

alligator



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GPD: Suspected shooter arrested near Southwest 20th Avenue

By Robert Lewis
Alligator Staff Writer

Following a four-hour standoff with police officers, a Gainesville man was arrested for allegedly shooting at a man he knew Sunday afternoon.

Anthony Brown, 35, got into a heated argument with the man over \$73 before Brown took out a gun and shot at him multiple times in his Windsor Terrace apartment on Southwest 20th Avenue near Winn-Dixie, said Officer Ben Tobias, a Gainesville Police spokesperson. The man was uninjured.

Sandra Norris, 56, lives in the apartment next to Brown's. Her grandchildren, Kentiya, Kobe, Ke-Ajah and Kenylla shook her awake from a nap at about 1 p.m. when they heard the gunfire.

"Grandma, Tony is out there shooting," Norris said they told her.

Norris said Brown tacked a piece of cardboard with the Ten Commandments written on it to his door after the argument. He then walked around carrying a Bible in one hand and his phone in the other, she said.

"God made me superior," he said, according to Norris.

Police responded to the shooting at about 1:30 p.m. To stop Brown, they used a weapon that fires sponge-like rounds meant to incapacitate its target but not pierce their body, Tobias said. It proved ineffective.

Brown then went back into the apartment, where he had phone conversations with police negotiators while officers blocked the road between Southwest 34th Street and Southwest 38th Terrace with patrol cars for about four

SEE SHOOTING, PAGE 4



Taylor Marks / Alligator Staff

Windsor Terrace resident Sandra Norris appears distressed as armored police vehicles surrounded Southwest 20th Avenue Sunday afternoon. "Never in a million years would I anticipate this happening," she said.

Gainesville considers options to honor Tom Petty's legacy

By Remi Storch
Alligator Contributing Writer

The City of Gainesville is asking the public how to honor rock legend Tom Petty.

The city announced Thursday it is considering six options to memorialize Petty, a singer and songwriter from Gainesville who died Oct. 2. Steve Phillips, director of the city's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, said after Petty's death, the general policy committee, made up of all the city commissioners, began to discuss ways the city could honor Petty's life.

"He's one of our local heroes," Phillips said.

The six options include renaming a city street, renaming a city park or facility, adding a statue to a city park or facility, hosting an annual concert or music festival, proclaiming Petty's Oct. 20 birthday as Tom Petty day or dedicating the month of October to his musical legacy. Participants also have the option to write in suggestions as

well, Phillips said.

All the recommendations on the survey were suggested by the public. The six options on the survey that were chosen were thought to be the most feasible by the city to put into action, Phillips said. Suggestions like renaming the city to "Pettyville" or renaming the airport in Petty's honor were not possible.

The public can vote for their favorite options on the online survey at surveymonkey.com/r/TomPettyMemorial.

The survey will close April 16 and results will be evaluated by the general policy committee. A final decision will be made shortly after, Phillips said. The city hopes to have the honor be completed or in the works by October of this year.

Phillips said there are currently no funds allocated toward any of the projects. The cost will vary depending on what is decided. Once the final decision is made, the general policy committee will come up with a way

SEE PETTY, PAGE 4

BASKETBALL

Chiozza era comes to close with Gators' elimination from NCAAs

By Benjamin Brandt
Sports Writer

The Florida men's basketball team has unlaced its dancing shoes.

Its fate was finalized by a 69-66 loss to Texas Tech in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Saturday night. And away with dreams of orange and blue confetti and hoisted hardware, escaped the era of guard Chris Chiozza.

In his final game, the four-year Gator contributed 11 points and three steals despite finding himself in foul trouble. He watched from the bench — where he sat with four fouls — as the Red Raiders stole Florida's final lead of the game by scoring nine unanswered points midway through the second half.

On their final possession, the Gators (21-13) had a chance to tie the game with a three. Chiozza, who hit last year's miracu-

lous buzzer-beater to advance Florida to the Elite Eight, chose to do what he does best: pass. With less than 10 seconds left, he found guard Egor Koulechov open on the baseline. Koulechov missed on what would've been Chiozza's 572nd career assist.

"We got what we wanted," Chiozza said after the game. "We just didn't make it."

Even after forward Keith Stone snagged the offensive rebound and worked the ball to guard KeVaughn Allen for one final attempt, the ball didn't fall.

However, Chiozza's dazzling Florida basketball legacy didn't require a fairytale ending. He led the SEC in assists per game (6.1) this season, while improving his assist-to-turnover ratio from last year's 2.4 to a career-best 3.4. He also stole the ball at the second-best rate in the conference (1.9 per game). At the regular season's close, Chi-

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 14

GATORS SQUEAK PAST GAMECOCKS

Florida's baseball team defeated South Carolina on Sunday to win their first SEC series of the year, pg. 15



UF student arrested for possessing child porn
Police said he used a UF printing lab, pg. 4

RTS bus drivers ask for better wages
Some of them spoke at a City Commission meeting, pg. 3

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Today's Weather



AM



NOON



PM

HIGH 80° LOW 66°

Local Events / News in Brief

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Sikhism at UF

The UF Sikh Students Association will host a Turban Day event on Turlington Plaza from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on March 21. The event aims to make UF students aware of Sikhism and offers a chance to do something out of the ordinary by experiencing someone else's culture. As part of the event, the members of the Sikh Students Association will help tie turbans around students' heads. For more information, call 352-877-0407.

'Law in the Library: Restoration of Civil Rights Workshops'

The Alachua County Library District is partnering with the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association to present "Law in the Library: Restoration of Civil Rights Workshops" from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. March 22 at Cone Park Library Branch, located at 2801 E. University Ave. Attorneys will provide one-on-one assistance to those who have been convicted of a felony and are interested in applying to have their civil rights restored. 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.

Talking Gators Toastmasters

Want to get more comfortable speaking in front of a group? Talking Gators Toastmasters meets at 5:45 p.m. every Tuesday in the UF Entomology Building, Room 1031. Meetings are free to attend and open to all. For more information, visit talkinggators.toastmastersclubs.org.

Fulbright Awareness Month

The UF International Center will hold Fulbright Awareness Month until April 12. Multiple informational sessions for students, scholars, faculty and staff will provide opportunities to learn about the Fulbright application process and hear about the experiences of past scholars and students. This year, information sessions will be led by Peter VanDerwater, the director of outreach at the Council for International Exchange for Scholars in Washington, D.C. For more information, visit internationalcenter.ufl.edu.

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.

AP NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Putin wins another 6 years as Russian leader

MOSCOW — Vladimir Putin rolled to a crushing re-election victory Sunday for six more years as Russia's president. There had been no doubt that Putin would win in his fourth electoral contest; he faced seven minor candidates and his most prominent foe was blocked from the ballot. His only real challenge was to run up the tally so high he could



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

claim an indisputable mandate.

Death penalty for drug traffickers part of Trump opioid plan

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's plan to combat opioid drug addiction calls for stiffer penalties for drug traffickers, including the death penalty where it's appropriate under current law. The president will unveil his plan Monday in New Hampshire, a state hit hard by the crisis.

Retirees protest across Spain to demand a pension hike

MADRID — Unions and retiree groups called for protests in over 100 cities and towns across Spain on Saturday to demand that pension payouts rise in line with inflation. Many pensioners complain that the government's 0.25 percent increase in 2017 is insufficient. Protestors braved rain and cold weather in Madrid to march behind a banner saying "Protect Pensions in the Constitution."

State: Voicemail about cracks 2 days before bridge fell

MIAMI — An engineer left a voicemail two days before a catastrophic bridge failure in Miami to say some cracking had been found at one end of the concrete span, but the voicemail wasn't picked up until after the collapse, Florida Department of Transportation officials said Friday.

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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RTS drivers are asking Gainesville city officials for change

By McKenna Beery
and Meg Schloss

Alligator Contributing Writers

Gainesville Regional Transit System bus drivers showed up unexpectedly to the Gainesville City Commission meeting Thursday to speak about their concerns with insufficient wages, overworking and not being respected.

District 3 City Commissioner David Arreola said members of the Amalgamated Transit Union voiced their grievances with their jobs with RTS. Arreola said it is probably in response to the announcement the city recently lost 20 drivers and will begin reducing RTS services this week as a result.

The city was not scheduled to talk about RTS, but the union members felt compelled to speak in the public comment section, he said.

Arreola said he and other commissioners also voiced their displeasure not only with poor employee treatment, but also with the RTS services cut back.

"I definitely agree that many of our bus drivers are being underpaid and probably overworked if it is true that they are working over 12 hours a day," Arreola said. "In those cases, they are absolutely being overworked."

The decrease in routes is due to a lack of drivers, he said.

Arreola said the city is actively trying to hire for those positions in



Alan Alvarez / Alligator Staff

"I feel like we are all by ourselves," RTS bus driver McRoberts Alphonse, 51, said at a Gainesville City Commission meeting on Thursday night. The city is currently facing a bus driver shortage.

order to restore services to the level they were at before. There are career and job fairs already going on in efforts to hire more transit operators, he said.

"The biggest thing is that people's days are going to be tremendously affected, and as a commissioner, that is unacceptable to me," he said. "I am very glad our staff has initiated the process to try and

hire more of these transit operators."

If every driver worked 12 hours a day for 7 days a week, RTS would still have more than 1,000 work hours unfilled, said Zefnia Durham, president of the Gainesville chapter of the Amalgamated Transit Union, the union representing labor at RTS.

"We've had issues before, but

I think it's at an all-time low this particular time," the Durham said.

With the decrease in RTS workers, drivers are being called in to work overtime on days they previously had off, Durham said.

Only seven drivers out of 181 have secured their top-out pay, the highest amount they are eligible to earn per hour, which is just under \$20, Durham said. Those who

have been with their companies for more than six years should have top-out pay, yet there are veterans who have been working with RTS for more than 18 years without it.

Terry Ivery, vice president of the Gainesville chapter of the union, said the starting pay for RTS bus drivers is \$12.75. The majority of drivers currently make between \$13.50 to \$14.

Durham said he believes there is a need to enforce a plan of transparency for new workers so they understand the progression in receiving raises. More people would be willing to work for RTS if they knew when they could expect a raise, he said.

RTS bus driver McRoberts Alphonse, 51, attended the meeting Thursday night and said the city keeps promising to work with RTS employees, but no one has actually helped them.

"I feel like we are all by ourselves," he said.

Alphonse said he has been an RTS bus driver for 10 years and just last year received a raise to \$15 an hour. He said he feels once someone has worked long enough with the city, they should receive their top-out pay, but the city of Gainesville has rejected almost everybody's requests.

"In the next couple of months, if I don't see RTS doing better, I may have to look for another job because it is hard to eat right now," Alphonse said.

Alachua County politicians offer predictions for election

By Amanda Rosa

Alligator Staff Writer

An online panel of Alachua County and Gainesville politicians and political experts predicted City Commissioners Charles Goston and Harvey Budd will be re-elected in Tuesday's municipal election.

The Democratic political consulting firm Everblue Communications and Republican research firm Meer Research surveyed 11 Republicans, 10 Democrats, one Independent and three undeclared to find bipartisan "insider" predictions of Tuesday's election results. The survey found 17 out of the 25 panelists, which included City Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos and former Alachua County Commissioner Cynthia Chestnut, predicted Goston would win and unanimously predicted County Commission incumbent Ken Cornell would win the county elections in November. The survey's participants also predicted Randy Wells would win a County Commission seat.

The survey does not statistically reflect Gainesville voters, according to the Meer Research website.

Bryan Eastman, with Everblue Communications, wrote in an email this is the second time Meer and Everblue collaborated on an insider panel. Although the panel results aren't always accurate, the insiders did correctly predict Hayes-Santos' and Mayor Lauren Poe's wins in 2016, he said.

"In these polarizing times, we think it's

important that discussions like these reflect voices on all sides of the spectrum," Eastman said.

Most of the insiders also predicted Gainesville voters will vote to move elections to August and establish the Gainesville Regional Utilities Authority, a governing body over Gainesville Regional Utilities.

Jeremiah Tattersall, a panel respondent and an American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations field director, said he disagreed with the panel's slight-majority favor of incumbent Budd over Gail Johnson for At-Large Seat 1.

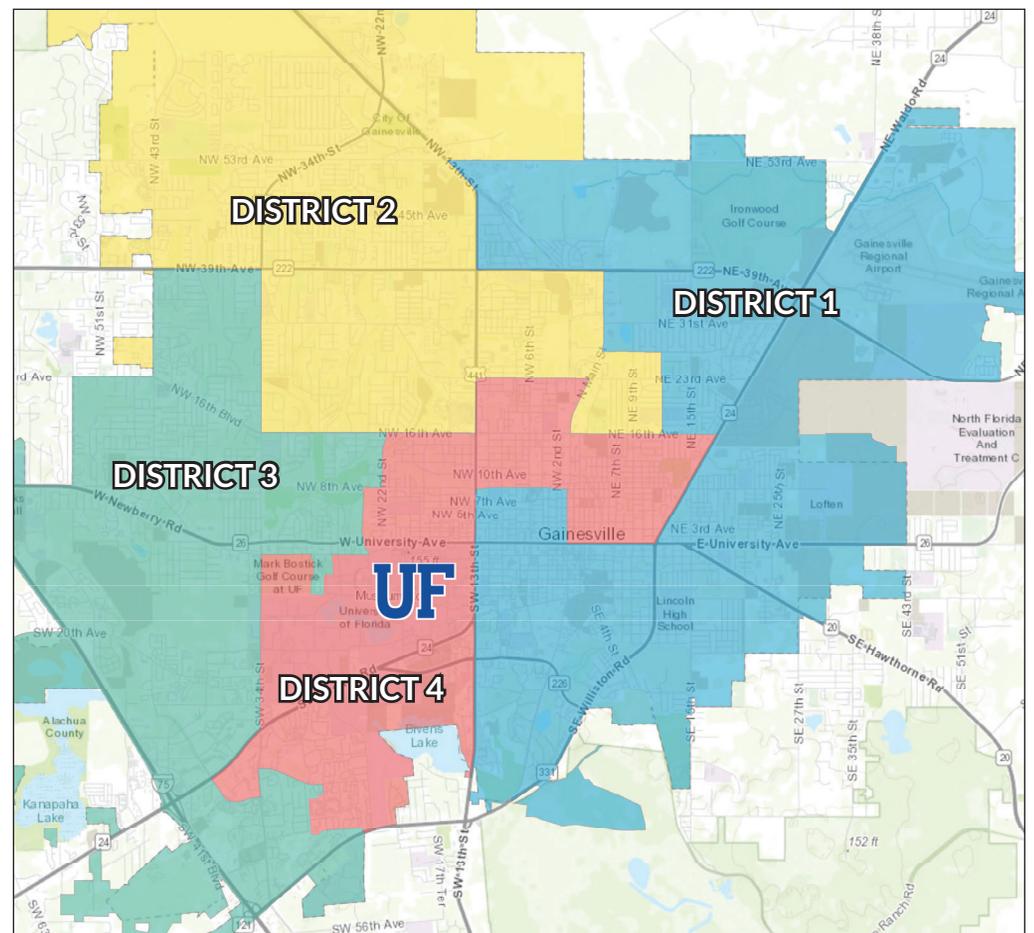
"The energy out there for these new voters that are coming out are heavy Gail supporters," Tattersall said.

Tattersall said the results were skewed too conservatively to accurately represent largely Democratic Alachua County voters. The number of registered Democrats in Alachua County is nearly double that of registered Republicans, according to the Supervisor of Elections' website.

"Really, at the end of the day, Alachua County is a blue dot in a sea of red," Tattersall said. "It's not a purple dot, it's not a slightly red and slightly blue dot. It's a dark blue dot in a sea of red."

Check alligator.org for profiles on the candidates who will be on the ballot.

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City of Gainesville / Alligator Staff

Pictured is a map of District 1. Gainesville residents will be able to vote for city commission candidates on Tuesday – one to represent District 1 and one to represent the city at-large.

Winn-Dixie on Southwest 34th Street to close

By **Christi-Anne Weatherly**
Alligator Contributing Writer

Parker Kaleo goes to Winn-Dixie every other week to pick up milk because the 2002 SW 34th St. location is conveniently close to where he lives at the Ridge Apartments.

But the UF biochemistry and molecular biology sophomore might have to find a new place to buy milk, because the Gainesville Winn-Dixie on Southwest 34th Street and

29 others in Florida are closing.

"I guess it's a shock," Kaleo, 19, said. "I wasn't really expecting it."

Southeastern Grocers, the parent company of Winn-Dixie Stores Inc., is filing for bankruptcy by the end of March, said Joe Caldwell, Southeastern Grocers' corporate communications manager. The company announced Thursday it is closing 94 underperforming stores nationwide as part of a restructuring support agreement, which is a legal plan

companies undergo when filing bankruptcy.

The 94 closures also include Harveys and BI-LO locations, two other supermarket chains also under Southeastern Grocers, Caldwell said.

These closures will reduce Southeastern Grocers' debt by about \$500 million, Caldwell said. The stores will be closed by April 30.

The Gainesville Winn-Dixie on

300 SW 16th Ave. is not part of the closures, Caldwell said.

A manager at the 34th Street location declined to comment.

Most current store associates can be transferred to sister locations if they choose to do so, Caldwell said.

"Retention of our associates is our number one priority," he said.

Gainesville resident Diamond Holloway said she is sad to see the Winn-Dixie will be shutting down because she finds the prices are bet-

ter than most other grocers in the area.

"Sometimes they have a cheaper deal than Walmart so that's basically why we come here a lot," the 30-year-old said.

There have not been any announcements on what will replace the 34th Street location. Caldwell said Southeastern Grocers lease most of their store spaces, so it would be entirely up to the owner of the building.

GPD: UF student accessed child porn from UF printing lab

By **Meryl Kornfield**
Alligator Staff Writer

A UF student was charged Friday with possessing child pornography, which investigators said he accessed once from a UF printing lab IP address, Gainesville Police said.

Trevon Quik Boyd, 21, was investigated by police after the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children was tipped by Dropbox Inc. about potential child pornography stored on a Dropbox account linked to Boyd's email address, according to an arrest report.

Police subpoenaed records of Boyd's Dropbox usage and found he had images and a video of child pornography, according to the report. From a search warrant of Dropbox, police found about 40 gigabytes

of images and videos in Boyd's Dropbox, but police didn't say if all of the content was related to child pornography.

After his arrest, Boyd told police the email accounts and Dropbox account associated with the photos and video were his, according to the report. He told police he used the Dropbox account for sharing music.

Boyd was charged with two counts of possessing child pornography. He was taken to the Alachua County Jail and fitted with an electronic monitoring device Sunday morning after he was released on a \$30,000 bond.

Boyd is listed as a UF student in the UF directory.

A UF trespass warning was issued against Boyd on the day of his arrest, according to UF Public Safety's website.

Boyd could not be reached for comment.

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mkornfield@alligator.org

The survey will be open until April 16

PETTY, from pg. 1

to find funds for the memorial.

Daniel App, a 31-year-old Gainesville resident, said since the day after Petty died, he was already suggesting ways to honor Petty's life to the city.

App, the lead guitarist and manager of Heavy Petty, a Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers tribute band, said the way Petty is honored should remind people of his legacy and preserve the positive impact he had on many individuals.

App said he thinks that the best way to honor Petty, despite the six options listed, is to create a stage or center in the Depot Park area, similar to what is on Bo Diddley Community Plaza. He said this will allow people to have a place they can go to remember Petty and feel his presence.

That type of landmark is much more meaningful than renaming a street or declaring a Tom Petty day, App said.

"You would go there and feel his legacy, you feel his music, you feel all the positive things he has contributed to humanity," he said.



Iryna Kanishcheva / Courtesy to The Alligator

The owners of Visionary CrossFit, Carrie Martinez and Jesus Martinez, painted a Tom Petty tribute mural as a gift to Sidney Lanier Center.

Officers arrested him after he came out of his apartment

SHOOTING, from pg. 1

hours.

Residents of the apartment complex were evacuated by police behind riot shields and ushered onto the sidewalk in front of the Winn-Dixie across the street, where they watched the crime scene in their own complex. Children played while their parents filmed and pointed to Alachua County Sheriff's Office SWAT team vehicles, including an armed Hummer and a machine to take down a door, which were parked at the Campus USA bank parking lot that bordered the neighborhood.

Ultimately, the vehicles weren't needed to remove Brown from his home.

Brown's girlfriend was inside the apartment during the incident, but she was not a hostage and has been detained by police, Tobias said. She might face criminal charges, he said.

Tobias said negotiators convinced the

suspect to come outside of his apartment, after which he was arrested. Tobias said Brown could possibly be charged with attempted homicide and aggravated battery. Brown has not been charged, as of press time.

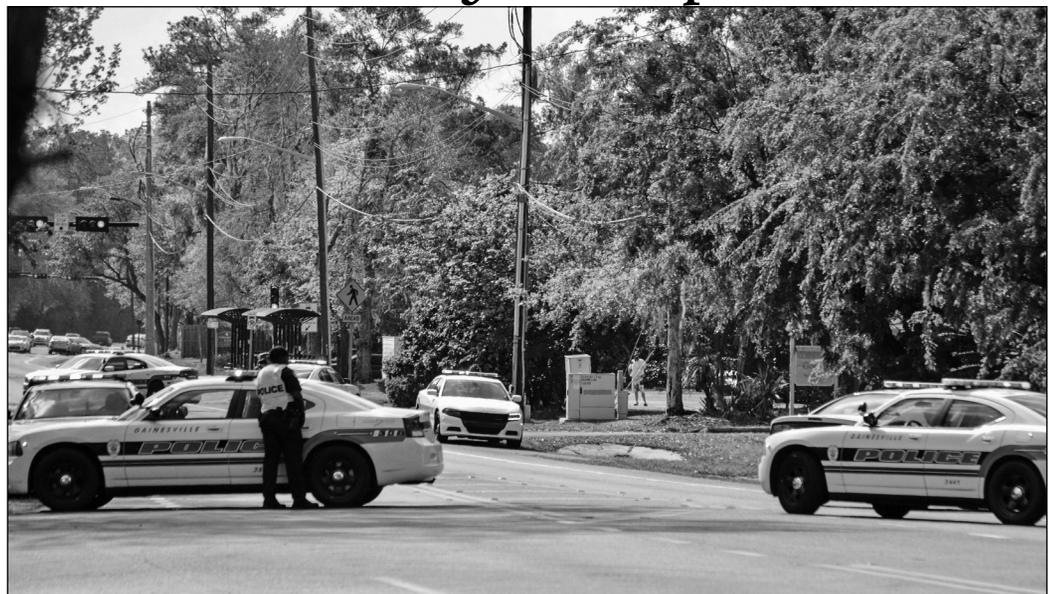
Kentiya Carver and her siblings normally play where the shooting took place. The 12-year-old Kanapaha Middle School student was watching television when she heard fighting followed by gunfire from her apartment's open window.

"I thought it was firecrackers at first," she said.

Norris said she texted Brown and told him to give himself up to police. She described Brown as "godly" and their neighborhood as quiet and friendly.

"Never in a million years would I have expected this from him," Norris said.

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Taylor Marks / Alligator Staff

Police vehicles surround the Windsor Terrace apartments on Southwest 20th Avenue following a shooting at the apartment complex Sunday afternoon.

UF students hunt for small treasures on campus using clues

THE HUNTS ARE ORGANIZED BY THREE UF STUDENTS USING A FACEBOOK PAGE.

By Christine Skofronick
Alligator Contributing Writer

Sherry Kao counted the steps from Turlington Plaza to the second floor of the University Auditorium on Feb. 20.

The UF biology sophomore followed a clue posted on a Facebook page.

The 19-year-old found what she was looking for taped underneath a bench — a slip of paper labeled “Hunt #2 WINNER.” She won three Lollipup gift cards, two Krishna House cards and a Sababa gift card.

Kao’s search was part of Mini Treasure Hunts around UF Campus, a Facebook page that advertises small-scale scavenger hunts, said Peter Theyo, one of the page organizers.

The idea for the mini treasure hunts started with two UF students

and Theyo, who’s a 23-year-old Gainesville resident. The three organizers enjoyed games and puzzles, and wanted to make a fun way for UF students to de-stress, Theyo said.

The page went live in August, and the first hunt was announced in a post Jan. 15. About six hunts have been conducted so far. Each one is about a week or two apart. A clue is posted on the page leading students directly to the winning paper. Student must take a selfie with it to officially win, Theyo said.

“People don’t want an insane, ‘National Treasure’ style hunt,” he said, “I don’t think that they’d want to do a 22-step process that ends with stealing the Declaration of Independence.”

The type of clue changes from hunt to hunt, Theyo said. Past locations include behind the stairwell railing in McCarty A, inside a book in Smathers Library and by the Reitz Union Pond’s Veterans Memorial plaque.

The group is not sponsored, Theyo said. All prizes, usually gift cards or coupons to local restaurants,

have been private donations from the organizers or their friends. After a win has been approved, the page will message the winner and coordinate how to receive the prize.

Kao said she solved an audio hunt, which was an audio recording shared on the Facebook page that started with the ringing of Century Tower and passed other recognizable sounds.

Kao said she thinks the Mini Treasure Hunts are a fun, interactive way to get a small community together.

“It’s rewarding when you are able to figure out the clues because you’re like, ‘Oh, I actually know this campus pretty well and know places where others might not know about,’” she said.

Courtesy to The Alligator

Sherry Kao, a UF biology sophomore, participated in Mini Treasure Hunts around the UF campus, a Facebook page that advertises small-scale scavenger hunts. Kao, 19, won the second hunt Feb. 20.



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Editorial

Our biggest obligations should be to ourselves

We all have our breaking points. We all have a threshold that, if crossed, will cause us to feel overwhelmed and defeated.

As college students, many of us toe the line of these breaking points daily. We flirt with the idea of a mental breakdown and entertain the thought of giving up sleep entirely so we can meet all the goals we set for ourselves. This, unfortunately, is the curse of the overachiever: it causes us to push ourselves until it is physically impossible for us to push any harder.

When we came to UF as freshmen, most of us likely joined clubs, Greek life, intramural sports teams, volunteer organizations and so on. We likely fell in love with each and every organization we joined and deemed each of them essential to our college experience. As we progressed through college, we tacked on more and more. Internships, harder classes, a second major, more clubs, honor societies, a relationship. The list kept growing as we took advantage of every opportunity in front of us.

Regrettably, we didn't realize we were overloading ourselves, and soon enough, we found ourselves near our breaking points.

Despite how many of us often recognize our sanity decreasing and find our lack of personal time alarming, we continue to allow ourselves to be trapped within our obligations. This is something we must stop doing.

Eventually, the things once near and dear to your heart no longer have a place. The things that used to consume our minds are now just a thought in the back of our heads, taking away focus from more important tasks at hand. In other words, as we mature, we start to outgrow the things that helped us grow.

Rather than stringing along our obligations, we need to let them go. We need to let them go to make way for ourselves.

We understand the idea of relinquishing yourself of non-essential obligations seems amiss. Aren't we supposed to be building our resumes at all costs? Aren't we supposed to be killing ourselves to get the best grades possible? Aren't we supposed to be taking every advantage put in front of us?

In short: yes. But, we can't do so at the cost of our happiness. As we continue to add on more obligations without filtering through our old ones, we tend to forget about the most important obligation of all: the obligation we have to ourselves.

A lot of us feel indebted to our initial commitments. It makes sense. We owe them a lot. We wouldn't have been able to get as far as we have without the friends we made initially, nor would we have been offered leadership positions, jobs or internships without the initial entry-level lines on our resume. But all good things need to come to an end.

We need to start being selfish with our time and come to terms with the fact as we mature, the things and organizations we value need to as well. It might seem beneficial to have infinite lines of continuous involvement on your resume, but is it really worth it if you end up putting in half the necessary effort because you're stretching yourself too thin? We think not.

If we really want to succeed, we need to put ourselves first. We need to have time to check in with ourselves mentally and make sure we are sleeping enough, eating right and, yes, even enjoying some social interaction outside of club meetings and study groups. We need to remember to be people.

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

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Column

When the teachers speak, we need to listen

Lots of news can get lost in the shuffle these days, but I hope this piece won't. Beginning late last month and stretching past the first week of March, teachers across West Virginia went on strike to demand better salaries, benefits and a stop to charter-school expansion, among other demands.

Throughout the two weeks, teachers and staff in West Virginia refused to go to work in protest, forcing each county to shut down its schools for the duration of the strike. Photos of teachers handing out bagged lunches to students who rely on free and reduced lunches surfaced on Twitter during the strike, making it clear the teachers did what they could to help their students while protesting.

That's truly the bottom line. Good teachers use their powers to help children and teens, yet we live in a country that undervalues their dedication and leaves their work both unappreciated. As a nation, we say we love our children and want to create a better world for future generations. How can we do this if we don't support the people who see and educate our kids, peers, friends and family most days of the year?

This is why we have to listen when our teachers have something to say. Too often teachers have to resort to silence ("No one listens to us in this bureaucratic system, anyway") or else create a national scene to get the attention they deserve (as is the case in West Virginia and potentially in Colorado). What if we had listened to their calls for help — for increased funding, for better insurance, for more classroom supplies in public schools — when they first voiced these concerns?

We ask so much of our teachers without providing them with the means to carry out those interests. We demand teachers know every last detail about their students and cater to each of their needs, even though this country has been experiencing a teacher shortage as recently as



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last September. Our politicians say we don't have the money to increase teacher pay, though now we insist we can train and arm teachers to prevent the next mass shooting. The hypocrisy and ineptitude of some of our elected officials never ceases to amaze me.

The teachers' strike in West Virginia worked. Last week, The Nation reported their successes included "defeating an expansion of charter schools, killing a proposal to eliminate seniority, and scuttling a paycheck-protection bill," defending their unions from further weakening and effectively securing a higher raise.

I, for one, am happy and proud these teachers and staff could take a stand for the issues that matter to them. I also feel a sense of overwhelming disappointment we have already let down our teachers so badly they have to strike for days on end just to have their concerns taken seriously. This reflects poorly on our national priorities. Before their demands were met, we had told an extremely important, nurturing and impactful part of our workforce they weren't worth the solutions to the problems they raised. This just isn't OK.

Honestly, think back to some of the favorite teachers you've had throughout your life: the ones who made even the driest of assignments feel like little adventures, the women and men who went the extra mile to help you learn grammar and spelling, the people who had themselves and possibly even families to support through their jobs as teachers. These people deserve respect. They deserve to be valued — and to know they're valued.

We don't do enough for our teachers, not even close. But we can change that. We can listen to them. We can thank them. And please, please, let us remember, when our politicians don't do as we wish, we can vote.

Mia Gettenberg is a UF criminology and philosophy senior. Her column focuses on education.

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

Column

Abortions don't hurt mental health

A new landmark study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine shows abortions in the U.S. are safe and have few complications. It examines the four major methods used for abortions in this country, as well as women's care from before the procedure through follow-up care.

The research showed about 90 percent of all abortions happen in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy and complications are rare. Previous studies have yielded consistent results. However, regulations in many states are compromising this safety rather than helping it.

Some states require women seeking abortions to receive counseling about the negative emotional effects they could experience. Why? According to research conducted at the University of California, San Francisco, women are far more emotionally stressed if they are denied an abortion than if they receive one when they request it. Those denied access had more anxiety, lower self-esteem and less life satisfaction than women who obtained them without an issue.

Essentially, this trial suggested the idea abortions cause psychological suffering is incorrect. The researchers concluded there is no evidence to justify laws requiring women seeking abortions to be warned about adverse mental health side effects. One of the researchers even went so far as to say, "If our goal is to protect women's health, the evidence suggests that expanding access is the best approach." What a concept, right?

The issue at hand here is mental health, but it is being used as evidence to incorrectly support the wrong side of the argument. Those who wish to restrict abortions often claim women's mental health is the reasoning behind their opinion. However, the evidence to support this is either nonexistent or has been proven inaccurate by other studies.

Those who are pro-life, or, more accurately, anti-abortion, are under the assumption that denying women access to safe and affordable



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abortions and being forced to deliver a baby they do not want will be better for their mental health in the long run than the alternative. This is not only logically incorrect, but it has been disproven by research over and over again.

The stress caused by an unwanted pregnancy is the sort of stress you can only truly understand if you have been through it. Legislators and lobbyists across the country are convinced they know what is best for women experiencing an unwanted pregnancy. Research has shown again and again they do not. The process of trying to obtain an abortion, being denied and the social stresses that often come with an unwanted pregnancy have been shown to produce much greater negative mental health effects than having an abortion does.

Having an abortion is not only a highly personal decision, but it is also a safe decision. It is more responsible than bringing an unwanted child into the world. We cannot say we are pro-life and then inadequately provide for that life once it has begun outside the mother's womb.

It's time for us to recognize this decision should be up to no one but the mother herself and the most severe negative mental health consequences associated with abortions arise when other people get involved. When people restrict access or share their negative opinions, women feel worse than they do when they are able to make their own decision without hearing how everyone else feels about it.

We are in a time of strong opinions, which is great. What is not great, however, is when people's unsubstantiated opinions begin to hurt people around them. Women seeking abortions should be allowed to do so. If you don't like it, that's fine. Keep it to yourself. Let her make the best and safest decision for herself.

Taylor Cavaliere is a UF journalism and psychology junior. Her column focuses on mental health.

Column

Just how dangerous are alligators?

In 1947, Ross Allen, founder of The Reptile Institute at Silver Springs, donated an alligator nicknamed "Albert" to UF. Before kickoff of every home football game, Albert was strapped to a leash and would lead the team onto the field. He was then kept on the sidelines for the rest of the game. A chain-link pen was even built near Century Tower to keep the gator.

After one alligator was killed and another was kidnapped, UF moved away from live mascots in 1970. Nevertheless, UF has always had an unusual relationship with the animals their mascot symbolizes. Today, some people pose dangerously close to them in natural areas like Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park or swim in lakes where signs with warnings of alligators litter the shores.

Either from a lapse of judgment or lack of concern to learn more about these reptiles, people seem to be growing apathetic toward the potential danger of alligators. Last year set an annual record for the number of alligator attacks in Florida. With a booming state population growth rate and expanding development, interactions between alligators and humans are likely to increase.

That being said, this column is not meant to scare anyone. Alligators are not man-eating beasts, but any self-respecting Floridian also knows not to take a chance with them.

The phrase "alligators are more afraid of us than we are of them" is often thrown around, but does anyone ever wonder where this statement originated? Humans and alligators have not historically coexisted on an evolutionary timescale; alligators have been on this planet for the past 35 million years. As a result, humans have always seemed foreign to alligators, which is why alligators are not natural predators to humans. However, this does not mean alligators won't attack us. In a study of public records between 1928 and 2009, the North



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Carolina Department of Health found Florida averages about 200 reports of nuisance alligators and five unprovoked bites every year. Considering the chances of an encounter may be a little higher for a demographic of people that frequent nature trails and lakes with alligators present, the danger of alligators can't be ignored.

It's important to note alligators don't pose the same level of danger throughout the course of a year. According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, alligators are most active between temperatures of 82 degrees and 92 degrees. They stop feeding when temperatures drop below 70 degrees and become dormant at temperatures under 45 degrees. Beyond temperature, alligator activity also depends on whether it is mating season. In two weeks, mating season will begin, which means alligators will become more aggressive until August as they begin to breed and form nests.

If Floridians are more cautious of these animals during their summer plans this year, 2017 can become an anomaly rather than an upward trend of dangerous alligator encounters.

Next time you come across one of the countless pieces of UF paraphernalia, know the symbol of an alligator wearing a turtleneck may be a bit misleading. Before wearing a UF T-shirt or going to visit one of the many natural attractions that define Gainesville, think about what it actually means to be a Florida Gator. We must give these prehistoric reptiles the healthy respect they deserve.

Joshua Udvardy is a UF environmental engineer junior. His column focuses on science.



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Celebrating the Irish Holiday

Photos by Victoria E. Salomon
Alligator



Victoria E. Salomon / Alligator

The Swamp Restaurant celebrated St. Patrick's Day on Saturday. It served Lucky Leprechaun Pitchers filled with green beer topped with whipped cream and Lucky Charms marshmallows.



Victoria E. Salomon / Alligator

Guest dancers at The Swamp Restaurant, located on 1642 W University Ave., show traditional Irish dancing. Food served included corn beef and cabbage.

Strawberries and Sunshine

Photos by Shelbie Eakins
Alligator Staff



Exclamations like "Look! I found a good one!" rang out over the strawberry fields at the Family Garden Organic & Fair Farm on Saturday morning during their Strawberry U-Pick event. Groups of all ages filled the rows from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. trying to find the best berries. The field will be open to pick strawberries for the next two Saturdays before prime strawberry season comes to a close.



Kailia Jackson, 4, reaches down to grab a juicy strawberry before tossing it into her Minnie Mouse bucket Saturday morning at the Strawberry U-Pick event. The Family Garden Organic & Fair Farm requires customers to bring their own containers for the strawberries in an effort to cut down on waste. The event will continue from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the next two Saturdays.

A Dancing Museum

Photos by Will Clewis
Alligator Staff



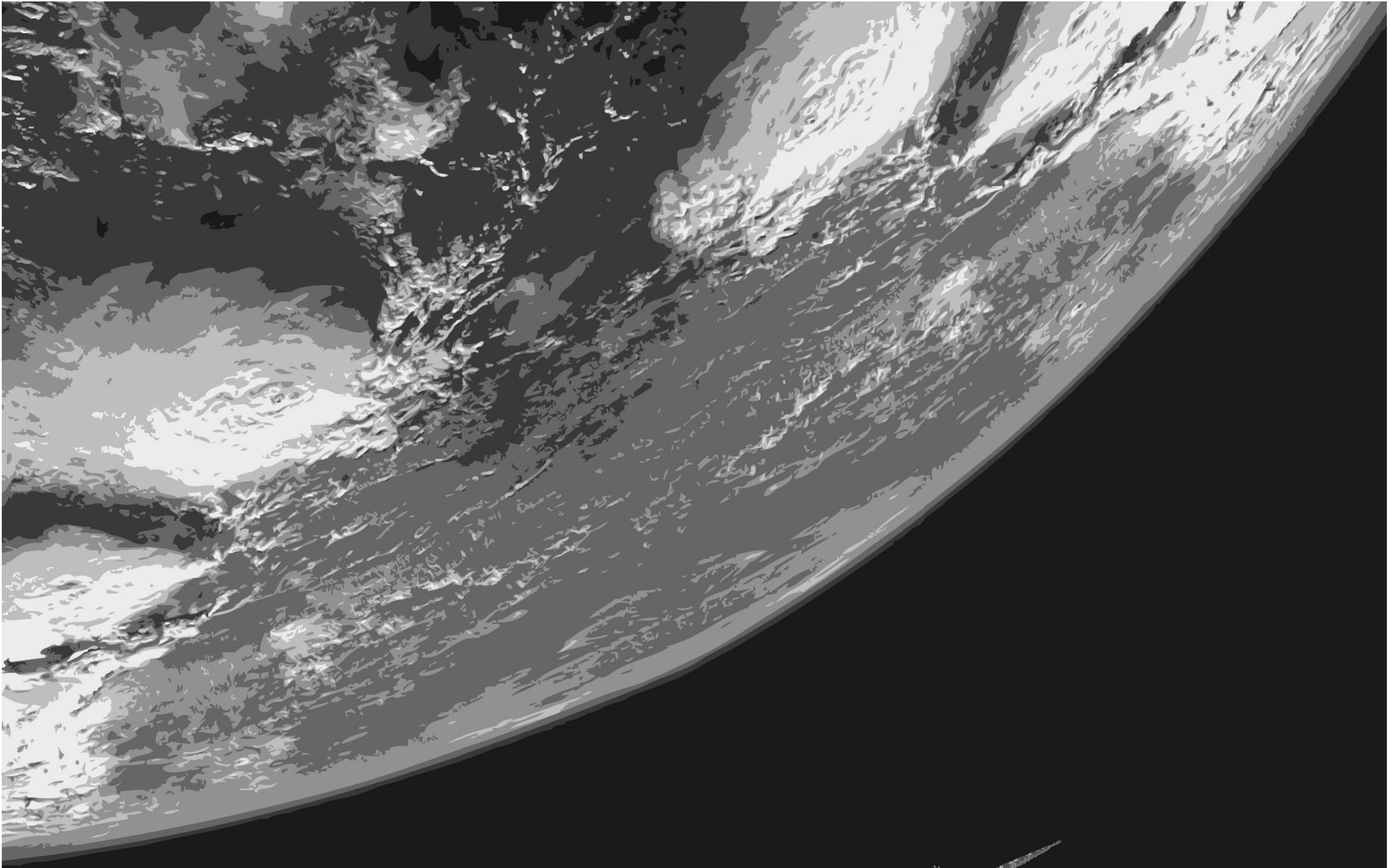
UF dance students move and clap energetically during the Hip Hop Dance performance at the Harn Museum of Dance: Moving Bodies, Shaping Minds event at the Harn Museum of Art on Saturday afternoon. The group welcomed people from the crowd to join them in dance. The event featured performances including classical Indian and West African dances.



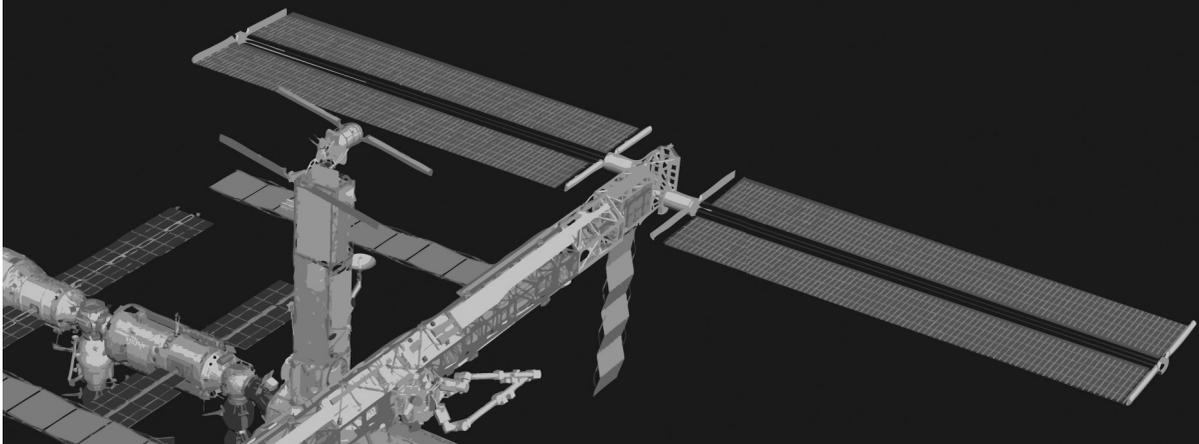
Three dancers move together during the Duality of Patterning performance Saturday. UF dance senior and choreographer Karla Vanessa Narvaez, 25, said this dance was part of her senior thesis, and she was inspired to put it together after she traveled to Guinea in West Africa last summer.



Two UF dance students perform during the Atta Girl! dance. The Harn Museum of Dance event was presented by the UF School of Theatre and Dance in collaboration with UF College of the Arts' Center for World Arts.



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A ₁	A ₁	O ₁	Z ₁₀	N ₁	N ₁	B ₃			RACK 2
A ₁	E ₁	C ₃	R ₁	K ₅	C ₃	R ₁			RACK 3
E ₁	O ₁	Y ₄	W ₄	L ₁	R ₁	F ₄	Double Word Score		RACK 4

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Jake's on a Plane / Opinion

Losing upperclassman leaders hurts Florida's prospects moving forward

Florida men's basketball coach Mike White said something at Saturday's postgame press conference that made me realize just how far removed this team was from last season's NCAA Tournament Elite Eight run.

Following UF's 69-66 loss to Texas Tech in Dallas in the second round of the Big Dance, he paused a bit and pointed at Chris Chiozza and Egor Koulechov sitting to his left.

"If all 13 of my guys were as tough as these two," he said, "we'd still be playing."

It was the story of the season. Florida's mental fortitude was about as inconsistent as its scoring. And it's only going to get worse next year.

I'll say it now. I believe the Gators will not be good in 2018-19. They'll make a postseason tournament, but they won't attain nearly the same level of success as they did two years ago. I don't even think they'll make it further than the second round of the tournament next year, if they even make it.

When you look at what the future holds for UF, it's easy to see why.

It will be without both Chiozza and Koulechov, two of Florida's three leading scorers. Chiozza has been the only player to consistently deliver the defensive performances White was looking for from his team. On the offensive end, the senior point guard was known for both his passing ability and limited turnovers. He ranked sixth in the NCAA in assist-to-turnover ratio. You can't replace what he brought to the team, especially when he recorded 11 assists and no turnovers against St. Bonaventure on Thursday in the first round.



Jake Dreilinger
Twitter: @DreilingerJake

And while the Gators only had him for one year, Koulechov helped fuel Florida's scoring effort, averaging 13.8 points per game.

Mix those two departures with the possibility of Jalen Hudson leaving for the NBA draft — mock drafts have him anywhere from a late-second round pick to undrafted — the team's scoring will go down the drain.

Sure, the Gators will still have KeVaughn Allen, who finished the season averaging double-digit scoring figures, but he has taken a major step back in terms of finding his confidence. While he showed flashes of the offensive production he had last year, Allen oftentimes took a backseat to Hudson, Koulechov and Chiozza.

Meanwhile, when Florida needed more players to improve and add depth to the roster, only forward Keith Stone really stepped up his game. The redshirt sophomore took strides this season, increasing both his scoring and his effort on the boards to quickly earn a spot in the starting lineup.

But with just two, possibly three, proven players returning next year, I don't see the Gators being that good. Some of those close games from this season, like the 77-75 win against Missouri on Jan. 6, could have easily gone the other way if it wasn't for players like Chiozza and Koulechov.

So unless more players start showing improvements and prove they can partially fill the void that some of Florida's departing stars will leave, don't expect too much next season.

Jake Dreilinger is the Alligator's assistant sports editor. Contact him at jdreilinger@alligator.org.



The Associated Press

Florida lost to Texas Tech 69-66 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Saturday.

Chiozza was named to the All-SEC First Team this season



The Associated Press

Florida point guard Chris Chiozza ends his career in Gainesville first on Florida's all-time assists list. "We're going to miss him dearly, of course," UF coach Mike White said.

BASKETBALL, from pg. 1

Chiozza was awarded a spot on both the All-SEC First Team and All-Defensive Team.

Perhaps his greatest achievement as a Gator, Chiozza became Florida's most prolific passer in program history when he surpassed Erving Walker in career assists earlier this month.

The impressive numbers revealed themselves in Chiozza's impact throughout the season. Florida was often troubled by stretches of static offensive play, especially without Chiozza on the court. At times when nothing seemed to work, it was his explosiveness in charging to the basket that frequently spurred production.

"We do play through (Chiozza)," coach Mike White said. "We have been stagnant with him out of the game. We're going to miss him dearly, of course."

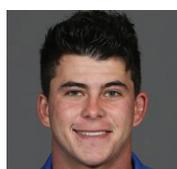
But his impact extends further than the record books. It goes beyond the memories of game-winning buckets.

Chiozza wore the orange and blue with pride. His relentless effort on both ends of the floor strengthened the standard of Florida basketball. His younger teammates recognize that, solidifying his legacy.

"That's a dude I look up to," freshman guard Mike Okauru said of Chiozza. "We play the same position and I watch everything he does. You know, I love (the seniors)."

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Gordon Neale and the Florida men's golf team finished sixth in the Schenkel Invitational on Sunday.

Tennis teams win in Tennessee on Sunday

Florida's men's tennis team defeated Vanderbilt 4-3 in Nashville, while the women's tennis team beat Tennessee 4-1 in Knoxville.

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BASEBALL

Behind strong pitching, Florida squeaks by South Carolina

By Ethan Bauer
Sports Writer

The ball rocketed off of Jacob Olson's bat like a satellite designed for orbit.

UF left fielder Austin Langworthy watched as it ceased its upward trajectory and plummeted toward the Earth. He tracked it back, back, back, and then he couldn't track it anymore. He hit the wall, the ball hit the ground just beyond it and suddenly, after an afternoon of dominant pitching from Florida starter Tyler Dyson, South Carolina (13-7, 1-2 SEC) was one hit away from tying the game in the bottom of the sixth inning.

When Dyson plunked the next hitter on a breaking ball that never broke, coach Kevin O'Sullivan had seen enough. He called on freshman lefty Jordan Butler to bail out Dyson and his team. Over the next four innings, Butler and closer Michael Byrne did just that, earning No. 2 Florida (18-4, 2-1 SEC) a 3-2 win on Sunday in Columbia to clinch its first SEC series of the season.

"To win a series on the road, it's not easy to do," O'Sullivan said in a release. "We needed to play our best baseball today."

O'Sullivan is lucky his conventional wisdom was wrong, because if his team really needed to play its best baseball to win Sunday's game, it would have lost. Sunday was not

Florida's best day.

The Gators managed just four hits all afternoon to South Carolina's six. They also committed an error that didn't end up hurting them in the third inning. While Dyson struck out five en route to his fourth win of the year, he labored through the Gamecocks' lineup with 115 pitches through five innings.

If there was perfection — or anything close to it — to be found on Sunday, though, it was in Florida's bullpen.

Butler struck out two of the five batters he faced and allowed no hits and one walk. He vacated the mound for junior closer Michael Byrne with two outs in the seventh inning.

Byrne was just as effective. He walked one and didn't allow a hit in 2.1 innings to keep the Gamecocks behind. He finished them with three straight fly outs to pick up his fifth save of the season and keep his ERA perfect through 16.2 innings.

O'Sullivan, however, focused on South Carolina's ability to get to Butler and Byrne.

"We know how good our pitching is, but they were able to get both our starters yesterday and today out after five complete," he said. "Credit them. I thought they played really well this weekend."

Outfielder Wil Dalton led Florida's offense by smacking a home run on the fourth pitch of the game.

It marked Dalton's third home run in his last four at-bats.

Senior catcher JJ Schwarz also blasted a solo homer in the fourth inning, and shortstop Deacon Liput drove in Florida's final run with a sacrifice fly following Schwarz's shot.

Third baseman Jonathan India was the only other Florida player to record a hit. His two knocks — a single and a triple — swelled his team-leading batting average to .400.

But perhaps the most interesting moment of the game came in the top of the eighth inning when Florida third base coach Craig Bell was ejected for reasons that were unclear.

"Nobody else in the ballpark knew that anything was going on," the ESPN announcer said. "That felt way excessive."

After exchanging a few words with the umpire following his ejection, Bell trudged down the dugout steps, grabbed his backpack and walked out of the stadium down the third base line in clear view of a raucous crowd of 7,113, which serenaded him with a mixture of cheers and boos.

He had trouble opening the door to leave Founders Park, but with an assist from South Carolina's bullpen catcher, he went on his way.

Bell will presumably be back coaching third base on Tuesday when the Gators host Jacksonville



Alan Alvarez / Alligator Staff

Florida starting pitcher Tyler Dyson struck out five and allowed two runs on Sunday in the Gators' 3-2 win over South Carolina.

for a midweek game. Then the Gators will focus on preparing for a weekend series against Arkansas in Gainesville.

The Razorbacks have won six straight, including a three-game

sweep of Kentucky this weekend in which they outscored the Wildcats 39-15.

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SOFTBALL

Gators avoid sweep with four-run win over Bulldogs

By Mark Stine
Sports Writer

The sun shined brightly in Athens, Georgia, on Sunday afternoon as Florida's softball team came up to bat in the top of the first inning at Jack Turner Stadium.



Matthews

Kendall Burton lost the neon yellow ball in the glaring sun.

It eventually plopped right next to her, giving Kvistad time to round third and head home as UF jumped out to an early 1-0 lead.

The one-run cushion propelled pitcher Aleshia Ocasio and the No. 2 Gators (23-3, 4-2 SEC) to a 5-1 victory over the No. 10 Bulldogs (26-2, 5-1 SEC).

UF avoided the weekend sweep in front of a stadium-record crowd of 2,457 as Ocasio pitched a complete game, striking out nine and giving up four hits.

"Aleshia really did an outstanding job going out and limiting them," UF coach Tim Walton said in a release.

UGA pitcher Kylie Bass threw a complete game as well. The left-hander gave up six hits, four earned runs and hit two Florida bat-

ters.

Bass didn't give up a hit in the top of the fifth, but the Gators grabbed an unearned run.

Center fielder Alex Voss ran for the inning's leadoff batter Jordan Roberts, who was hit by a pitch.

After shortstop Sophia Reynoso advanced Voss on a sacrifice bunt, left fielder Amanda Lorenz chopped a ground ball to first base. Voss scampered to third as Georgia first baseman Alysén Febrey fielded the ball and outed Lorenz with a step on the bag. With Voss standing on third base, Febrey inexplicably fired the ball across the diamond. Third baseman Jordan Doggett couldn't field the throw, and Voss scored on the throwing error and doubled UF's lead.

Florida carried the 2-0 advantage into the seventh, where first baseman Hannah Adams led off with a bunt single.

Adams advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Ocasio, and Reynoso drove her home on a two-out RBI-single to right field.

Lorenz followed by putting the game out of reach. The junior pumped her fifth home run of the season to dead center field, extending her streak of reaching base safely in all 26 of UF's games this season.

"You're going to have to bring it every weekend in the SEC," Walton said. "Nobody feels sorry for you whenever you lose a game, so for us to come back and really keep the spirits right was good to see."

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LACROSSE

UF survives close call on the road against Vanderbilt

By Tyler Nettuno
Sports Writer

Florida's lacrosse team hadn't lost a regular season conference game since falling to Connecticut 11-10 on April 18, 2015.

For those counting at home, that marks 16 consecutive Big East victories for UF. However, late in the second half on Sunday against Vanderbilt, that streak appeared to be in jeopardy.

The Commodores fought back from an early four-goal deficit to get within one of the No. 6-ranked Gators with 3:53 left in the contest.

Vanderbilt took over possession with just over two minutes to play and the opportunity to tie it. However, UF's defense held strong, and, after a turnover from Commodores attacker Gabrielle Fornia, Gators midfielder Caroline Benitez recovered the ground ball. The Gators took over possession with under a minute to go, and they were able to drain the clock, coming away with an 11-10 victory Sunday afternoon at the Vanderbilt Soccer/Lacrosse Complex in Nashville, Tennessee.

"This game was a fight," Gators coach Amanda O'Leary said in a release. "I give all the credit to Vanderbilt for forcing us into some very uncomfortable situations on the field."

It was Florida's lowest offensive output this season. However, strong defensive play, especially from junior goalie Haley Hicklen — who totaled 13 saves — led the Gators (6-2, 1-0 Big East) to victory.

Vanderbilt held UF's scoring attack, which

ranks fourth in the nation, largely in check. However, the Commodores (5-3, 0-1 Big East) couldn't escape their own offensive deficiencies. Their 10 goals scored on Sunday was tied for their lowest total this season.

UF jumped out to a 5-1 lead early in the first half, but after a Vanderbilt rally, the Gators only led 7-6 at the break. Florida began the second half well, leading 11-7 with 17:57 to play, but Vanderbilt cut that lead to one before eventually falling to the Gators. While it wasn't the best day offensively for Florida, Pirreca shined, scoring four goals in the win. Additionally, Florida saw seven different players score Sunday.

The Gators entered the game shorthanded, missing a pair of stars in junior attacker Lindsey Ronbeck and senior defender Aniya Flanagan due to injury.

Two Gators made their first career starts in response to the injuries. Sophomore attacker Madisyn Kittell, who has contributed off the bench this season, started in place of Ronbeck. Meanwhile, junior Caroline May, who recently converted to defense, played in place of Flanagan.

Now, UF will have a brief break from conference action with a matchup against No. 13 Towson at home on Wednesday.

"Our energy level across the board still needs to improve," O'Leary said, "but I am proud that this team has not given up when faced with adversity."

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UF MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM'S 2017-18 YEAR IN REVIEW

4-Egor Koulechov-G (Gr.)



In his first and only season at Florida, Koulechov started every game and was second on the team in points, averaging 13.8 per contest. The graduate transfer also led the Gators in rebounding and shot 39.5 percent from the three-point line.

11-Chris Chiozza-G (Sr.)



The All-SEC point guard capped off his career in Gainesville by breaking Erving Walker's all-time assists record on March 3 against Kentucky. Chiozza played more minutes (1088) than any other player on the Gators' roster and was third in points, averaging 11.1 per game.

3-Jalen Hudson-G (R-Jr.)



Like Koulechov, Hudson had a successful first season at Florida after transferring from Virginia Tech. He led the Gators in scoring with 15.5 points per game and also hit a team-best 78 three-pointers and 92 free throws.

5-KeVaughn Allen-G (Jr.)



After leading Florida in scoring last season, Allen struggled to maintain his offensive production with the emergence of newcomers Koulechov and Hudson. He had career lows in points per game (11.0) and field-goal percentage (.361), but did shoot a team-best 90.6 percent from the charity stripe.

25-Keith Stone-F (So.)



Stone was arguably Florida's most improved player in 2017-18, increasing his points per game average by five and and three-point shooting percentage by nearly 10 percent. He started 26 games in the absence of injured big men John Egbunu, Chase Johnson and Isaiah Stokes.

13-Kevarrius Hayes-F/C (Jr.)



Hayes anchored Florida's defense as its top rim protector, recording a team-high two blocks per game. He also shot 56.9 percent from the floor and led the Gators with 77 offensive rebounds.

Florida's Team Statistics

Record: 21-13 (11-7 SEC)
 PPG: 75.8 (117th in NCAA)
 RPG: 35.2 (183rd in NCAA)
 APG: 13.1 (210th in NCAA)
 BPG: 4.8 (28th in NCAA)
 FG%: 43.2% (253rd in NCAA)
 3FG%: 37.0% (81st in NCAA)
 FT%: 71.8% (153rd in NCAA)

Florida's Individual Statistical Leaders

PPG: Jalen Hudson (15.5)
 RPG: Egor Koulechov (6.4)
 APG: Chris Chiozza (6.1)
 BPG: Kevarrius Hayes (2.0)
 FG%: Gorjok Gak (63.4%)
 3FG%: Keith Stone (42.4%)
 FT%: KeVaughn Allen (90.6%)

Regular Season Schedule

Nov. 13 vs. Gardner Webb — W 116-74
 Nov. 16 vs. North Florida — W 108-68
 Nov. 19 vs. New Hampshire — W 70-63
 *Nov. 23 vs. Stanford — W 108-87
 *Nov. 24 vs. Gonzaga — W 111-105
 *Nov. 26 vs. Duke — L 87-84
 Dec. 4 vs. Florida State — L 83-66
 Dec. 6 vs. Loyola Chicago — L 65-59
 *Dec. 9 vs. Cincinnati — W 66-60
 *Dec. 16 vs. Clemson — L 71-69
 Dec. 20 vs. James Madison — W 72-63
 Dec. 22 vs. Incarnate Word — W 75-60
 Dec. 30 vs. Vanderbilt — W 81-74
 Jan. 2 @ Texas A&M — W 83-66
 Jan. 6 @ Missouri — W 77-75
 Jan. 10 vs. Mississippi State — W 71-54
 Jan. 13 @ Ole Miss — L 78-72
 Jan. 17 vs. Arkansas — W 88-73
 Jan. 20 @ Kentucky — W 66-64
 Jan. 24 vs. South Carolina — L 77-72
 Jan. 27 vs. Baylor — W 81-60
 Jan. 30 @ Georgia — L 72-60
 Feb. 3 vs. Alabama — L 68-50
 Feb. 7 vs. LSU — W 73-64
 Feb. 10 @ South Carolina — W 65-41
 Feb. 14 vs. Georgia — L 72-69
 Feb. 17 @ Vanderbilt — L 71-68
 Feb. 21 @ Tennessee — L 62-57
 Feb. 24 vs. Auburn — W 72-66
 Feb. 27 @ Alabama — W 73-52
 March 3 vs. Kentucky — W 80-67

SEC Tournament

*March 9 vs. Arkansas — L 80-72

NCAA Tournament

*March 15 vs. St. Bonaventure — W 77-62
 *March 17 vs. Texas Tech — L 69-66

**Denotes Neutral Site Game*

0-Mike Okauru-G (Fr.)



Okauru served as Chiozza' backup point guard, shooting an efficient 40.4 percent from the three-point line in 377 total minutes of action.

12-Gorjok Gak-C (So.)



In limited action, Gak scored 2.2 points per game and shot 63.4 percent from the floor.

21-Dontay Bassett-F (R-Fr.)



Bassett saw his role increase as the season went on, finishing the year with 43 total points in 178 minutes of play.

24-Deaundrae Ballard-G (Fr.)



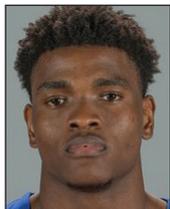
Ballard struggled with his shot this season, connecting on only 15.6 percent of his three-point attempts. He scored 110 points in 315 minutes of action.

1-Chase Johnson-F (Fr.)



Johnson only played in four games this year before suffering a concussion in November that ended his season.

15-John Egbunu-C (R-Sr.)



Egbunu, who was expected to be Florida's starting center this season, missed the entire year due to a torn ACL he suffered in February 2017.

2-Isaiah Stokes-F (Fr.)



Stokes missed the entire season due to a torn ACL he suffered his senior year of high school.

22-Andrew Fava-G (Fr.)



A former manager, Fava walked onto the team this fall and scored six points in 14 minutes of action.

14-Mak Krause-G (Jr.)



Krause, another former manager who walked on in the fall, scored four points in 16 minutes of play.

Mike White-Head Coach



In his third season at Florida, White led the Gators to 21 wins and its second consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance.