U.S. Senate candidates split on Iraq, oil

■ THE U.S. LEGISLATORS WERE QUESTIONED ON CONTRIBUTIONS.

By ALEJANDRA CANCINO
Alligator Writer acancino@alligator.org


The two candidates for the U.S. Senate answered questions about their views on the war in Iraq, the possibility of war with North Korea and U.S. policy with Cuba. Nelson, an incumbent who is far ahead in the polls, said there is no military solution to Iraq, so the United States should enforce a political solution on the country, dividing the country into Kurdish, Shiite and Sunni nations with the help of other countries.

Harris said if the United States were to "cut and run" from Iraq, the troops would have died in vain.

Elections
2006

Both candidates said war with North Korea is an option they would consider.

However, Nelson said he would use diplomacy first, while Harris said it was pointless to speculate.

"That's the way we lost Vietnam — because Congress tried to make a decision," she said.

Switching the debate to Cuba, Harris said that Fidel Castro's days are numbered and that the United States should focus on build-

ON CAMPUS

Starbucks opens to students' delight

By ELIZABETH HILLAKER
Alligator Writer ehilla@alligator.org

On the cool Monday morning, Zurich purchased a tall, nonfat seasonal Pumpkin Spice Latte with whipped cream that put her in the mood for fall. The wait in line at Starbucks was a bit long because Starbucks is training on-campus workers, she said.

A KILLER'S END

Rolling case changed prosecutor Rod Smith's career

By DREW HARWELL
Alligator Writer dharwell@alligator.org

Before Rod Smith, 56, was a state senator, he fought for the death of Danny Rolling. As the lead prosecutor in Rolling's trial, he was responsible for persuading the jury to sentence Rolling to death for the murders of five Gainesville students in 1990.

When Smith was elected State Attorney for the 8th Judicial Circuit in 1992, he knew he would be taking over the Rolling case. At the time, he was representing unions for police officers, correctional officers and firefighters in his private legal practice.

He had never prosecuted before. However, he was far from unprepared: In 1991 he had been listed in the book "The Best Lawyers in America."

Smith said that in the early days of the trial, there were a lot of lingering questions. Many people wondered if Rolling had worked alone or if another suspect, UF student Ed Humphrey, was involved.

He said many weren't confident about DNA evidence, even though body fluids at the crime scene matched Rolling's DNA, and a hair belonging to Christa Hoyt was found at Rolling's campsite.

For many, one question about Danny Rolling's murders still lingers: Why?

Smith said that although Rolling was rarely successful in life, he was a skilled killer. He made his victims suffer for his own failures. "They were college students, they were ambitious, they were what he would never be," Smith said. "But for one night, he could control everything they were. Everything they would ever be."

Homework
To prepare for the case, Smith pored over police reports, serial killer research and wit-

Today
FORECAST 2
OPINIONS 6
CLASSIFIEDS 12
CROSSWORD 15
SPORTS 20

SEE SMITH, PAGE 4

SEE CAFE, PAGE 9

SEE DEBATE, PAGE 9
Day of Silence
Turlington Plaza, 10 a.m.
Pro-Life Alliance sponsors anti-abortion event in which students give up their voices for a day to represent the unborn.

“Rx for Survival: Deadly Messengers”
Orange and Brew, 6:15 p.m.
Professor of Medicine and History Stephen Lewis discusses the historical and political perspectives of the global AIDS crisis.

African People Solidarity
New Engineering Building, Room 101, 6:30 p.m.
Students for a Human Society sponsors discussion of colonialism, African economics, reparations and the diamond industry.

Gubernatorial Debate
PBS, 8 p.m.
Gubernatorial candidates Charlie Crist and Jim Davis participate in the “Before You Vote — Decision 2006” debate, which will be broadcast on all Florida public television stations.

“Wizard People, Dear Readers!”
Reitz Union Auditorium, 8 p.m.
The Graduate Film Studies Group presents a screening of a new film about the first Harry Potter film, “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone.”

Local News
Suspected explosive halts traffic on Main Street
Police blocked off southbound traffic near 900 S Main St. on Tuesday after a suspicious device was reported at the Elite Towing yard.

Police later established the device was not a dangerous explosive.

Sam Mooney, an Elite Towing mechanic, said he was clearing out the trunk of a Mustang that had been on the Elite Towing lot for several months when he found a foot-long blue canister that he said was labeled “anti-personnel mine” in the trunk.

“It made me nervous when I dropped it,” Mooney said. “After that, I got the hell out of there.”

Firefighters took pictures of the device that were reviewed by on-site experts, who later determined it was harmless.

—JAMES RIGNEY

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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

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CITY COMMISSION

Noise fines to increase

By CHAD SMITH
Alligator Writer
smith@alligator.org

Students cited by officers for holding a loud party will have to wait a full year before being able to crank up the volume again if they don’t want a fine.

The Gainesville City Commission voted unanimously to strengthen noise code violations Monday, making it easier for loud students to get stiffer penalties.

A resident who receives a noise complaint in a residential area currently is given a 90-day warning period. If the resident gets another complaint, he or she could be fined more than $100 for that complaint and more than $200 for the third.

Starting Nov. 1, the period will be extended to 365 days.

Several commissioners said UF students make up the majority of the noise problem.

Commissioner Jack Donovan said that to deal with UF students, the city must deal with the university.

Gainesville and the university need to find a way that UF’s directors of off-campus life have no problem with the rules. Center for Campus Life, for example, could require students to get landlord permission before holding parties.

Adrienne Johnson, a journalism sophomore, said she has no problem with the rules.

The commissioners also voted to increase landlord permit fees to $177. The money from the increased fees will pay for three new code enforcement officers near the university to make sure tenants follow the rules.

The stolen items included a 30-pound box of chicken wings, one bag of chicken breasts, 10 pounds of flour, five pounds of sugar and a 48-piece box of chicken breast filets.

Holcomb said the couple is prohibited from entering UF’s campus until further notice.

Officials don’t know why the Stumps stole the food, but the couple is prohibited from UF’s campus until further notice.

Police suspect it was the Stumps.

“Basically, somebody was getting play-by-play of us coming in there,” Holcomb said.

Holcomb said Jocelyn Stump, who was on duty at the time, had provided her husband with a two-way radio so she could warn him if police arrived.

Officers contacted the couple, read them their rights and “at some point, they did admit to stealing the food,” Holcomb said.

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Michel Bergeron, an English junior at UF, was working at the Reitz Union Hotel the night of the burglary. He said that he saw Jocelyn and Christopher Stump each morning and that they were responsible for handling the staff, locking doors and calling emergency services if anything happened.

“They have pretty much unlimited authority within the union,” he said. “Jocelyn has complete access to the building without question, and the same almost goes for Chris.”

Bergeron said he heard Jocelyn Stump talking on the radio to an unidentified man about UFPD’s actions.

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Danny Rolling took lives, changed others

Smith recalls trial strategy

Smith, from page 1

ness testimonies. He said he sometimes slept at the courthouse.

But after seeing the crime scene photos, Smith said he wasn't able to get much sleep anyway.

He read "Paradise Lost," a 17th-century poem chronicling the biblical story of a battle between angels and demons over mankind, and later quoted it in his closing arguments. The poem helped Smith understand Danny's spiritual perspective of his own horrendous actions.

"There was this battle — this eternal battle — between people for your soul," Smith said. "And, simply, he was a loser in that battle."

Smith said Rolling, who was Pentecostal, quoted the Bible often.

"Danny could kill you and then the next day pray about it."

In January of 1993, Smith said, that Rolling wanted to speak with him.

As Rolling's prosecutor, Smith was unsure about the idea. He wanted to speak with Rolling but thought it would be unethical and improper for a prosecutor to meet with the prosecuted.

Other lawyers told him not to even approach Rolling.

"But since I was new and didn't know better," Smith said. "I had a plan."

The killer confesses

He sent a team of nonlawyers to speak with Rolling. The team advised Rolling that speaking with the prosecution would be improper and that he had his own defense attorney, C. Richard Parker, to consult.

Smith then waited to hear from Rolling again.

Rolling later confessed to the murders while he was held at Florida State Prison. When he confessed, he did so by whispering to fellow inmate Bobby Lewis. Lewis then repeated the grisly details.

At first, Smith and his team didn't believe Lewis. They sent a letter to Lewis' lawyer telling him that Lewis would never get a deal for offering Rolling's confession.

Smith began to take Lewis seriously when his team heard something no one but the murderer could have known about the crime. The details of Rolling's admission are inappropriate for publication.

The game was on, Smith knew Rolling was the killer and could only get admission through Lewis. Smith knew that this confession, however legitimate, would never hold in court without verification from Rolling himself.

"Even though we now knew all the details of what had happened through the words of Danny Rolling as whispered in the ear of Bobby Lewis," Smith said, "on that tape, all you heard was Bobby Lewis."

Smith told his team to bring a video camera with them to their next meeting with Rolling. As Lewis repeated all of the details Rolling had whispered, a member of Smith's team named LeGran Hewitt asked Rolling, "Is that right, Danny?"

Rolling nodded. There, on tape, they had Rolling's verification that he was the murderer.

Smith, along with psychologists who interviewed Rolling, said the camera represented an amount of attention and fame that Rolling had never received in his personal life.

"Danny saw himself as a star," Smith said. "And, in fact, that turned out to be a home run. Because he told us everything." Smith said Rolling was on his way to a Super Bowl party when he got the call that Rolling had confessed on camera.

"When we got all that, the case was really over because now we had the DNA, and now we had the tape," Smith said. "The public never had any idea how strong our case was."

The trial

During the pretrial hearings, Smith said, "he got a sense of how bizarre Rolling really was."

"He would come off as this sheepish, mild-mannered individual," Smith said, "but there were glimpses of when he wasn't. And you realized the wide, chameleon-like character that really was Danny."

After Smith moved to show evidence during the pretrial, the skeletal remains of the victims were brought into court to show the direction and intensity of the stab wounds.

When they were brought in, Rolling was obviously uncomfortable, Smith said. He told the court that he was sick and asked for permission to leave.

Smith said he knew before the trial there was a chance Rolling might plead guilty. He wanted them to see their children's murderer plead guilty.

As Rolling pleaded guilty, Smith said, he would be thinking of the victims’ families, telling them he would not attend Rolling's execution.

Death for Danny

Now, 12 years later, Rolling is scheduled to be executed on Oct. 25. Smith recently wrote letters to the victims' families, telling them he would not attend Rolling's execution.

He said he is still approached by people who ask him if what he did was right and if the death penalty works.

"I can't, for a moment, answer whether or not it deters crime. Those issues are so difficult," he said.

"What I can say is that I believe, then and now, that it will deter Danny Rolling. And that's enough for me."
Student Body president recounts terror after murders

Psychologist had to withhold Rolling’s identity for months

For months, psychologist Harry Krop was one of the only people who knew the identity of the man who killed five Gainesville students in 1990.

Michael Browne expected his second semester as Student Body president to consist of fulfilling campaign promises, promoting voter registration, and meeting his goals while taking a full course load.

But on the first day of the Fall 1990 semester, he found out his term would be dramatically different.

He was walking to class Monday morning when Judy Plunkett, then-editor of the Alligator, handed him an extra edition of the paper.

The headline: “Double murder claims an extra edition of the paper."

Browne’s first thought was, “This is horrible.” Wanting to know exactly what happened, he skipped class and headed straight for Tigert Hall to meet with UF President John Lombardi and Art Sandeen, the vice president of Student Affairs at the time.

Many people were telling female students to make sure they were with a male who could protect them, Browne said.

But the news of two more murders eliminated any sense of security.

“You wake up Tuesday morning, and it’s another young lady and a male student, who was a pretty big guy — a pretty tough guy — and that changed everything altogether,” he said.

Browne remembers accompanying Krisena, a friend of his, to collect her belongings from her apartment. Browne can’t remember if she was going home, or just to stay with friends, but he does remember carrying a baseball bat and a switchblade.

“I was kicking in closet doors and room doors, really believing something was going to happen,” he said.

There were a lot of people just as scared that first week, he said.

“We realized this was going to go on for a while,” he said.

Browne said the media started to descend upon Gainesville on Tuesday afternoon. He did interviews with “Good Morning America,” AP Radio and numerous newspapers.

“It was like someone flipped a switch on, and all of a sudden TV stations and newspapers and radio stations from all over the country want to ask you the same five questions,” he said.

Browne spent that first week working with student leaders and administrators to keep students safe and calm.

UF opened up residence hall lounges to students. The alumni association opened its phones to students who didn’t have phone service in their apartments so they could call home and reassure their parents.

College deans and administrators extended fee payment deadlines and even encouraged students not to worry about attending classes.

“I laugh about this, and I laughed about it then, but skipping class — I endorsed it,” Browne said.

Security was everyone’s primary concern, he said.

“I don’t think anyone felt absolutely safe, but there was a feeling that campus was safer because of all the patrols.”

Michael Browne
Student Body president, 1990

When Rolling confessed and was charged with the murders, Browne said he felt relieved.

Krop was forced to keep the murderer’s confession to himself.

For the next three hours, Rolling recounted to his confidant how the city was terrorizing students how the city was terrorizing students. The alumni association opened its phones to students who didn’t have phone service in their apartment.

When Rolling confessed and was charged with the murders, Browne said he felt relieved.

Krop told him yes, unless his speech presented a future threat.

At the end of Krop’s questioning, he prepared to leave, confident that Rolling was in fact competent and sane, but Rolling interrupted Krop as he started to leave.

Rolling asked Krop if he could talk about crimes other than the armed robbery and if everything he said was confidential.

Krop told him yes, unless his speech presented a future threat.

Rolling told Krop there was no threat — Rolling would not kill again.

Krop finally decided that there was nothing he could do except wait. If he exposed Rolling as the killer, he could have lost the evidence and Rolling would have a chance to be released.

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Krop drove to Ocala the following Sunday — to talk to him.

Ed Humphrey, the prime suspect? What if Rolling was released — would he kill again?

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Editorial

What a rip-off

Voters have no real choices in national races

The war in Iraq. The minimum wage. Torture. Wiretapping.

There are plenty of good reasons to vote next month — in fact this year’s congressional elections will be the most important in a decade. But if you live in Alachua County, don’t bother sending a message to Washington. On Capitol Hill, no one really cares what you think.

Now, we’re not saying you shouldn’t vote. You should. This year’s state and local races — for governor, attorney general, Alachua County sheriff and Gainesville City Commission — are important and hotly contested. But the top of the ballot is just pathetic.

Consider Rep. Katherine Harris’ crusade to unseat Sen. Bill Nelson. She’s a joke, of course — a jiggling tower of silicone and greasepaint who drinks too much and talks to Jesus. Republicans from Miami to Pensacola should be ashamed of her. Most of them are.

But Nelson isn’t exactly a dream candidate either. He doesn’t have to be. He’s running against a circus clown, so all he has to do is show up, clean-shaven and fully dressed, to win another six-year term. Sure, he used to be an astronaut, and he can stand within 10 feet of an open flame without combusting — but that’s a pretty low bar for the U.S. Senate.

Local congressional races are even worse. Rep. Corrine Brown, whose district includes the southeastern corner of Alachua County, is going for her seventh term in the House of Representatives. She has a checkered history of ethics violations, tax-dodging and race-baiting — but who cares? This year, she’s the only name on the ballot.

It’s a big problem. When four out of five seats in the House go to the same candidates year after year, when the same party controls a congressional district for decades, elections look less like democracy and more like a slam. And we’re stuck with Corrine Brown and Cliff Stearns — mediocre hacks who know they’re set for the rest of their lives.

How did we get here? Gerrymandering. Instead of letting voters choose their politicians, politicians choose their voters. And not just any voters. They pull and twist and stretch their districts until the boundaries swallow up all the right people and exclude all the wrong ones.

It’s an exact science. Democrats and Republicans trade their constituents like baseball cards — you give me a black neighborhood, and I’ll give you a retirement home. Everybody gets the right voters, everybody gets re-elected, and eventually the map looks like a Jackson Pollock painting. The only losers are ordinary citizens.

So whoever ends up in the governor’s mansion next month, let’s hope he has the guts to make our votes count in Washington. Undoing decades of gerrymandering won’t be easy, but it starts locally.

Opinions

 Davis beats Crist on education, insurance

Let’s face it. Most of us will be stuck in Florida for the next few years — maybe even the rest of our lives. So this year’s gubernatorial election, just two weeks from today, is a pretty big deal.

This time around, two of the most important and hyped issues are education and insurance. They affect all of us in the coming years if we continue to live in Florida. So where do the candidates for governor stand on these issues?

As far as education goes, Attorney General Charlie Crist, a Republican, has an absolutely abysmal record. Despite being Florida’s education commissioner from 2000 to 2002, he once proposed abolishing the Department of Education! He also supports eliminating arts funding, even though it has been proven to raise test scores.

During Crist’s reign, Florida consistently ranked as one of the worst states in standardized testing — yet he doesn’t want to change a system that clearly isn’t working.

On the other hand, Rep. Jim Davis, the Democratic nominee, is a staunch supporter of education — he calls it his top priority. He wrote a bill for smaller class sizes in 1996, years before the thought crossed Gov. Jeb Bush’s mind. Davis also wants to increase teachers’ salaries. Most importantly, he plans to reform the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test and stop using it to punish students and schools.

If Crist couldn’t turn things around for us as education commissioner, what could he do as governor? My guess is not much. It’s obvious that Jim Davis, with his track record of positive legislation for the education system, is the better choice.

While we’re on the topic of children, it’s important to note that Davis supports expanding KidCare — the state’s health insurance program for children — and other child welfare programs.

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

Porn column made groundless arguments

Gerald Liles’ Monday column warning us of the ills of pornography consumption features a hilarious series of baseless assertions. First, he describes the “inescapable ideal” of “fully developed emotional intimacy” that defines every sexual coupling. Apparently, pornography damages this intimacy—through an unknown mechanism based on the fact that Ted Bundy is crazy.

I’m glad an inexperienced undergraduate male has fully encapsulated the entire spectrum of human relationships into a couple of sentences, then explained how to avoid destroying those relationships using anecdotal evidence of a necrophiliac serial killer—and an anonymous married man’s hard drive. Not only is the main point wrong, it’s hypocritical.

As he has a penis, there’s a 99.9 percent chance Liles has seen and enjoyed pornography at some point in his life. I hope whatever girl he was trying to impress with his column fell for it—but I’d suggest going after a girl who approves of porn, or at least has a sense of reality. She’d probably be a lot more fun.

Eric Przybylinski
4LS
VICTIMS' FAMILIES COPE.

By DREW HARWELL
Alligator Writer
dharwell@alligator.org

The woman nicknamed "Saint Sadie" because of her kind spirit and caring actions doesn't have anything nice to say about Danny Rolling.

To her, he is "gutter-spit" and a "pathetic subhuman."

"He wanted to become famous and glorified," said Sadie Darnell, 54, a community relations coordinator for the Gainesville Police Department. "The best thing is to make him unknown ... as a sign of disrespect."

"It's a strange thing to hear from someone who, as GPD's spokeswoman, spent years making sure the media knew about Rolling, the man who terrorized Gainesville 16 years ago when he murdered five students.

But Darnell doesn't let Rolling, whom she only refers to now as "the offender," control her life anymore. And she's worked for years to make sure his memory doesn't consume the lives of the victims' families.

But she still remembers the day the first bodies were discovered. It was a Sunday afternoon — Aug. 26, 1990 — when Darnell received the call: Williamsburg Village Apartments, two bodies found.

When she arrived at the apartment, the only media outlets reporting on the gruesome discovery were The Gainesville Sun and WCJB.

She said the scene she witnessed that day didn't really affect her because she had no sense of who the victims were. Three more bodies would be found in the following days.

Melancholy and the media

Three weeks after the first murders, Darnell apprehensively met the victims' families the first time.

"They set you at ease," she said. "They're so gracious, warm and wonderful to be around."

Darnell was no stranger to tragedy. A year before the murders, Darnell had helped her family cope after her 5-year-old niece Sara died from a brain tumor.

"She held the family together," said Norma Darnell, Sara's mother and Sadie's twin sister. "She's always been that way."

It was the hundreds of little things Sadie did, Norma said — like when she charmed McDonald's workers into giving her a cheeseburger hours before they served lunch because Sara, in her hospital bed, wanted one.

"The best thing is to make him unknown ... as a sign of disrespect."

Sadie Darnell
Gainesville Police Department

"She would go out of her way to make sure the family was taken care of," Norma said.

Although her talent at managing heartache helped her to console the victims' families, she still had to contend with the media. After the five bodies were found, reporters swarmed Gainesville asking questions about one of Florida's most high-profile murder cases.

She said that at the peak of the media frenzy she would wake up at about 5 a.m. to speak with early-morning radio news. She was interviewed several hundred times a day. Her last interview of the day was usually with a television news-caster at 11 p.m.

At times, she said, the constant questioning made her feel like she was being "biten to death by ducks."

"I'd hate to look back at those video clips of when I was begin ning," said Darnell, a self-described introvert. "I was so nervous then."

"I was just in awe that she was out there," Norma said. "Seeing your sister on TV is very surreal."

At the time of the investigation, Darnell had three dogs, a boyfriend and a gun under her pillow.

When she ran at night, she carried a five-shot .22-caliber pistol.

"I would go running, thinking 'I'll shoot him in the kneecaps first,' she said, considering the possibility that the unknown killer could have targeted her.

Other times I wished he would jump out, so I could end it all. Make him die slow."

When Rolling was identified as the murderer, Darnell said she felt a huge relief. Her feeling only lasted for a short while, though. She had to deal with the next media onslaught.

Life after the tragedy

A lot has changed since the mur- ders 16 years ago.

Her three dogs are gone. In fact, after dealing with eight doggy deaths in her life, she decided to become a cat person. She received her two cats — Snowles and Rugrai — from her nephew.

Her boyfriend is gone too. Darnell said that she's too busy with her career and that in her position, it's hard to maintain a relationship.

"Lots of guys are threatened by a woman in uniform," she said.

In 1992, she was selected to attend the FBI National Academy, a special training school that only invites about 1 percent of law enforcement officers.

In 1994, she was promoted to captian.

Other things haven't changed at all since 1990. A memorial to the five Gainesville victims is still painted on the 34th Street Wall, looking just the same as it did when it was first painted after the murders.

For 10 years, Darnell maintained the section, inscribed with the words "Remember 1990" and the names of Rolling's five Gainesville victims: Sonja Larson, Christina Powell, Christa Hoyt, Tracy Paula's

and Manuel Taboada. Every time someone painted over it, she went to the wall with her own brushes and re-created the original memorial as accurately as she could.

"More often than not, by the time I got to the wall with all my paint and supplies, it would have already been painted over," she said. She called the mysterious people who restored the painting the "keepers of the wall.

On the 10-year anniversary of the Gainesville murders, Darnell told the families she wouldn't take care of the wall memorial anymore. A living memorial of five palm trees was planted in the median across from the wall, each one bearing a plaque with the name of one of the victims.

Darnell still speaks with the victims' families, whom she calls "a valuable and precious part" of her life.

Once a year, around the anniversary of the killings, she meets with some of the families for lunch.

"They've dealt and moved on," she said. "Mostly because they had to."

Over the years, Norma said Sadie has worked with women, the homeless, the ill, the victimized and their families.

"She's the best person in the whole world," Norma said.

But "Saint Sadie" still knows how to unwind, her sister said, adding that Sadie "knows how to have a good time."

Sadie said she likes to express her emotions by writing in journals. It's a good way, she said, to verbalize the feelings she gets while dealing with the crimes of an entire city.

Remembrance

On her desk and the walls of her office are plaques from her years of service. In front of her computer monitor sits a framed picture of Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch, a character from "To Kill a Mockingbird."

She still remembers how she saw the movie in the back of a Chevrolet sedan at a drive-in with her parents.

Next to it sits a picture of Norma and her nephew, with a cutout of a Bible verse — 1 John 3:17-18 — on the frame. She says it helps her remember to be genuine and kind.

On the wall across from her desk rests a photo collage of Sara playing at the beach.

As Gainesville police captain, Sadie Darnell, seen here in a 2000 file photo, gained recognition for her work with victims' rights after her experience with the 1990 student murders.
Muslim students break last fast

THE HOLIDAY MARKS A MONTH OF PITY, CHARITY.

By ALEX TIEGEN
Alligator Writer
atieten@alligator.org

Muslim students ended a month of fasting with bags of candy, batches of baklava and other sweet foods Monday afternoon. Members of Islam on Campus and other students celebrated Eid al-Fitr, the end of Ramadan, with a fair on the Reitz Union Colonnade.

Muslims are forbidden from eating or drinking between sunrise and sunset during the month of Ramadan. Muslim students broke their fast with traditional sweets and a short prayer at Kanapaha Lake.

“It’s similar to Christmas — everybody gives everybody gifts.”

Sakil Hossain
Islam on Campus member

During the fair, members of Islam on Campus served food and played Arabic music for students passing through the cold colonnade.

Eid al-Fitr is a joyous holiday celebrating the piety Muslims have demonstrated, Islam on Campus member Sakil Hossain said.

“It’s similar to Christmas — everybody gives everybody gifts,” he said, referring to the bags of candy doled out on the colonnade.

Fasting for Ramadan is intended to help Muslims empathize with the poor. Each Wednesday, Islam On Campus members brought food to the homeless on the Downtown Plaza. They also raised more than $3,000 for St. Francis House at their annual Fast-a-thon.

Blame flies on funds

DEBATE, from page 1

Nelson agreed that Castro’s reign is near its end, but he said the United States should instead prepare for a mass exodus of Cubans.

The candidates’ views on oil drilling were starkly different. Harris said the United States should drill in the Artic National Wildlife Refuge, while Nelson said the emphasis should be on alternative fuel sources.

Both candidates were accused of receiving illegal donations for their campaigns, and they were asked Monday how voters could trust them after such accusations.

Harris said her campaign contribution records are open and said she would keep that transparency. Additionally, she said she gave back all the money that was questioned — $32,000 — but accused her opponent of not doing the same.

Nelson said that Harris’ comments were inaccurate and that he also gave back all the money that was questioned — $62,800.

The election will take place on Nov. 7.

Lines extend out the door

CAFE, from page 1

When she first arrived at about 9:15 a.m., the line stretched out the door, she said. While the crowd thinned between classes, there was a steady flow of students throughout the day.

Liam Ritchie, a marketing sophomore, had been studying upstairs Monday when he decided to take a snack break.

“It’s too cold to go out the vending machines,” he said.

Several people settled at café tables to study, do crossword puzzles or grade papers to a soundtrack of smooth jazz, frothing milk and a jingling register. Students can take coffee into the other side of the first floor and the rest of the library if it is in a covered container, preferably with a screw top, said Carol Turner, the associate director of public services for Smathers Libraries.

“I hope people will come in, have a cup of coffee and then head up to the library,” Turner said.

Another Starbucks is scheduled to open in the Hub in February, said Jill Rodriguez, the marketing program manager for Gator Dining Services. The library café accepts only declining balance or cash, not gift cards or ATM cards. It is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. After Thanksgiving hours will coincide with the library’s schedule.

GREEK BLOOD DRIVE FALL 2Φ6

Donations as of midnight of 10/22/2006

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Blood Mobile Schedule

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<th>Tuesday, Oct. 24</th>
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<tr>
<td>Final Night Celebration</td>
<td>6 p.m.-10 p.m.</td>
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<td>At Norman Field</td>
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*3 Bloodmobiles, Ben & Jerry’s, Gator Domino’s, Pepsi and KISS 105.3 will be on-site

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Breakfast: Mon-Fri 7:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.; Sat-Sun 7:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Lunch: Mon-Fri 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Snack: Mon-Fri 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Lines extend out the door
Education and public good: 100 years of commitment

The quality of a great public university is measured not only by the caliber of its faculty and students or its innovative research programs, or even the success of its athletic teams, but also by its commitment to contributing to the public good.

This sense of commitment echoes the famous phrase by President John F. Kennedy in his 1961 inaugural address: "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country."

The University of Florida College of Education is celebrating 100 years since opening its doors to a class of six students in 1906. The college has a long tradition of making a difference in the lives of children and their families, educating outstanding professionals and improving school practices, and contributing to community-based initiatives for greater equity and social justice.

Areas where faculty research has made a difference include the development of Head Start in Florida, the creation of the middle school movement, promotion of bilingual and second-language instruction, the beginning of the community college system, and the development of laboratory research schools like P.K. Yonge Laboratory School.

To showcase this history and recent initiatives, the college is sponsoring a national conference titled "Closing the Achievement Gap through Partnerships" Nov. 2-4 at the St. Petersburg Hilton. (Visit www.docf-conferences.ufl.edu/gap/ for details.) This conference is a demonstration of UF's commitment to ensuring all children have equal access to quality instruction and underscores the need to build strong partnerships with families, schools and community groups in a time of rising economic and social disparities.

UF students and faculty who want to answer the call of making a difference in society are welcome to attend.

Catherine Emrichovich, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor

Student safety No. 1 goal for Florida-Georgia game

The Florida-Georgia football game traditionally has been a meeting of old rivals along the St. John's River. This year there will be a middle ground, as university officials and the city of Jacksonville are offering a new service to make sure fans of both teams stay safe.

Two Sideline Student Safety Zones will be open from noon to 3 a.m., Friday, Oct. 27, and Saturday, Oct. 28, to assist students with transportation and medical emergencies.

The idea for the safety zones originated at the University of Florida, but both the city of Jacksonville and the University of Georgia have joined UF to make it happen.

"We have been working on this for some time now," said Dave Krazner, associate vice president for student affairs at UF. "It has been a good culmination of effort."

The main zone, in the Modis Building opposite the Jacksonville Landing on Independent Drive, will be lit by a large balloon to students who are lost can easily find help. Another safety zone will be set up inside the Landing in a storefront donated by property owner Toney Sleiman.

Staffed by emergency medical technicians and UF police, the zones will provide maps, coffee, water and telephone access. At any time during the weekend, students may call a safety hot line set up by the city of Jacksonville at (904) 630-SAFE (7233).

"We are going to do everything we can to help students stay safe," Krazner said.

"We anticipate that this will be an annual event."

By Panagiota Papakos

UF launches degree program in organic agriculture

With revenues from U.S. organic food sales climbing by almost 20 percent each year, the demand for skilled workers in this field is booming. A new University of Florida academic program will help meet producers' needs.

Full semester marks the official launch of a science-based organic agriculture undergraduate degree program at UF, making it one of the first three U.S. institutions to offer this major. Colorado State University and Washington State University also are launching similar programs this fall. UF has offered an organic-ag minor since 2005.

Florida has a growing organic food industry, but producers must look beyond the state to find highly trained personnel to manage their operations, said Dan Cantiffe, chairman of the horticultural sciences department.

"This is something that's been long overdue, especially for UF and the United States," Cantiffe said.

In 2005, organic foods accounted for $13.8 billion in U.S. consumer sales, about 2.5 percent of total U.S. food sales, according to a manufacturers' survey commissioned by the Organic Trade Association. Since 1998, revenues from U.S. consumer sales of organic foods have risen by an average of more than 18 percent per year.

The undergraduate degree program will focus on training students to manage an organic farming unit, said Mickie Swisher, director of UF's Center for Organic Agriculture.

The program requires 120 credit hours, most of them in science courses, including chemistry, botany, genetics, entomology and soil science, capped by several production-agriculture classes.

By Tom Nordlie

Happenings

Listings in this section are a sampling of events at the University of Florida compiled from the full calendar that appears on the Web at calendar.ufl.edu. To submit an event online, send an e-mail to calendar@rncmp.ufl.edu with the following information in this order: event date, event name, brief description and sponsor; time; location; costs; and contact information to include name, phone number and e-mail.

Oct. 25-26
8 a.m.-10 p.m., UF Office of Sustainability conference "Campus and Community Sustainability: Sharing Best Practices and Vision for Florida's Future," Reitz Student Union

Oct. 26
4 p.m., Discussion of book "The Florida Mammals: Ecology and Conservation" with authors Roger Reep and Robert Bonde, UF Bookstore, Reitz Student Union

7:30 p.m., Concert featuring percussionist Jorge Martins and flutist and saxophonist Jorge Continentino, University Auditorium

Oct. 27
12:50 p.m., School of Music convocation, University Auditorium

Oct. 29
4 p.m., Gainesville Chamber Orchestra presents "Pianistic Starfire," University Auditorium

Oct. 30
7:30 p.m., U.S. Army Band Brass Quintet, University Auditorium

Oct. 31
7:30 p.m., School of Music presents "Bas- soon to You: Halloween Special," University Auditorium
For creative teacher, it’s always first and goal

Teaching middle school boys the ins and outs of opera may seem an overwhelming task to some. Not to Linda Behar-Horenstein, who tackled the task much as a linebacker might.

"I told them that the quality of the opera production would only be as good as the third string quarterback. They were mesmerized," Behar-Horenstein said of one of her first teaching assignments at Loyola University, where she received her doctorate.

Today, 14 years later, the same creativity Behar-Horenstein used to make opera relevant to middle-school boys has been put to good use at the University of Florida. As a professor in the College of Education, Behar-Horenstein said the most important role of any instructor is to let students know what is being taught and why, and its application outside the classroom. In this way, her students and future educators learn critical thinking skills that they, in turn, can pass on to their students.

"I am vasty interested in how people perceive and use curriculum and instruction," she said. "Especially in seeing how the instruction develops critical thinking skills in students."

Behar-Horenstein’s passion for teaching has led to her induction into UF’s Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars, an honor awarded to faculty by a committee of peers.

As one of five new academy members this year, Behar-Horenstein will serve for three years on the faculty development advisory board, offering suggestions to improve curriculum, teaching styles and critical thinking skills, and developing programs and workshops that enhance the professional careers and experiences of faculty.

"I am honored to have been given this award," Behar-Horenstein said. "With it, I hope to see the nature of teaching across this campus transformed. We need to get students to think critically, to look beyond their grade point average."

From teaching middle school boys to love opera to getting university students to think on their feet, Behar-Horenstein is always stepping outside the box. Now at UF she is doing research in curriculum development, teaching faculty how to teach and instructing students how to become critical thinkers.

"I am getting to do the kind of work I always dreamed of doing," she said. "In my field, you never arrive; you are always learning. And that is what I find irresistible about it."

By Cory Frederick

Education Professor Linda Behar-Horenstein, standing, shares a light moment with doctoral students in her Research Design in Educational Administration class.

UF ranks among best in academic workplaces

The University of Florida ranks eighth in the United States among the best places to work in academia, according to a new survey by The Scientist magazine. The rankings were based on 1,623 responses from tenured or tenure-track life scientists working in academia or other noncommercial research organizations.

"Usual responsibilities and duties..." they were asked to assess such areas as personal fulfillment, institutional management, peer relations and tenure procedures.

The magazine ranked 58 institutions in the United States. To read more, visit www.the-scientist.com/bhpw/.

Noted journalist to speak at UF

Three-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and Miami Herald columnist Carl Hiaasen will speak at the University of Florida at 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26, in the Phillips Center.

Hiaasen, a 1974 graduate of the University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications, has written more than 1,300 pieces exposing land corruption, drug smuggling, rings, dangerous doctors and corrupt politicians. A Florida native, Hiaasen began his career as a reporter for Cocoa Today in Florida, and then joined The Miami Herald in 1979 as a general assignment reporter. He then went on to work for the newspaper’s winning investigations team and is now known for his “environmental thrillers.”

Sponsored by the ACCENT Speakers Bureau, Hiaasen’s talk is free and open to the public. For more information, call (352) 392-1665, ext. 306 or ext. 411, or visit the Web at www.soc.ufl.edu/accenl.

Radio series offers quick gardening tips

Floridians with a growing passion for gardening and home horticulture now have a new source for help. "Gardening in a Minute," airing at 2 p.m. and 6:18 p.m. Monday through Friday on public radio stations WUFT-FM, Classic 99, and WVUF-FM, Nature Coast 90, provides information from experts with the University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. The one-minute series is narrated by Tom Wichman, coordinator of Florida’s Master Gardener Program, and offers Florida gardeners advice on such topics as home vegetable production, low-input landscaping and backyard wildlife habitats.

Deadline nears to order graduation regalia

The deadline to order academic regalia for fall commencement ceremonies is Wednesday, Oct. 25. All faculty members attending commencement are required to wear formal regalia. Order forms may be found online at www.registrar.ufl.edu/commencement/ under the heading Instructions for Faculty. Additional information on ordering regalia is available by calling the UF Bookstore at 392-0194.

An advanced degrees ceremony for all master’s and doctoral candidates in all colleges will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, in the O’Connell Center. Two undergraduate degrees ceremonies will take place at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, in the O’Connell Center. The College of Law will host a separate ceremony on Friday, Dec. 22.

For additional information, visit the Web at www.registrar.ufl.edu/commencement/.

Tell us your story

InsideUF welcomes submissions of short news announcements and features stories for publication consideration in both print and online editions. Examples of announcements include awards, honors and professional activity notices. Submissions are subject to editing for length, clarity and content. Send submissions at least two weeks in advance to insideuf@ufl.edu.

Don’t forget...

* Flu shots are now available for faculty, staff and students in high-risk categories. Vaccinations will be available to all faculty, staff and students beginning Thursday, Oct. 26. Visit the Web at www.shcc.ufl.edu or call 392-1161 for more information.

* Faculty and departments have until Friday, Oct. 27, to submit their spring term textbook adoptions at www textbookadoption.ufl.edu.

* The deadline to nominate an outstanding UF employee for a Superior Accomplishment Award is Tuesday, Oct. 31. Check out the Web at www.hr.ufl.edu/ saa/default.htm for more information.

* Nominations for International Educator of the Year awards are due Tuesday, Oct. 31. Direct questions and nominations to Dennis Jett at djett@ ufl.edu or 392-3523, ext. 501.

Did you know...

* About 132 rolls of paper towels, 350 rolls of toilet paper and 32 liters of hand soap are used daily across UF!

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**Florida Museum of Natural History**

"Biodiversity: A Biologist’s Perspective," exhibiting scientific illustrations by UF botany doctoral student Camila Pizano, through Dec. 10

**Galleries**

"Dressed and Adorned: The Art of Costume" featuring a selection of costumes through Nov. 3, Grinner Gallery

"Jim Roche’s Motorcycle Maps" through Nov. 9, University Gallery

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**Harn Museum of Art**

"American Matrix: Contemporary Directions for the Harn Museum Collection" through Oct. 29

"Ceramic Reflections: Selected Ceramic Vessels from the Harn Collection" through Dec. 31

**Phillips Center**

Oct. 24
7:30 p.m., Skeptic’s Forum
Oct. 25
7:30 p.m., Gregg Allman & Friends
Oct. 26
8 p.m., Carl Haasen

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**O’Connell Center**

Nov. 3
7:30 p.m., Hip-hop artist T.I. and Friends
Nov. 9
7:30 p.m., Swamps Jam, benefit for Lyrics for Life Foundation featuring Hootie & The Blowfish and Sister Hazel

**Academic Calendar**

Oct. 26-22
Family Weekend 2006
Nov. 19
Veterans Day (observed), no classes
Nov. 12-18
American Education Week

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2006  ALL ALIGGATOR, 16

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Freshmen Harvin, Fayson could see increased roles against Georgia

FOOTBALL, from page 20

on eight carries against Auburn.

"(Meyer is) just ready to open up the offense, give us the ball and let us go run," Harvin said.

And it just might be Harvin’s increased involvement in the game plan that factors as the biggest change.

Before every game, Meyer sits down and scripts how many times he wants playmakers to touch the ball. This week, Harvin should have at least a couple of tallies by his name.

"He’ll touch the ball in a variety of places," Meyer said. "Every time he touches it, it’s like 15 yards a carry."

The Gators did not have such options in 2005.

Late last season, Caldwell suffered a broken leg while Dallas Baker, Jemalle Cornelius and Chad Jackson were all hampered by various injuries.

"It was, ‘Who do we get the ball to?’" Meyer said. "We have an issue this year where we want to make sure the playmakers are touching it."

The irony here is the following: The Gators used their bye week before last season’s Georgia game to simplify their offense by adding a tight end and fullback.

However, the changes this year will be opposite ones, aimed at diversifying the attack.

Quarterback Chris Leak will still see plenty of snaps and provide more traditional drop-back passing, but UF will also mix things up, especially with Tebow under center.

Freshman Jarred Fayson could get some rushes, as should a reenergized and healthy Caldwell.

"(My) confidence is at an all-time high. I feel unstoppable," Caldwell said. "The only person that can stop me is myself, and I’m not going to let that happen."

Added Meyer: "He’s a much more aggressive player than he’s ever been. He wasn’t like that earlier in the year, and it was because he had the tough injury. But Bubba’s a tough guy, and he’s playing the best football he’s ever played here. He’s back."

As for Harvin?

"In my mind, when I get the ball, I think I’m taking it to the distance every time," he said. "Lots of times it would just be one more block or one person I need to make miss, and I would spring out a touchdown. All my plays are designed to go all the way. Just give me the ball and let me go."

GONZO, from page 20

Surely, Tebow will play more against the Bulldogs than he did against Auburn — and he should — but only to run the ball and throw an occasional pass like he did in UF’s first six games.

Why not more?

The answer is simple: Tebow’s just not that good yet. He hasn’t fully grasped the offense. He’s not an accurate passer. And (get ready) he’s not as good as Leak.

While Leak is walking to the locker room with the starting offense after practices, Tebow still takes snaps with the scout team because, after all, he’s just a freshman. And that’s what freshmen do.

Certainly, Tebow has a bright future. I can only imagine how spectacular UF’s offense will look in the years to come with guys like Tebow, Percy Harvin and Jarred Fayson running the spread.

But for now, it’s Leak. He may win by default, but he still wins.

Leak has UF atop the SEC East with a chance to all but clinch the division this weekend.

And he has the Gators ranked No. 6 in the BCS with hopes of a national title still very much alive.

Give him a little R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

People like to kick others when they’re down — especially Miami players — and Leak is down right now.

Plenty have and will continue to stomp on him. But that’s OK. Because this time next week, after Leak helps pound the Bulldogs, those same people will be praising him. At least until the next time he plays horrifically.

A bunch of bandwagon fans, if you ask me.

Gubernatorial debate at 8 p.m., Tuesday, October 24
'04s garner first, second team preseason honors

**FOUR UF STARTERS WERE ALL-SEC SELECTIONS.**

**ALLIGATOR SERVICES**

The Southeastern Conference unveiled its third annual men's basketball Coaches Preseason All-SEC first and second teams.

**TENNIS**

**Ouellette rolls through qualifier**

By KARL HYPPOLITE

Alligator Writer

Greg Ouellette was dominant. Competing in the ITA Regional Indoor Qualifying Tournament this weekend against 160 of the best tennis players in the country, the UF junior was never seriously challenged, earning a spot in the ITA Indoor Championships.

On the first day of play, No. 26 Ouellette won in straight sets (6-4, 6-2) against Fredrik Aarum of Ole Miss.

On the second day, he disposed of LSU's Eric Delocal 6-4, 6-0. That win set up a meeting with Alabama's Sammy Struyf, who challenged Ouellette but fell to the same fate of the All-Southeastern Conference First Team honoree's previous challengers 6-4, 7-5.

Following two more straight set victories against Ole Miss' Beam ten Bege in round 16 and Tennessee's Davey Sandgren in the quarterfinals, Ouellette was ready for a challenge.

But despite managing to steal a set from Ouellette, Mississippi State's Ivan Bjelica would also fall at the hands of the junior 6-3, 1-6, 6-3.

As a result of the win, Ouellette and No. 5 Georgia junior Travis Helgeson were scheduled to face each other. But with both players having already qualified for the indoor championships, Helgeson withdrew prior to the match, giving Ouellette the win.

"Overall, I thought our tournament was good as a team, and Greg's was outstanding," UF coach Andy Jackson said. "I thought Greg played well, particularly indoors, and showed a lot of improvement. If he plays as well as he's been playing, then he has a chance to make a major impact at the indoor championships. The talent at the qualifying tournament was high-quality and will not be far off of the national tournament."

"I thought Greg played well, particularly indoors, and showed a lot of improvement." Andy Jackson

UF men's tennis coach

Ouellette's play is far from surprising. The junior is now 8-1 in the fall season and 49-12 in his career at UF.

The ITA Indoor Championship is scheduled for Nov. 2 to Nov. 5 at Ohio State University.

**WOMEN'S TENNIS:**

The duo of senior Nina Suvak and junior Whitney Betnik also punched a ticket to the ITA Regional Indoor Qualifying Tournament, winning the tournament title at the 12 head coaches in the order of finish was made.

Senior guard Lee Humphrey is expected to start the season as the No. 1 team in the country, and they are the favorites to win the SEC.

Only one senior, Alabama's Jermareo Davidson, cracked the top five. Alabama had the second most with three.

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Meyer to rejuvenate spread offense

By LOUIS ANASTASIS
Alligator Staff Writer
lanastasis@alligator.org

Coach Urban Meyer is spearheading a movement to bring back educational television.

After plodding in his favorite armchair and watching an entire Saturday of college football for the first time all season, Meyer had a Eureka! moment.

"I was (seeing) guys making three people miss, running over people and going, going, going," Meyer said. "It's not like this is earth-shattering news, but playmakers win games. Get the ball in the hands of your playmakers."

Inspired by what he saw, Meyer arrived at his office early Sunday and Monday to scheme how to get the ball to his own playmakers against Georgia.

Saturday, you will likely see a significant transition to more of the true spread offense schemes that made the coach so successful at Bowling Green and Utah.

Some of the more relevant changes include:

- Getting backup quarterback Tim Tebow more snaps. Last week, Meyer said he regretted not using his dynamic playmaker more often against Auburn.
- Using more true spread runs (reverses, end arounds, option plays, etc.) than up-the-gut traditional running plays. Relying heavily on the former, wide receivers Andre Caldwell and Percy Harvin rushed for a combined 119 yards.
- Using more true spread runs (reverses, end arounds, option plays, etc.) than up-the-gut traditional running plays. Relying heavily on the former, wide receivers Andre Caldwell and Percy Harvin rushed for a combined 119 yards.

SEEN FOOTBALL, PAGE 18

UF faithful need to plug Leak in QB's fan support

Chris Leak doesn't have much support these days.

Coming off his performance against Auburn — one of the worst showings of his career — the senior has been ripped to shreds by fans on talk radio and message boards.

Leak's critics say he can't come through in the clutch, win the big game or guide the Gators to a Southeastern Conference title or a national championship.

Now some — not all — in the Gator Nation want Tim Tebow to replace Leak.

What is going on?

In a matter of weeks, Leak has gone from Heisman hopeful to being booed in his own stadium to fans now calling for a freshman to take his place.

Something's wrong here.

There's time to have a little faith in the fourth-year quarterback. Leak has broken or will break nearly every school passing record by the season's end.

And he's doing it without complaining. He is taking the high road, a path less traveled by some (again, not all) Gators fans.

While some will still want Tebow this weekend, they've forgotten a very important fact:

Leak has had his best games against Georgia.

Leak has never thrown an interception against the Bulldogs, and he has completed 50 of 77 passes for 590 yards and four touchdowns. He also rushed for a touchdown in last year's meeting.

"There's no question he's had success in this game," Coach Urban Meyer said Monday. "He knows this game."

Tebow, on the other hand, does not know how to play this game.

Tebow is 0-0 passing for 0 yards and zero touchdowns against Georgia. He has never seen this game from any viewpoint other than a spectator's.

SEE GONZON, PAGE 18

Sophomore impressive in backup role

By NICK ZACCARDI
Alligator Staff Writer
nzaccardi@alligator.org

Derrick Harvey is the Southeastern Conference co- leader in sacks, plays both defensive end spots and stays in against the run — but he doesn't start.

The UF sophomore has recorded six sacks this season while relieving fellow ends Jarvis Moss and Ray McDonald, who have combined for 5.5 sacks.

When defensive tackle Marcus Thomas was serving a suspension earlier this season, Harvey saw additional time, taking the spot of McDonald, who shifted to defensive tackle.

"He's 250 pounds and he's playing over-300-pound offensive tackles, and he's held his own in there," UF co-defensive coordinator Greg Mattison said. "He's really been a valuable part of our defense," Mattison said.

ESTOPINAN OUT: Sophomore defensive tackle Javier Estopinan underwent surgery for a torn right ACL on Monday, a season-ending injury that he suffered against LSU.

Since coming to UF, Estopinan has sat out with a sprained foot, strained ligaments in his leg and an ankle injury.

The Miami native made his first career start against Alabama and has recorded five tackles this season in addition to playing a key role on special teams.

VANDY TIME ANNOUNCED: UF's Nov. 4 game at Vanderbilt will kick off at 12:30 p.m. on Lincoln Financial Sports.

The contest marks the first time this season UF will play before 3:30 p.m. and its first game on Lincoln Financial, formerly known as Jefferson Pilot.

SEEN FOOTBALL, PAGE 18