET DOWN WITH FITNESS

By Natalie Rella

MPH, CPH, CWHC: Health Promotion Specialist and Wellness Coach at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Incorporating physical activity into your day can be a healthy habit that benefits every aspect of your life including stress and anxiety, mood, energy, weight management, and sleep. According to the 2016 Healthy Gators survey 78% of UF students responded that they do not get the recommended amount of moderate exercise (30 minutes, 5-7 days per week). In the same survey students ranked “stress/anxiety” and “overweight/obesity/weight management” as their top two health concern. Sound relatable?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends adults should do at least 2 hours and 30 minutes each week of moderate-intensity aerobic physical activity or 1 hour and 15 minutes of vigorous-intensity aerobic activity per week. Additionally, muscle training 2 or more days a week is recommended. You’ll know if you are working at a moderate level if you are able to talk while participating in these activities, but not sing. You know you are doing vigorous aerobic activity when you are breathing hard and unable to say more than a few words without taking a breath. Here are some tips to help you get started or increase your current level of physical activity:

1. You don’t have to leave your house.

- Use technology. Try online fitness videos, or fitness DVDs.
- Get up during commercials and study

breaks and do some jump-jacks, sit-ups, or push-ups.

2. Change your daily routines.

- Park at the end of the parking lot on your errands.
- Take the stairs instead of the elevator.
- Chores count too- vacuum, dust, mop, scrub, they all get you moving.
- Bike to campus and to classes.
- Walk to that next class rather than taking the bus.
- Use a phone app to track your steps... every step counts!

3. Get Social!

- Get an exercise buddy that will keep you motivated.
- Go to a group fitness class and hit the gym at RecSports
- Grab a couple friends and take a trip out to Lake Wauberg: canoeing, ropes course, climbing, disc golf, mountain biking, sailing, water sports!
- Join an intermural team, club team or physical activity-related student organization.

4. Try New Things.

- UF Rec Sports has multiple options for all sorts of fitness activities-check out they’re website!
- The Gainesville Rock Gym offers a fun rock climbing experience.
- If you’re up for a little adventure, the Lake Alice walking/biking path, Paynes Prairie State Preserve, Morningside Trails, and/or San Felasco Hammock



Preserve are fun options to experience nature while getting in some physical activity.

5. Other Tips.

- Gradually build new activities or longer time spent exercising into your routine.
- Feel proud of your accomplishments and celebrate your successes! Use an app to keep track.
- Keep at it! Try new things until you find an activity that is both challenging and

fun. The more you incorporate physical activity into your daily routine, the more you will start to feel the benefits of it. Get a friend, set up a couple times you’re available during the week, and get moving!

*****SAFETY NOTE :** when exercising after dark, always do so with a friend and a flashing light (pick one up for free at GatorWell)***

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7 TIPS TO IMPROVE TIME MANAGEMENT AND INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY

By Sara Ryals, MS, CHES

CWHC: Health Promotion Specialist and Wellness Coach at GatorWell Health Promotion Services

Feeling overwhelmed by everything you have to do? Searching for ways to increase your productivity? Learning how to manage your time effectively helps increase productivity and reduce procrastination, which in turn reduces stress and improves academic success. Try these 7 quick tips to improve your time management:

1. Assess how you are currently using your time.

For 2-3 days, keep a time log of what you do during the day and how long you spend doing it. Afterwards, look for trends. Identify which activities are important (see #2) and which are time wasters.

2. Know what's important!

Prioritize your daily and weekly tasks. Then, organize your time according to your priorities. You should make time for your highest

priorities first!

3. Make time to manage time, ahead of time.

Planning ahead sets you up for success! Set aside consistent time in your daily and/or weekly schedule for organization and planning. There are a wide variety of tools that can be used to help with this including planners, desk/wall calendars, online calendars, apps, and "to do" lists. Pick whatever works for you and your organization style and then make sure to use it consistently.

4. Minimize distractions and Maximize motivators.

Identify what your common distractors and time wasters are. Then, brainstorm strategies to minimize these where possible. This may mean studying in a different environment, changing your study schedule to match your high-energy/high-focus times of the day, or even silencing or turning off devices or wi-fi. Then maximize your moti-

vators by surrounding yourself with them. Try incorporating motivational quotes, music, or videos into your pre-study routine. When you sit down for a study session, start by creating a goal for what you want to get accomplished and a quick plan for how you will achieve your goal.

5. Learn to say NO!

Sometimes it feels like you do not have enough time in the day to get everything done because... YOU DON'T. If 24 hours rarely seems like enough time, then you may be putting too much on your plate. Sound familiar? This is where tip #2 can help again! Identify current tasks that are not priorities and decrease them or cut them out completely. In the future, when considering new opportunities, ask yourself if it realistically fits in with your priorities and schedule. If it doesn't, don't try to squeeze it in. If you do take on something new, think about what you can reduce or cut out of your schedule.

6. Make time for self-care!

Living a balanced life is important to your overall wellbeing. Schedule time to take care of yourself and manage your stress. Take breaks while studying, make time for physical activity and healthy eating, relax at the end of a long day, and get plenty of sleep. Taking care of yourself will increase your energy, focus, and overall health, which in turn will help you be more productive when you sit down to study.

7. Ask for help!

Feeling overwhelmed and not sure where to start? Reaching out to a friend, family member, mentor, or campus professional for help with time management can be a great place to start. Ready to make a change? Make an appointment today with a Wellness Coach at GatorWell to discuss time management!

For more information about time management or to learn how to schedule an appointment with a Wellness Coach, visit GatorWell's website: gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu.

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Take these steps to prevent the spread of influenza (flu) to you and others:

- Wash your hands often!
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- Avoid touching your face (eyes, nose or mouth).
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean surfaces frequently. (Door handles, work areas, keyboards)
- Practice self-care for a good overall health!

Most people with the flu have mild illness and do not need medical care or antiviral drugs. If you get sick with flu symptoms, in most cases, you should follow the CDC's advice and **stay home for the first 24 hours** until after your fever is gone. Additionally, avoid contact with other people except to get medical care.

For more information on preventing and treating flu, visit shcc.ufl.edu/flu

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Avenue's Guide to Changeville, a festival for social change

By Avenue Staff

Downtown Gainesville might give New Orleans a run for its money Thursday and Friday.

Changeville Music and Arts Festival, an annual collection of artists performing for social change downtown, is just in time for Mardi Gras weekend this year.

"If you can't go to New Orleans for Mardi Gras, then, you know, it's kind of like the next best thing if you're in Gainesville," Pat Lavery, music and productions director for Changeville, said.

The festival, which began in 2016, has grown into a two-day event across multiple venues downtown featuring dozens of artists. These include Dirty Dozen Brass Band, an authentic New Orleans group; Princess Nokia, an "Afro-Nuyorican" female rapper; and Benjamin Booker, the headlining songwriter and UF alumnus, among several other local musicians and performers. The full schedule is available at changeville.us/schedule.com.

"Every year we've been growing it and growing it," Lavery said.

Lavery said what began as a collaboration in 2015 for an "after party" in front of the Hippodrome Theatre for the frank conference has evolved into Changeville, a separate music event, the past few years.

He said the festival continues to grow, and roughly 4,000 people should turnout this year.

"Come support something local, you know, bringing a really high-quality, high-caliber music festival into Gainesville," he said.

Single-show and multi-venue tickets are available online, but wristbands for admission will be picked up at the Hampton Inn and Suites downtown Thursday 3-9 p.m. and Friday 2-8 p.m.

Discounted admission to Benjamin Booker and Dirty Dozen Brass Band is also available in exchange for donations brought Friday to Bo Diddley Community Plaza for GRACE marketplace or Peaceful Paths. More information is available at changeville.us/tickets/.

For more information about the festival, here's Avenue Staff's guide to Changeville 2018.

Benjamin Booker

Benjamin Booker, a raspy-voiced powerhouse singer from Virginia, is headlining Changeville 2018.

Booker's music is deeply emotional and at times very personal, as he shares moments from difficult phases of his life and tackles sensitive topics of social dialogue. While Booker shies away from a "soul" musical branding, the influences are felt, particularly on tracks from his most recent album.

Booker has branded himself a "witness" with this release. As the title of his 2017 album, "Witness" tracks Booker's experience in a world where the pain of inequality hits too close to home. Booker told NPR that like a biblical "witness to the truth," he needed to bear witness to the truth of the racism and violence he was seeing on the news and in the world around him.

Changeville marks a return to Gainesville for Booker, a graduate of the University of

Florida journalism program. Booker will perform Friday night on the stage on Bo Diddley in downtown Gainesville. Booker's performance will be opened by the Dirty Dozen Brass Band and local band, The Savants of Soul. The show will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m.

"Benjamin Booker has been doing some really cool stuff, and he's got this, like, just awesome bluesy, soulful, rock 'n' roll sound, and he does a great balance of all of those things," The Savants of Soul's Alex Klausner said. "That's an artist, that's a guy I've always wanted our band to play alongside... This guy rips!"

Princess Nokia, Hugo Sanchez & more:

Princess Nokia, a New York-based rapper, will also headline Changeville. She'll perform at High Dive on Thursday with local acts Retrolux, Hugo Sanchez and Azazus. Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door or free with a Changeville multi-venue pass. Tickets are available at changeville.us and Hear Again Records.

It's been two years since Jorge Hugo Sanchez, who goes by Hugo Sanchez onstage, opened for New Orleans rapper Curren\$y.

Sanchez has learned a lot in the two years since this performance. In fact, being onstage is where he feels most at home.

"I personally try to give it my all when I do performances, so people can expect a very energetic, sweaty, passionate, scary performance from me," he said.

Sanchez's stage presence is gritty, energetic and unapologetic. He's a spitball of emotion, using his rap as a gateway to talk about relevant political topics that relate to him as well as his audience.

His most recent album, "Bad Hombres," was released Jan. 21 and includes a variety of tracks that discuss problems marginalized people are currently experiencing.

Sanchez wanted to get involved with Changeville because of his passion for social change. He credits Princess Nokia, who is known for using her music to promote intersectional feminism and acceptance for women of color, as being one of his biggest current inspirations.

"Just her talking about where she comes from and how she is an amalgam of all the things she was surrounded by in her environment, in my opinion, to me, that's America," Sanchez said. "When I look at her, watch her videos and listen to her music, that's America to me. It's culturally diverse, it's beautiful, it's accepting, it's courageous and it thinks without borders."

As for himself, Sanchez said he's been working on his own set for the past few months, comprising his act with material from two of his past albums, "Lil Tony Danza" and "Bad Hombres." He said he's most looking forward to perform his song "Brown Privilege," which was recently highlighted by Bandcamp on a feature about the best hip-hop records from 2018. Sanchez added that fans can also expect a personal performance that is different than his albums.

"I just take it back to the basics, and I do a loud voice over some dirty grinding beats, and at the end of the day, that's what hip-hop is really about. It's about a DJ spinning dope beats and a dude spreading dangerous ideas,"



Courtesy to the Alligator

Changeville, a festival dedicated to social change, hits Gainesville this week.

Sanchez said.

Local Artists

Changeville brings talent from all over the world. Just behind these headliners, however, is a slew of local artists who you can catch even after Changeville has its curtain call.

Changeville's lineup is stacked with Gainesville musicians that represent a melting pot of talent. Here's a list of some of the local performers and where to find them.

The Savants of Soul

The Savants of Soul are Gainesville's soul music powerhouse. The 10-piece ensemble will be performing on Bo Diddley alongside headliner Benjamin Booker. Currently, The Savants of Soul are preparing for the release of their next single, "Dead Man Running." They will also compete in the battle of the bands at High Dive next Thursday for a spot on the Okeechobee Music and Arts Festival lineup.

Flipturn

Flipturn, an indie rock band who burst onto the Gainesville music scene with their debut EP in 2017, will be performing on the High Dive stage Friday night. Flipturn will also be performing at the Okeechobee Music and Arts Festival and the Student Government Wetlands Music Festival. Flipturn is preparing to release the first single, "Churches," off their upcoming album later this month.

"I know all these bands were picked to play at Changeville because they believe in social change, too, so that will be cool to play with likeminded people and be surrounded by positive energy," said flipturn bassist Madeline Jarman.

Sooza

Sooza is a brass instrument-based band made up of predominantly UF music majors. Soozza will be rolling out their first original track at Changeville this year, and they plan to release a full original EP this year. Soozza will also be performing Feb. 24 on Flavet Field.

"In the end, it's all just about high-energy music, but also having, like, a lot of different textures within that music," said Soozza tenor saxophone player Ryan Gamberino.

DJ Robzilla & Marley the Messenger

DJ Robzilla & Marley the Messenger will

be performing together Friday at The Woolly. DJ Robzilla is featured on Hugo Sanchez's, another Changeville performer, new album. The album, "Bad Hombres," was featured on Bandcamp's "Best Albums of January." DJ Robzilla is also planning to release a new beat tape in the coming months.

Pearl and the Oysters

Pearl and the Oysters is a Gainesville-based alternative pop group originating out of France. They released their first self-titled album in 2017, debuting a truly unique sound that has landed them a spot on the Okeechobee Music and Arts Festival lineup. They will also be performing at the Heartwood Soundstage anniversary show Feb. 24.

"We haven't played in Gainesville in the longest since we started playing, so we're really excited to go back on stage," said Juliette Davis of Pearl and the Oysters. "We feel that this is the beginning of a musical touring session... It's great to start with Changeville."

In Bed by Ten

In Bed by Ten is a Gainesville indie rock pair. The band released their first album to Bandcamp.com last week and promises a dynamic performance on the Changeville stage. In Bed by Ten's Kathy Sohar is a mentor at Gainesville Girls Rock Camp, teaching empowerment through musical instruction.

"I love the Gainesville music community. It's supportive and it's amazing, and there's so many great opportunities to really access it and be involved in it," Sohar said.

Other local artists performing at Changeville include Retrolux, Hugo Sanchez, Aquanova, GUTS, Wester Joseph's Stereo Vudu, Mike Llerena & The Nerve and Azazus.

Workshops, virtual reality, comedy & more

Changeville is much more than just music. The festival will also feature comedy, film, virtual reality, poetry, panels and workshops and much more, all pursuing the goal of social change through each art form. For more information on other non-music events, check out changeville.us.



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

FEST Wrestling:

The explosive event returns to Eight Seconds (pg. 14)

Black History Month:

Concert to celebrate on Bo Diddley (pg. 15)

FEST Wrestling returns to Gainesville with The Love Cup reunion



Photo courtesy of Speedy Productions

FEST Wrestling turns stereotypical wrestling on its head, bringing men and women to compete while emphasizing a supportive community.

By Emma Witmer
Avenue Writer

FEST Wrestling is a showcase for the vibrant independent professional wrestling community that strives for inclusivity above all and a place where, sometimes, people get hit with chairs.

“Take everything you think you know about wrestling, and throw it out the window,” said Tony Weinbender, the founder of FEST.

Weinbender created the annual Gainesville music festival, FEST, in 2002 to celebrate the same type of talented underground musicians that he admired growing up. Through FEST’s massive success Weinbender has been able to highlight yet another one of his childhood loves: wrestling.

FEST Wrestling is a bimonthly competition for independent wrestlers from across the country to compete on a professional stage. This Friday and Saturday, FEST Wrestling returns with The Love Cup, a Valentine’s Day inspired tag-team smack-down.

Night One of The Love Cup will be 8 p.m. Friday at the St. Augustine Amphitheatre. Night Two will be 5:30-9 p.m. Saturday at Eight Seconds in downtown Gainesville. Eight Seconds is located at 201 W. University Ave. Tickets for Night Two are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be found at festwrestling.limitedrun.com.

Unlike most wrestling competitions, FEST Wrestling is always coed. In other words, male

and female wrestlers compete directly. Weinbender said he was surprised to find that this was not common practice and that talented female wrestlers are often barred from competing against their male counterparts.

For those concerned about the safety of coed wrestling, Weinbender said that the female wrestlers hold their own. The last two FEST Wrestling champions, Heidi Lovelace and Su Yung, are both women. Since competing at FEST Wrestling, Lovelace, or Dori Elizabeth Prange, has gone on to compete in the WWE under the moniker Ruby Riot.

According to Weinbender, FEST Wrestling only works when it’s based on a supportive community. In a sport where the heat of competition sometimes leads to derogatory insults and heckling, the FEST Wrestling community makes it clear that sexism, racism and homophobia have no place in the ring or the stands.

This approach has won FEST Wrestling fans who might have shied away from the sport beforehand. During each show people from all walks of life bust through the doors and are face-to-face with the ring and between 300 and 1,000 fans cheering on their favorites and booing the competition.

“It’s not just a bunch of rednecks drinking Mountain Dew,” Weinbender said. “It’s punk people drinking PBR.”

FEST Wrestling events are open to those 18 years old or older.

Neon Liger dance party to celebrate 10-year reunion

By Taylor McLamb
Avenue Writer

After seven consecutive years, Neon Liger’s exclusive dance parties reached icon status within the Gainesville community. They not only created a safe space for marginalized citizens but also a home for many up-and-coming DJs and electronic music fans.

The infamous bar The Motor Room hosted Neon Liger’s first party Feb. 2, 2008, which established their dedicated partnership until the bar closed in 2015 and Neon Liger, without having a venue to throw their weekend parties, ended their run.

Although they stopped throwing parties every weekend, Neon Liger wasn’t gone for long. They returned in 2017 to throw a nine-year reunion located at The Atlantic, The Alley and Arcade Bar.

Keeping up with the tradition, Neon Liger will be celebrating their 10-year anniversary by throwing one of their legendary parties at The Wooly this Saturday from 8 p.m. - 2 a.m.

The party will include more than 10 unique DJs and special guests, live LED performances by Pyrotica Entertainments and three indoor and outdoor areas to enjoy the party.

Holden Howard, one of the DJs playing Saturday, has been a regular attendee of Neon Liger’s parties since 2010. He even said he would drive up from Ocala just for the music and atmosphere.

“I was lucky enough to be asked to play semi-regularly from December 2014 up until the closure of The Motor Room, and those gigs were easily the most fun I’ve ever had playing music,” said Howard. “There was just something special about that party. Between the music, the people and that badass Plymouth

DJ booth, there was nothing like it.”

Howard said that if it wasn’t for Neon Liger’s parties, he might’ve given up working as a DJ, as they changed his life and his idea of what he could accomplish in the DJ scene. However, when discussing Gainesville’s DJ and electronic music scene, Howard admits that it’s currently in a transitional period.

“Without a dedicated venue or any regular weekly parties, it’s a weird feeling,” said Howard. “I think Over Easy, Lucid and Visionary FAM are all doing awesome work in their respective lanes, and I hope the scene will continue to thrive and survive.”

Andrew Garcia, a 24-year-old first-year UF College of Pharmacy student, agreed with Howard’s statement. He said now that Neon Liger and Realm are closed, he wouldn’t know where to go if he wanted to go somewhere specifically for electronic music.

“I’m hoping they could have semi-regular parties again,” said Garcia. “The Wooly is a great venue, so if there’s interest, I don’t see why not.”

Garcia said he plans to go to the party to not only celebrate the reunion of Neon Liger but to get exposure to music that he doesn’t normally listen to.

“I’m definitely looking forward to seeing them pull out all the stops as far as staging and music goes since this will be their first party in a while,” said Garcia. “And I’m definitely looking forward to the energy, too, of some Neon Liger-deprived folks who I’m sure are ready to party.”

The Neon Liger 10-year Anniversary at The Wooly includes an 18-and-up main room and a 21-and-up back patio. The tickets are \$10 with presale available at neonliger.com.

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Free concert downtown to celebrate Black History Month

By Gabriella Paul
Avenue Writer

Black History Month is celebrated in many ways over many years.

But Sunday from 2 p.m. to around 6 p.m., Black History Month will be celebrated for the first time on Bo Diddley Community Plaza with various black musicians performing, Ballard, the events coordinator for the City of Gainesville Parks Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, said.

“Black musicians over the many years have contributed just really to every major genre of popular music,” Ballard said. “There’s a little something for everybody.”

The free concert will feature world-renowned trumpeter Longineu Parsons and award-winning songwriter Billy Buchanan with his Rock ‘n Soul Revue coming together under the stage name Dr. Neu & Blujafunk, according to a press release.

The name comes from the collaboration of genres between the two bands, performing everything from blues to jazz to funk.

The concert, presented by the City of Gainesville, is free to the public and funded in part by Culture Builds Florida. This campaign strives to promote art and



Courtesy to the Alligator
Billy Buchanan, pictured here (foreground), will come together with his Rock ‘n Soul Revue to form Dr. Neu & Blujafunk for Sunday’s show.

culture to create a continually vibrant and creative Florida, according to the website.

“To be able to welcome everybody, nobody has to buy a ticket. Nobody has to not come because they’re on a budget,” Ballard said. “You know, it’s just really something that everybody from

all walks of life and all incomes can come and have a great time together.”

People are invited to bring blankets or lawn chairs downtown to Bo Diddley and enjoy a concert that “celebrates many of the great pioneer artists of black music,” according to the press re-

lease.

Ballard said he expects anywhere from 500 to a couple thousand people to show out Sunday afternoon, similar to the turnout of free Friday night concerts downtown.

Ariel Williams, a black Gainesville native, said she

hasn’t attended a Black History Month event downtown in more than 20 years.

“However, I remember it vividly and think about it often,” Williams said.

She said the black community has always come together in celebration of its history, whether at church, barbershops, hair salons or cookouts.

“Seeing it at large, if you will, reinforces what I already know and have been raised to love — that our community is love, strength, resiliency and joy,” Williams said.

She recently attended a similar event, “Take Me To The River,” a nationwide tour of several Delta musicians celebrating the evolution of blues to modern day hip-hop, which performed in Gainesville.

“It was an eye opening exploration of how racism directly impacted the Memphis Blues scene and Black communities in the Jim Crow era,” she said.

She said now she is even more excited for the concert Sunday.

“Learning about cultures and communities outside of your own is progressive and what this city needs,” she said. “If you are curious, come with an open mind and listen to understand without judgment.”

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RELEASE DATE-- Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

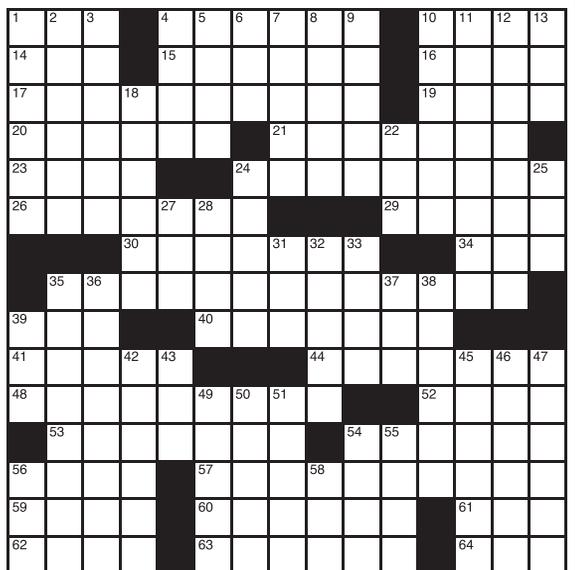
- ACROSS**
- 1 Curve on a slalom, e.g.
 - 4 Frugal folks
 - 10 Sea devastated by irrigation projects
 - 14 "Something tells ___ should've stayed in bed"
 - 15 Brunch staple
 - 16 Walk worriedly
 - 17 Super-fun experience
 - 19 Tolkien beasts
 - 20 Concrete strengtheners
 - 21 German auto pioneer
 - 23 Junior or senior
 - 24 Certain baby tiger
 - 26 Grandmotherly type
 - 29 Sarge's superior
 - 30 Stand behind
 - 34 Rural stopover
 - 35 Cramming three seasons into a weekend, say
 - 39 A pop
 - 40 Contemptuous one
 - 41 Wolf pack member
 - 44 Natural night lights
 - 48 Salsa percussion instrument
 - 52 Crowe's "A Beautiful Mind" role
 - 53 Remove field heat from before storage, as crops
 - 54 Japanese faith
 - 56 Like cotton candy
 - 57 Securing strap
 - 59 Owned
 - 60 Horseshoes score
 - 61 Short-lived obsession
 - 62 Neighborhood
 - 63 Make certain
 - 64 Trout lure
- DOWN**
- 1 Developmental stage
 - 2 Sargasso wriggler

- 3 Nautical stage name of comedian David Adkins
- 4 Lemony cocktail
- 5 Rock concert gear
- 6 Zoo staffer
- 7 Slur over
- 8 Hire a new crew for
- 9 "Shrek!" author William
- 10 Historic Harlem theater
- 11 Treasury collectible
- 12 Accumulating, as interest
- 13 "___ Miz"
- 18 Source of tomatoes for homemade sauce
- 22 Bad beginning?
- 24 "Iron Chef Showdown" host
- 25 "Big" London attraction
- 27 ESL part: Abbr.
- 28 Citrus drinks
- 31 "Is This Love" singer Corinne Bailey ___
- 32 Power source
- 33 Sandy-colored
- 35 1940s jazzman
- 36 Totalitarian control
- 37 Naval pronoun
- 38 Having a twist
- 39 Happy hour site
- 42 It may form the outline for a meeting's minutes
- 43 Front-of-bk. list
- 45 Skedadddled
- 46 Celestial
- 47 Substandard
- 49 Paso ___: two-step dance
- 50 City where Joan of Arc died
- 51 Arm bones
- 54 Crystal ball reader
- 55 Where you are, on a mall map
- 56 ___ Na Na
- 58 Bearded grazer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

B	F	F	O	S	P	R	E	Y	V	I	L	E
E	R	A	R	E	L	I	N	E	A	D	E	S
B	I	K	E	R	G	A	N	G	S	N	I	T
O	D	I	N	A	N	G	A	D	O	B	E	
P	A	R	D	O	B	O	W	L	G	A	M	E
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Q	U	A	V	E	R	M	I	E	N	O	D	E
B	R	E	E	D	I	N	G	R	O	U	N	D
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O	A	R	S	R	E	S	I	N	S	P	R	E
S	L	O	E	U	N	S	N	A	P	S	S	Y

02/07/18



By Roland Huget ©2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 02/07/18

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18 Personals

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Gators look to end SEC skid tonight against LSU Tigers



Will Clewis / Alligator Staff

Despite the Florida men's basketball team dropping three of its last four games, guard Chris Chiozza isn't worried. "We went through this before where we bounced back pretty well," he said.

By Andrew Huang
Sports Writer

After three straight conference losses, senior guard Chris Chiozza — leader of the reeling Florida men's basketball team — is ready to see some changes take place during the second half of SEC play.

"We went through this before where we bounced back pretty well," Chiozza said, referring to the team's six-game winning streak in late December and early January that came after losing four of its previous five games.

Chiozza is looking to help the Gators (15-8, 6-4 SEC) regain their form against LSU (13-9, 4-6 SEC) tonight at 6:30 at the O'Connell Center.

The Gators have dropped three of their last four games — the sole win coming against non-conference foe Baylor — with many of their struggles coming in the second halves of those losses.

During a home defeat against South Carolina on Jan. 24, Florida hit a flurry of shots to open the second half, only to be outscored 38-24 over the final 16:11.

Three days later against Georgia, UF had a stretch in the second half where it missed 19 of 20 shots. Most recently,

Florida squandered a six-point halftime lead over Alabama. The Gators were outscored 41-17 by the Crimson Tide after the break.

For coach Mike White, it's back to the drawing board.

White said he's considering "wholesale changes" for his team after dropping from first in the SEC standings to a three-way tie for third over the course of the team's current losing streak.

"Some of it was a little bit effort," White said. "Some of it was a little bit of wind. But most of all, it was our guys weren't in the right spot that they were supposed to be in."

White said he wants to see more discipline from his players moving forward. He also wondered if he was keeping his starters on the court for too long.

"Some of our second-half collapses defensively, I think, have to do with playing guys too many minutes," White said. "We're not a very deep team. We've got to somehow get a little bit deeper. We've got to infuse somehow a little bit of confidence in a couple of these freshmen to give us something."

White said freshman guards Deundrae Ballard and Mike Okauru have

SEE **MEN'S B-BALL**, PAGE 20

Jake's on a Plane / Opinion

Ranking the three best commercials of Super Bowl LII

Ah yes, the Super Bowl. The event where millions of people around the country flock to a TV set for three and a half hours, not to watch the championship game of America's most popular sport, but to obsess over the new, fun, flamboyant commercials that debut throughout the night.

Especially this year, when the game featured two of the most disliked teams in the NFL. The Eagles, who skated by following the loss of starting quarterback Carson Wentz, defeated the Patriots 41-33, earning the Lombardi Trophy for the first time. The matchup made it easy for viewers to focus mainly on the advertisements.

But now that Super Bowl LII is over, it's time to look back at why everyone watched the game in the first place and rank the top three



Jake Dreiling
twitter: @DreilingJake

commercials from Sunday night.

No. 3: "Touchdowns to Come"

This one was important. In the last few years, sports fans have become disillusioned with professional football, christening the NFL as the "No Fun

League."

Rule changes, not knowing what a catch is and playing favorites for certain teams — *cough, cough Patriots* — have made fans angry.

Penalties on touchdown celebrations, something the NFL has since changed its stance on, have pissed off fans beyond belief.

This commercial highlighted that. Showing Odell Beckham Jr. and Eli Manning practicing a celebration to the theme of Dirty Dancing, the advertisement reminded us why we love football in the first place.

SEE **COLUMN**, PAGE 20

BASEBALL

UF hoping new position players negate last season's draft losses

By Ethan Bauer
Sports Writer

There are holes.

Along the infield, at catcher and in the outfield, Florida's baseball team, coming off its first national title, lost six players to the MLB Draft and two more to graduation.

To fill those spots and try to repeat as champions, UF is turning to some fresh faces, starting with Brady McConnell.

McConnell was selected in the 33rd round of the 2017 draft by the Reds, but he had a higher rating than his slot suggests. McConnell was awarded the ranking of 29th-best high school player in the country by Perfect Game, which wrote of McConnell, "5 tool player with a huge ceiling."

The two players directly in front of and behind him in those rankings got taken in the second round, which should tell you McConnell's draft-day slide wasn't talent based.

Coach Kevin O'Sullivan apparently agrees. He said that although Mc-

Connell — who hit .372 as a senior at Merritt Island High School — has been battling an illness lately, he's still the favorite to start from day one at shortstop. And if not, he'll start at third base.

McConnell is replacing Dalton Guthrie, who started at shortstop for UF the past two years and was taken by the Philadelphia Phillies in the sixth round.

If McConnell does end up at third base, last season's third baseman, Jonathan India, will slide over to shortstop.

Staying in the infield, Florida will be without seasoned second baseman Deacon Liput to start the season. Liput was suspended in the offseason for undisclosed reasons, and although he's back with the team now, O'Sullivan said he'll miss an undisclosed number of games.

His replacement will be junior Blake Reese, who hit .233 in 40 games last season.

"Blake Reese had a really good fall," O'Sullivan said. "So I would an-

ticipate him being able to start at second base, and he's earned the right to do that."

First base was voided by JJ Schwarz, who will play catcher in the absence of Mike Rivera and Mark Kolozsvary, who were selected in the sixth and seventh rounds, respectively.

Sophomore Keenan Bell, who started seven games at first base in 2017, should be the everyday guy this year. He hit .283 with 12 RBIs in 92 at-bats last season.

On his days off, Schwarz will be relieved by a combination of freshman catchers Cal Greenfield and Brady Smith or junior transfer Jonah Girand. Girand, the most experienced of the trio, hit .256 last season at Seminole State College while Greenfield (No. 6) edged out Smith (No. 9) in Perfect Game's high school catcher rankings.

"Nothing to complain about," junior pitcher Brady Singer said of this team's young infielders. "They're all

SEE **BASEBALL**, PAGE 20



Kicker **Eddy Pineiro** was one of six former Gators invited to the NFL Combine on Tuesday. The scouting event is taking place in Indianapolis from March 2 to 5.

Gators finalizing 2018 freshman class today

Florida's football team will add new players to its roster this morning during the annual National Signing Day. UF landed 15 recruits on Dec. 20 during college football's first-ever early signing period. Go online to alligator.org/sports for up-to-the-minute coverage of the day's events.

Follow us for updates

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



SOFTBALL

Senior leaders have another championship run in mind for Florida

By Mari Faiello
Sports Writer

It's been 246 days since Florida's softball team felt the pain of coming up two games short of a national championship, getting swept by Oklahoma 2-0 in the Women's College World Series.

This season will mark the last opportunity for seniors Aleshia Ocasio, Kayli Kvistad, Nicole DeWitt and Janell Wheaton to make it to the finals of the WCWS in Oklahoma City, and potentially take home the title as well.

Their resumes leading up to this year includes three SEC regular season championships, three No. 1 national seeds, one WCWS runner-up finish and one WCWS championship title.

The team's seniors heading into the 2018 season carry a lot of weight for the team. It will need the experience of the upperclassmen to take them deep into the WCWS again this year.

DeWitt has been a starter in almost every game throughout

her career, with the exception of eight games between her freshman and sophomore seasons.

This season, her work as an infielder will help with her transition to third base as she strives to take the Gators step-by-step to Oklahoma City once again.

Going into this season, she has a .329 career batting average as well 104 total RBIs.

Wheaton is another strong asset to the team, providing the professional leadership qualities that have caught coach Tim Walton's attention.

"Janell Wheaton is probably one of the most underrated players in the country," he said.

While Wheaton's stats on the roster may come off as average, she's continued to progress throughout her career, especially during last year's postseason.

When it comes to Ocasio, Walton says she provides leadership to the Gators with her dynamic on the field.

Ocasio, a utility player, has become one of the most versa-

tile players in college softball after playing multiple positions over the course of her career.

When junior Kelly Barnhill stepped up as the team's top pitcher, Ocasio found other roles for herself, playing other infield positions that have been beneficial to the Gators.

When it came to Kvistad, Walton emphasized her well-roundedness as a player and student.

Kvistad was one of five players from Florida selected to the 2018 Preseason All-SEC Team. For the last three years she's been selected to the SEC Academic Honor Roll.

Kvistad had 53 RBIs last season, the most of anyone on the team, and a batting average of .368.

"They're all so different, yet they all have the same thing in mind," Walton said. "They all want to win and they want to win the right way."

@faiello_mari
mfaiello@alligator.org



Alan Alvarez / Alligator Staff

Senior infielder Nicole DeWitt has a .329 career batting average as well as 104 RBIs.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Gators showing potential in recent losses

By Justin Ahlum
Sports Writer

With slightly over seven minutes remaining in Monday night's game, Florida held a one-point lead over No. 15 Missouri. However, when the last shot missed the rim and the contest went final, the Gators dropped their eighth SEC game of the season and their third straight conference game against a ranked opponent.

UF's 66-64 road loss to the Tigers on Monday was the team's closest loss in terms of final score during its current three-game losing streak. It was also UF's sixth conference loss by single digits.

Despite another losing effort, coach Cameron Newbauer said he was impressed with his team's energy.

"We made big plays when we had to and made stops," Newbauer said

in a release.

Throughout Monday's game, the Gators went basket for basket with another ranked program out of the SEC.

The lead changed 10 times against the Tigers, and the Gators' deficit never ballooned larger than six points.

"I could not be more proud of this group and their fight tonight on the road against a top-15 team," Newbauer said.

The loss to Missouri closely mirrored Florida's mid-season matchup with Kentucky. Both teams went back and forth in the fourth quarter until Florida guard Funda Nakkasoglu missed a three-pointer in the final seconds to end the contest.

At the time, both UF and the Wildcats were fighting for their first conference win of the season. Now, just a month and a half later, Florida is playing neck and neck with teams ce-

mented at the top of the SEC — a conference many would argue is the best league in women's college basketball.

The Gators held their own for much of the first half against No. 2 Mississippi State on Jan. 25 before the Bulldogs pulled away in the latter part of the contest.

Just a few nights later, Florida held a seven-point lead over No. 20 Georgia midway through the second half. The Bulldogs needed a 31-point surge from their offense in the final quarter to avoid the upset.

Despite the tough losses to high-caliber teams this season, the Gators are taking these losses with a grain of salt.

"I'm tremendously proud of our fight and team effort," Newbauer said. "They played their guts out."

@justinn_case1
jahlum@alligator.org

WOMEN'S TENNIS

UF facing Cowgirls tonight following tough loss to FSU

By River Wells
Sports Writer

Last Saturday, the No. 3 Florida women's tennis team walked into its dual meet against Florida State with a 55-1 all-time record against the Seminoles, but was swiftly defeated 4-1.

Facing a similar scenario against the No. 18 Oklahoma State Cowgirls tonight at 6:30 in Stillwater, Oklahoma, UF is hoping that history doesn't repeat itself.

The Gators (2-1) have yet to lose against the Cowgirls (5-1) in the all-time series, currently sitting on a 10-0 lead. UF's most significant win over OSU came last year in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Championships on May 21.

Like Florida, Oklahoma State has some new players on its roster, though its roster is much bigger, with 10 players on the team compared to UF's seven.

Only two of the 10 are freshmen, meaning Gators first-year players Katie Kubicz, Victoria Emma and McCartney Kessler will see competition from play-

ers far more experienced than themselves.

"Oklahoma State is a team kind of like ours," coach Roland Thornqvist said in a release. "It should be fun for us to play a lot of matches here against some good, quality competition."

OSU is looking to capitalize on its momentum coming off a 4-2 win against Arkansas, while UF is hoping to come back to form after its shocking three-point loss to FSU. OSU's one loss this came against Ole Miss on Jan. 27.

While the dual meet should be a tough one for Florida, Thornqvist is also looking ahead to one of the bigger events of the year: the ITA National Team Indoor Championships.

"We're going to get a good look at all the best teams in the country pretty much, so for a young team like ours that's going to be great for us," he said. "Everybody will get to see the level of competition on the national stage."

@riverhwells
rhwells@alligator.org

THIS WEEK IN UF SPORTS

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Men's Basketball vs. LSU, 6:30 p.m., SEC Network
Women's Tennis @ Oklahoma State, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Women's Basketball vs. Mississippi State, 7 p.m., SEC Network +

Friday, Feb. 9

Men's/Women's Track & Field @ Tiger Paw Invitational, All Day
Men's/Women's Track & Field @ Iowa State Classic, All Day
*Softball vs. Illinois State, 4:45 p.m.

Men's Tennis @ Michigan, 6 p.m.

Gymnastics vs. Alabama, 6:45 p.m., SEC Network
Women's Tennis @ ITA National Team Indoor Championships, TBD

Saturday, Feb. 10

Men's/Women's Track & Field @ Tiger Paw Invitational, All Day
Men's/Women's Track & Field @ Iowa State Classic, All Day
*Softball vs. Michigan, 11 a.m.
Men's Basketball @ South Carolina, Noon, CBS
*Softball vs. Georgia State, 1:15 p.m.
Women's Tennis @ ITA National Team Indoor Championships, TBD

Sunday, Feb. 11

Women's Golf @ Northrop Grumman Challenge, All Day
Lacrosse vs. Colorado, Noon, ESPN3
Men's Tennis @ Ohio State, Noon
Women's Basketball @ South Carolina, 1 p.m., SEC Network
*Softball vs. UAB, 1:30 p.m.
Softball @ South Florida, 4:15 p.m.
Women's Tennis @ ITA National Team Indoor Championships, TBD

*Denotes Neutral Site Game



Alligator File Photo

Nelson Maldonado is still nursing a lingering arm injury from late last season and will likely start the year as Florida's designated hitter.

Maldonado hit .299 last season

BASEBALL, from pg 18

hard-nosed kids who play hard and work hard. I'm excited to see them get out there and play."

In the outfield, the Gators only lost senior Ryan Larson. The trio of sophomore Austin Langworthy (LF), senior Nick Horvath (CF) and junior Nelson Maldonado (RF) started together eight times last season, so that seems like the logical group to start this season.

The one exception could be Maldonado, who is still nursing a lingering arm injury sustained late last season. O'Sullivan said Maldonado will likely start the season as Florida's designated hitter — he hit a team-best .299 last year — which leaves an outfield spot open for a newcomer. O'Sullivan hasn't said who the contenders are, but one likely option is Wil Dalton.

A sophomore who transferred from Columbia State, Dalton hit .392 last season with 15 home runs, good for the second-most in school history.

Another option is freshman lefty Jordan Butler, who will also likely contribute out of the bullpen. He's a Team USA alumnus and was drafted in the 34th round by the Yankees.

"We do have a lot of young guys," Langworthy said, "and there's just a lot they haven't learned. Coming in your first year — especially in the SEC — it's a big learning curve."

Those new faces will need to adjust to that curve quickly for Florida to return to Omaha.

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Reath leads the Tigers in blocks

MEN'S B-BALL, from pg 18

looked good in practice and their playing time might increase.

Another factor White zeroed in on was shot selection. While he wants the Gators to shoot with confidence, White would like to see fewer forced shots against the Tigers — something his floor general, Chiozza, agrees with.

"We've been known to try to take hard shots to get something going when we don't have everything going our way," Chiozza said.

Another reason Florida has a tendency to force shots is its inconsistent defensive play, something Chiozza pointed out in the loss to Alabama.

Defensively, Chiozza will have his hands full with LSU guard Tremont Waters. Waters leads the Tigers with 15.3 points per game and is coming off a 27-point, 11-assist performance in a win against Arkansas on Saturday.

White praised Waters' playmaking abilities as well as LSU forward Duop Reath, who is second behind Waters in scoring and leads the Tigers in blocks.

"Boy, (Waters) is a handful," White said. "He's really, really gifted with the ball in his hands... and I don't know what (Reath's) numbers were last year off the top of my head but he's had some huge games and he's continued to improve."

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COLUMN, from pg 18

It was fun.

When you have the new and improved NFL knocking on the door attempting to weaken the NFL's professional football monopoly, a commercial like this is exactly what was needed to lighten the mood.

No. 2: "DORITOS BLAZE vs. MTN DEW ICE"

I don't know about you, but Peter Dinklage rapping to Busta Rhymes' verse in "Look At Me Now," followed by Morgan Freeman lip-syn-

ching Missy Elliot's "Get Your Freak On," was nothing short of awesome. It was one of the best moments of the night, behind the actual game.

Bringing the fire-and-ice theme from season seven of Game of Thrones (and using one of the characters from the show), PepsiCo succeeded in reinventing two products that most Americans already know about. The new Doritos Blaze and Mountain Dew Ice are fresh takes on old products.

Not to mention the final shot featured both Dinklage and Freeman facing each other, with fire on one side and ice on the other.

It also may or may not have spoiled a possi-

ble plot point for Game of Thrones season eight.

No. 1: "It's a Tide Ad" & "It's Another Tide Ad"

NBC charged just over \$5 million for a 30-second ad for the Super Bowl. Tide had just shy of two minutes worth of ads and paid roughly \$20 million.

It was worth it.

In what seemed like yet another car, beer or Mr. Clean advertisement, David Harbour, coming off his role as Jim Hopper from Netflix's "Stranger Things," interrupts to utter the phrase, "It's a Tide ad."

It's one of those ideas designed to show that not every Super Bowl commercial needs to be the same to be iconic. Poking fun at conventional advertisements can be just as effective.

When Harbour appeared in what seemed to be an Old Spice commercial, it proved that notion.

In an event as large as the Super Bowl, where all eyes were watching the Patriots lose, standing out made all the difference.

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WEDNESDAY LADIES NIGHT

LADIES NIGHT

Free Drinks for Ladies

— Live DJ —

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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

Door @ 9pm

All You Can Drink Wells @ 10pm - 12pm