Police investigate alleged GRU theft

The suspect is thought to have stolen tools, equipment

By KATHERINE BEIN
Alligator Writer

The recent arrest of a Gainesville Regional Utilities employee has led to further investigation by the Gainesville Police Department.

Jason Breeden was arrested March 25 on charges of stealing thousands of dollars worth of equipment and tools from the Deerhaven plant.

Plant Manager Ali McDaniel contacted police when he discovered that an expensive welder had gone missing, along with its three-wheel crate, while taking inventory at the beginning of the year, according to GPD Sgt. Greg Armagost.

According to Armagost, McDaniel said the theft must have occurred sometime between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31 of last year.

Detective Mike Denmark said he heard an employee, later identified as Breeden, was involved in the theft and visited the man at his home.

He found Breeden in possession of the cart but not the welder itself, Armagost said.

Denmark returned the next day with warrants to search the home and arrest Breeden.

The search turned up more stolen tools, totaling about $5,000 to $6,000, Denmark said.

Breeden was not home at the time of the search because, after having heard of the warrant that the police had issued for his arrest, he had gone to the police department in order to turn himself in, according to Armagost.

Breeden spent the night in the Alachua County Jail but posted his $5,000 bond the following day.

He has since been released, he said.

Breeden has been charged with grand theft and scheming to defraud, and police believe this was not a one-time occurrence.

Local police are currently conducting an investigation as to whether or not others were involved in the various thefts, what else may have been stolen and the whereabouts of the missing welder, according to Armagost.

Police believe the thefts may go back even further than October.

There is evidence that Breeden and possibly others had been stealing and accumulating tools and equipment from the Deerhaven plant for years, according to Armagost.

Anyone who may have information about the theft or the whereabouts of the welder is asked to call Armagost at 352-334-2487.

Yawn on the Lawn

Matthew Wagshol, a senior in UF’s mechanical engineering program, takes his shoes off, sprawls out and enjoys his time between classes in the warm weather on Monday afternoon. He avoided the heat by lying in the shade beside his bicycle on the North Lawn behind the Reitz Union. Monday’s temperatures reached a high of 87 degrees.

Robber locks bank workers in vault, leaves package behind

ELKHART LAKE, Wis. — A gunman locked bank employees in a vault in Elkhart Lake and left behind a package with flashing lights before stealing cash, while the bank manager unknowingly went about her business.

Police Chief Randy Boeldt said the man, disguised with a wig and fake mustache and beard, entered the National Exchange Bank & Trust Thursday and ordered three tellers into the vault where he locked them behind a gate and told them it was no April Fools joke.

Boeldt said the man left a box with flashing lights near the vault and told the tellers they would be electrocuted if they left before the lights stopped flashing.

The Sheboygan Press reported the manager arrived at the bank, walked into her office and never saw a thing as the robber walked out the door.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPECIAL REPORT

City sees string of window, car burglaries

By KATHERINE BEIN
Alligator Writer

The Gainesville Police Department is asking students to be careful with valuables as there has been a string of window-smashing burglaries in student-dense areas.

According to GPD Sgt. Greg Armagost, there have been eight such burglaries in the past two weeks at the southwest student complexes alone.

“I know it’s a pain, but take any valuables out of your car.”

Greg Armagost
GPD sergeant

Police are urging students to lock their doors at home as well and be wary of door-to-door salespeople.

Last week, police arrested Zacquel Wisse, 20, from Boston, for trying to break in through unlocked doors at Fairmont Oaks after going door-to-door under the pretense of selling magazine subscriptions. Wisse then tried to enter the homes if no one answered, Armagost said.

One woman watched through the peephole as Wisse tried to break into her home, so she called police, Armagost said.

There were three window-smash burglaries at Fairmont Oaks that day, but police can not link Wisse to the crimes, he said.

Recycle

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visit www.alligator.org

Sunny

87/56
WHAT’S HAPPENING
Justice for Kofi Rally
Today, 4 p.m.
Turlington Plaza
The Coalition for Justice Against Police Brutality will be holding a rally on Turlington Plaza demanding justice for Kofi Adu-Brempong, an international student shot in his on-campus apartment by University Police shortly before Spring Break.

The coalition demands that all charges against Adu-Brempong be dropped immediately and that an independent grand jury investigation be launched by the state attorney into the circumstances surrounding the shooting.

Check out the event on Facebook for more information. Make sure to come out and fight for justice for your fellow Gator!

Feed Your Brain
Zombie Survival Workshop
Today, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Marston Science Library
For more information, visit http://libguides.uflib.ufl.edu/zombie.

RUB Entertainment Presents:
Traveling on a Budget with Johnny Jet
Tonight, 8 p.m.
Orange & Brew

Johnny Jet has traveled 190,000 miles to 20 countries per year. As summer vacation quickly approaches, find out all his travel secrets, such as where and at what time to buy plane tickets, the best destinations for budget travel and how to find the least expensive hotel rooms.

Break Passover at Gator City
1728 W University Ave. Tonight, 8:30 p.m.
Enjoy free pizza and play trivia (with prizes) to celebrate the end of Passover. Seniors and graduate students are invited to stick around after trivia and learn about post-graduation opportunities in Israel.

Got something going on?
In the space? Send an e-mail with the subject line to efuggetta@alligator.org. Please model your efforts after the example above. Improperly formatted “What’s Happening” submissions may not appear in the paper. News releases will not appear in the paper.

CORRECTIONS
An article in Friday’s Alligator incorrectly reported that 10 people attended a Pride Awareness Month Event at which Wilson Cruz spoke. The number was a misprint—about 100 people attended the event.

An article in Monday’s Alligator incorrectly reported that UF professor Grant Thrall attended the American Counseling Association’s annual conference and exposition.

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The Gator Nation is Everywhere

Becoming a part of The Gator Nation has been a big part of life for my wife and me, since we moved to Gainesville in 2006. Now, as dean of the UF International Center, I am particularly proud of the tag line to the UF slogan, “The Foundation for The Gator Nation.”

This tag line states that “The Gator Nation is Everywhere.” The UF International Center is charged with ensuring that this remains true. From our significant numbers of international graduates (residents of more than 100 countries) to the large cohort of international students (3,917 with homes in 134 countries, at last count) to the number of countries (52) where more than 2,000 UF students study abroad annually, we really are everywhere.

Why, you might ask, is The Gator Nation so internationally committed? The simple answer is: Because it’s the right thing to do. We live in a world that is so intimately interconnected that a great institution cannot function responsibly without a significant global commitment — and we are a great institution!

David Sammons
Dean, UF International Center

Running with the Gators

Do you know who the dean of students is? If you’re a student living on campus, she could be your neighbor.

Jen Day Shaw, the new University of Florida dean of students, is so dedicated to her job that she rarely leaves work. She exercises, dines and relaxes in an atmosphere surrounded with students.

To get familiar with things fast, she decided to live on campus. According to Shaw, this allows her to participate in more student events.

“It’s living on campus puts you right in the heart of things and makes it so much easier,” Shaw said.

Although she has worked as the dean of students at other universities, including University of North Carolina at Greensboro and University of South Florida, this is her first time working with such a large student body, she said.

The convenience and accessibility of living on campus helps when managing a university crisis until 2 a.m., she said. “It’s something different every day,” she said, which is one of the reasons she enjoys her job.

Even after working into the early-morning hours, she still manages to have energy to run with ROTC students before dawn. Coming from a military family, Shaw has a great respect for the group and uses the morning activity as another opportunity to familiarize herself with students.

Impressed by the high involvement of UF students, Shaw finds attending student-group meetings to be “uplifting,” she said.

For this reason, she often eats lunch with students at daily events offering food. But, as if dining, socializing and living in a student atmosphere weren’t enough, Shaw also will be teaching two student courses: First-Year Florida and a graduate course.

Shaw loves to teach, but her true calling lies in another aspect of her job.

“It is most fulfilling to help students in distress,” she said. “I love that the best.”

By Kristie Andres

Buildings receive LEED certification

Five University of Florida buildings and additions recently received certification from the United States Green Building Council for being environmentally friendly.

The buildings include the Steinbrenner Band Hall, the Graham Center for Public Service at Pugh Hall, the NIMET Nanoscale Research Facility, the UF Dental Clinic in Naples and the IFAS Biological & Agricultural Research Facility in Fort Pierce. The certification is called LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

UF currently has 17 certified buildings, five buildings pending certification and 22 buildings registered to become certified. For more information visit http://www.facilities.ufl.edu/sustain/.

Cessation program offered

In anticipation of the University of Florida going “Tobacco-Free Together” on July 1, several programs are being offered to assist employees and their family members in kicking the habit before the policy takes effect.

For more information on the cessation courses, visit http://sbcc.ufl.edu/oocmed/esc.shtml.

UF Calendar

April 7
“The CSI Effect in Jury Trials,” speaker Carol Henderson, 7:30 p.m., Ulster Hall Atrium.

April 8
School of Music Organ Studio Recital, 7:30 p.m., University Auditorium.

April 9
Spring drop or withdraw deadline.

April 10
School of Music Carillon Recital, 3 p.m., Century Tower.

April 11-18
UF Department of Environmental Horticulture’s 2010 Annual Spring Plant Sale, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., UF Plant Science Facility.

April 18
“Exhibition Spotlight Tour,” 2 p.m., Harn Museum of Art.

Recurring Events

Weekend tours, 11 a.m., every Saturday; docent-led tours, 2 p.m., every Saturday, Sunday, Harn Museum of Art.

This is a sampling of events from the electronic UF calendar.

For more event details, or to submit an event to the calendar, click “UF Calendar” at www.insideuf.ufl.edu.

Note This

Solar home to compete internationally

The University of Florida Solar Decathlon team’s student-designed solar home will compete internationally this summer in the Solar Decathlon Europe.

The competition is designed to advance innovation and research in solar, sustainable and industrialized housing.

The UF team of more than 125 students from four colleges and eight disciplines, will compete in Madrid this June in 10 categories that include solar power, innovation, sustainability and communication. The team’s entry fuses innovation with the design of the historic Florida Cracker House to further the field of solar energy and inspire solutions for sustainable living.

For updates on the house, visit www.florida solardecathlon.org.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Top officials at the Vatican were warned more than four years ago about a Catholic priest later charged with sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl in Minnesota, according to newly released Vatican correspondence, but to this day he continues to work in his home diocese in India.

Prosecutors in Minnesota said Monday they are trying to extradite the Rev. Joseph Palanivel Jeyapaul. Jeyapaul denied the abuse allegations and said he has no plans to return to the United States to face the courts.

The Vatican said Monday it has cooperated with U.S. law enforcement officials working to extradite Jeyapaul. In a statement to The Associated Press, Vatican attorney Jeffrey Lena said the Holy See handed over the priest’s address in India. He said the Vatican had recommended Jeyapaul be defrocked, because it believed the charges were serious enough, but that his local bishop in India refused.

The bishop, the Most Rev. A. Almaraj of the diocese of Ootacamund, said he had disciplined Jeyapaul by sending him to a monastery for prayer.

Jeyapaul was charged in Minnesota in 2007, more than a year after he returned to India. Officials in the Diocese of Crookston, Minn., had told him to stay there after allegations against him first surfaced.

Almaraj said Jeyapaul works in an office processing teacher appointments for a dozen church schools and does not work with children.

In a May 2006 letter to the Bishop Victor Balke of the Diocese of Crookston, Archbishop Angelo Amato wrote that Jeyapaul’s bishop had been instructed to monitor him “so that he does not constitute a risk to minors and does not create scandal.”

Amato was secretary to Cardinal William Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which handles all abuse cases. In subsequent letters, Balke warned both Levada and a top Vatican official in the U.S. about Jeyapaul. “It is difficult for me to quantify the harm that this man has done to the dignity of the priesthood,” Balke wrote to Levada on Dec. 21, 2006.

The letters are among evidence against Jeyapaul provided to The Associated Press by Jeff Anderson, the attorney for Jeyapaul’s accuser.

Jeyapaul is wanted in the U.S. on two counts of criminal sexual conduct stemming from accusations he assaulted a young, female parishioner in the fall of 2004 at the Blessed Sacrament Church in Greenbush, Minn., where he was working. Each charge carries a sentence of up to 30 years.

According to the criminal complaint, the teenage girl accused Jeyapaul of threatening to kill her family if she did not come into the rectory, where he then forced her to perform oral sex on him and groped her.

“It is a false accusation against me,” Jeyapaul told the AP in a phone interview. “I do not know that girl at all.”

Lisa Hanson, the prosecutor in northern Minnesota’s Roseau County, said her office is in the process of trying to extradite Jeyapaul. She wouldn’t provide specifics on the timing or approach but said her office has been working with the U.S. Justice Department. Officials at India’s Foreign Ministry were not immediately available to discuss whether the U.S. asked for Jeyapaul’s extradition.

“He’s charged with serious felonies here in this country,” Hanson said. “We want justice for the victim here and we want to do whatever we can to protect potential future victims everywhere.”

Almaraj said the Vatican did not take any part in disciplining Jeyapaul.

“We cannot simply throw out the priest, so he is just staying in the bishop’s house, and he is helping me with the appointment of teachers,” Almaraj said. “He says he is innocent, and these are only allegations. ... I don’t know what else to do.”

Anderson held a news conference Monday to draw attention to the Jeyapaul case, demanding he be suspended and returned to the U.S. to face justice.

“Everyone knew there was a serious problem, but they chose not to ask and they chose not to tell,” Anderson said.

The Vatican has denounced such accusations and has blamed the media for what it calls a smear campaign against the pope and his advisers.

The Vatican has insisted Pope Benedict XVI takes such accusations seriously and cracked down on abuse in 2001 by ordering dioceses to inform the Vatican of all such cases.

However, the Vatican hasn’t issued any guidelines requiring bishops to heed civil authorities, though it insists nothing in its directives precludes such cooperation.

Almaraj said the church had never discussed asking Jeyapaul to return to the United States to appear in court.

“No steps were taken. Nobody talked about that. Nobody asked about that,” Almaraj said.

Right after the accusations against Jeyapaul first surfaced in 2005, the priest returned home to visit his ailing mother.

“My mother told me to remain here, and the (Crookston) bishop also told me not to come back, because these allegations have come against you,” Jeyapaul said.

By BRENTON BROWN

Alligator Contributing Writer

A great debate will take place tonight at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts on a topic as old as Adam and Eve: The Great Religion Debate. The Great Religion Debate will feature writers Christopher Hitchens and Dinesh D’Souza in an event similar to CNN’s Crossfire.

Hitchens and D’Souza will discuss their views on atheism and theism.

The debate, which was co-sponsored by the Graham Center for Public Service and Accent, is free and open to the public.

Accent chairman Jason Attermann said all students are encouraged to come out for the debate, whether their opinions about religion are strong, neutral or open.

“Two of these two are highly respected individuals with strong, opposing opinions about religion,” he said. “It’s going to be great.”

Hitchens, an atheist and author of “God Is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything,” was a columnist for Vanity Fair, The Nation and Slate magazine and has corresponded from more than 60 countries.

D’Souza, a theist and author of “The End of Racism: Principles for a Multiracial Society,” was called one of the “top young public-policy makers in the country” by Investor’s Business Daily.

Doors will open at 7 p.m., and the show will begin at 8 p.m.

Hitchens and D’Souza are collectively paid $33,000, according to Accent.

By CJ PRUNER

Alligator Staff Writer

In an attempt to promote one of the human body’s most vital organs, UF’s Neuroscience Club kicked off its Brain Awareness Week Monday.

The event will place a different focus on the mind for each day of the week, from mental wellness to some of the lesser-known functions of the brain.

According to club president JiHee Choi, the event represents a growing interest in matters pertaining to the brain.

Topics for the rest of the week will include mental health, neuroanatomy and creativity, among others. The club will offer different activities corresponding to the topics.

Although the official National Brain Awareness Week was held last month, Choi said confident students will be receptive to the approach.

“An inquisitive mind can learn a lot,” she said.

For more information, visit www.freewebs.com/neuroscienceclub.

Atheist, theist to face off

THE ‘GREAT RELIGION DEBATE’

WILL FEATURE RELIGION EXPERTS.

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AWARENESS

Neuroscience club kicks off Brain Awareness Week

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Former Senate Majority Leader
Bill Frist, R-Tenn., answered questions from a small group of UF students and professors on health care legislation, obesity and Haiti recovery via satellite Monday night.

Frist, who is a surgeon, was scheduled to appear with former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., in January, but the doctor missed the event to help with earthquake recovery in Haiti.

About 30 students and professors watched the senator speak from Tennessee while in the College of Journalism and Communications’ 21st Century News Laboratory in Weimer Hall.

Republican leaders have been critical of the health care bill. House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, even said the recently passed legislation would “ruin our country.”

But Frist, who said he’s out of politics and more worried about policy now, said the health care bill is “80 percent good” but “20 percent has the potential of being very destructive.”

That destructiveness, Frist said, will come from the legislation’s high price tag.

Democrats say the legislation will save money, but Frist believes the reform will actually increase the federal deficit.

The former senator said while he believes the bill will increase coverage among Americans who need it, the bill wouldn’t bring down health care costs.

Frist said Americans spend more on health care but don’t have outcomes as good as some European countries not because the country has a market system, but because of America’s behavior and environmental factors.

Republicans have said the health care bill leads the country toward socialism and further government control, but Frist, who worked as a doctor in England’s National Health Service, disagreed.

“We’re not a socialized system,” he said. “We’re about as far from it as we can get.”

One of his sons was born while he was living in England, and Frist said he received “unbelievably good primary care.”

“We didn’t have to pay anything, which was amazing,” he said.

But Frist said there was a downside to England’s socialized system. He said very specialized care for ailments like cancer was harder to get, and patients have fewer options.

Dr. Nancy Hardt, an associate dean at UF’s College of Medicine, said she thought Frist was very moderate compared to the Republicans in Congress.

She asked the senator a question on doctors treating patients with emphasis on value instead of volume.

Frist said part of the health care bill aimed at valuing outcomes might give the government more control, but overall he liked the proposal.

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Playing It Safe
Housing department’s Nerf gun ban overkill

First it was the hippies and communist professors who were corrupting our children’s minds with radical concepts such as gravity and the letter “Q.” Then it was those damn semi-Nazis who wanted to turn our prom queens into jezebels who choke down birth control pills like Skittles.

Now, university authorities are trembling at the possibility of a new breed of monster that just may rob this campus of its innocence — Nerf guns.

Luckily for all of God’s children out there, our heroes at the Department of Housing and Residence Education, the same people who masterfully lead us through the darkest of fire drills and the most dire of alcohol checks, have the courage to stand up to these cold, heartless half-dead bastards.

Could you imagine the horror if one of these Turlington warriors decides to pull a John Rambo by charging into a classroom chock-full of children and spraying the place with his or her foam artillery?

Combine the opening scenes of “Saving Private Ryan” and “Gangs of New York” to a soundtrack of wailing and gnashing of teeth and you have a slight grasp of the slaughter carnival that would ensue in such an ungodly scenario.

If you feel overwhelmed by those brave enough to combat the undead, there’s a crop of UPDs who could quench their bloodthirst in between cracking stoner skulls at rock concerts and putting the pieces together behind the who-pissed-behind-the-Grog-House-Dumpster investigation.

As for the toy-toting titans, the beatings will continue until morale improves.

3-D(on’t)

What is the deal with 3-D? James Cameron makes “Avatar” and suddenly we think every movie should be converted to it? It’s bad enough that the ticket prices are higher for something that, in certain films, creates little more than the vaguely cosmic feeling of holding your hand out in front of your face.

But with this current fad in cinema being dismissed as something people would have in their homes as a standard feature, we find ourselves largely underwhelmed.

Changes in technology don’t always reflect a need people have but should at least display something better than what people have already seen.

While “Avatar” was filmed with new equipment causing something of a difference, films like Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland” and the newly released “Clash of the Titans” remake were filmed as 2-D movies and converted to 3-D.

The effect? Most of the backgrounds are blurry because the directors didn’t film them for 3-D, thus projecting a beautiful image of blurriness that looks somewhat closer to us. We are all for new ideas and relevant technology, but the recent 3-D movie trend is neither of these.

Although it seems we’re in the minority, we have this feeling about this trend will do to the cost of films — and the dignity of them — when we merely want to see the newest Kate Winslet Oscar nom, and instead we have to pay extra to see it in starting 3-D.

Please, we beg you, don’t make this a standard before it’s somehow better than what we already have.

In love, actions speak louder than words

I think it’s fair to say there are few phrases in the English language that are more emotionally loaded than “I love you.” For that matter, it’s probably fair to say there are few phrases that are more regularly abused and misused than those three words.

That’s not a particularly bold statement to make, I know. After all, people talk about how the language of love has been cheapened by all aspects of our culture: lyrics to banal pop songs that use the phrase for its rhymability; movies and TV shows that render every expression of affection as an embarrassing cliche; and advertising that reduces the phrase to a cute, manipulative coda to a jewelry commercial or a wireless carrier.

Others may decry how overused the word “love” is. They argue that we whip out the word in all manner of situations — I love this infomercial! I love this YouTube video! I love eating at Chili’s! — so much that it throws into question just how meaningful being the recipient of an “I love you” could possibly be: “I’m really glad you love me and all, but you said the same thing about an Awesome Blossom yes- terday, so I really don’t know what to do with that.”

Even when an “I love you” is directed at someone whom you actually love, the phrase can have a tendency to become meaningless through reflexivity — the sort of unthinking “I love you” that come at the end of phone calls or e-mails.

Worse still, an “I love you” can all too easily just become shorthand for something entirely different, like, “I’m tired of arguing, and I want to end this conversation, but I still think you’re wrong.” Or, “I kind of want to have sex tonight, and I think this is what you want to hear.” Or, “I want something from you, and maybe saying this will make you feel guilty enough to give it to me.” Or, “I don’t actually love you, but I’m willing to pretend because maybe if I say it enough, it’ll magically become true.” (Just a heads up: it doesn’t.)

However, not using the phrase can be just as bad as using it too often. Perhaps as a response to the alacrity with which some people dole out “I love you,” others may feel compelled to guard their use of the phrase with overzealous caution, as though they’ve got a finite number of them to hand out.

But I’d argue that not saying it also cheapens the phrase by setting nonexistent or unrealistic restrictions on who gets to hear it. Do you care about someone in a deep, personal, substantial way and act accordingly? Does it make you happy to see them happy? Do they draw out a more selfless, more understanding part of you? Well, damn — that might be love, and withholding an “I love you,” at least anecdotally, has a tendency to be among the things people most regret.

All this is to say, I think we sometimes have a strange relationship with the phrase “I love you.” Some of this may be over-thinking it; it is, after all, just three words, and like over-analyzing a joke, dissecting them with too much intensity could kill the spirit of it.

But it’s worth at least some examination, because how we use the phrase “I love you” can be a reflection of what we mean when we say we love someone. To be sure, loving someone means something more than just feeling strongly; there’s a reason words like “crush” exist, after all.

Love isn’t so much felt as it is demonstrated, and that’s precisely what an “I love you” should be. It should be a quiet affirmation, spoken aloud, of what your actions already made clear.

Joe Dellosa

In honor of National Window Safety Week, we’ve created our own “Awareness Month Awareness Day” to celebrate some of the most ridiculous causes recognized in April.

In my back home

Rabies

Foot health

In love, actions speak louder than words

Reader response

Today’s question:
Are you attending the Great Religion Debate?

Monday’s question:
Are Nerf guns a threat to campus security?

Vote or post a message at www.alligator.org
Zombie editorial disappointing

I am disappointed by the stance the Editorial Board took in Monday’s editorial “Zombie Nation.” Humans vs. Zombies is just a master game of tag that unites all different kinds of students across UF’s campus in a game that makes the boring walk to class more interesting for a week.

I am nowhere near a socially inept child-hood comic nerd, as you have stereotyped everyone playing this game, and yet I find this game rather entertaining.

Non-players are ignored and are perfectly welcome to watch or ignore those who do play.

Attempting to draw a parallel between the Humans vs. Zombies players and Burlington preachers and annoying activists is a worthless comparison.

Humans vs. Zombies is played on college and university campuses across the nation. This is the first semester it has come to UF, and the game earlier this semester was a short trial run.

There are more than 1,000 students registered and playing this week, which shows an obvious interest from our UF student body. That, coupled with the fact that a freshman has managed to organize and launch a campus-wide game drawing the interest of more than 1,000 students during his second semester, is admirable, and should earn the support of our beloved Alligator.

Or, at the very least, it should curb blatant criticism.

Wesley Bivins
Alligator reader

Dunai Harris
UF Senior

Guest column

Students should take stand

I was standing on Turlington Plaza Monday with some members of the Coalition for Justice Against Police Brutality, telling students walking by about the shooting of Kofi Adu-Brempong by the University Police Department. As we were handing out fliers for today’s protest, a girl stopped me and asked me about the incident. To no fault of her own, she said she hadn’t heard anything about it and wanted to know how UPD could possibly shoot an international student on campus.

I started telling her about how Adu-Brempong — a geography instructor who lived in Corry Village — had his door broken into by the UPD-equivalent of a SWAT team. Once the officers broke in, they shot him three times with a beanbag gun capable of knocking over a full-sized cow, twice with UPD’s infamous weapon of choice — a Taser — and was then shot in the face with an M-4 assault rifle. I didn’t have to tell her that the shots had destroyed half of Adu-Brempong’s jaw, upper-palette and tongue before her eyes started to well up with tears.

This girl’s reaction affected me in a way I haven’t felt for some time. As she asked “How could they do this?” I realized just how wrong Vice President of Student Affairs Patricia Telles-Irvin was when she insultingly told the coalition that it didn’t have the support of the Student Body. Most students understand an injury to one Gator is an injury to the entire Gator Nation, evidenced by the thousands of students who signed a petition demanding that all charges against Adu-Brempong be dropped, along with the 400 students, faculty and community members who came out to the last protest.

Today on Turlington Plaza at 4 p.m., students will be marching again to demand that the administration and UPD end this heinous example of injustice. Come out and fight back to win justice for Adu-Brempong and to make sure this atrocity never happens again.

Dave Schneider is a political science and history sophomore.

Dave Schneider Speaking Out

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CITY COMMISSION

Commissioners support urbanization investments

By OLGA VELEZ
Alligator Contributing Writer

City commissioners decided to support private investment in Five Points, a small urbanized area of the city, and land along Hawthorne Road in a Community Development Committee meeting Monday.

“We are not seeing enough private investment,” said City Commissioner Thomas Hawkins.

Hawkins said if the city used public money for funding, it would be cheaper for private investors to invest because they wouldn’t have to spend as much money on public utilities.

The decision came after serious debate between city commissioners Craig Lowe and Scherwin Henry over whether to limit the development to Five Points or expand it to the area along Hawthorne Road.

Lowe argued that the focus should be limited to the development of Five Points in order to “get something that will develop close residential communities with heightened and focused re-development strategies in mind.”

Instead of trying to improve a broad area, Lowe felt the greatest success could be achieved by focusing on improving the investment in one area.

Henry disagreed because he felt there was a greater potential for investment in the area along Hawthorne Road, with companies such as Food Lion, a retail grocery store, and GTECH, an information technology company, to entice investors.

“They (the companies and the department) will have needs to be met — enticing private investors,” Henry said.

Although Community Development Committee chairman Hawkins originally agreed with Lowe, after a half-hour of consideration, both Lowe and Hawkins decided to consider both investments simultaneously.

The next step, Hawkins said, is examining three possible programs that could help fund this project: Eastside Community Redevelopment Agency, Connect Free and College Park.

The Community Development Committee will meet again May 27 to pick a program.

Site ranks schools based on texting

THE SITE IS INSPIRED BY ‘TEXTS FROM LAST NIGHT.’

By GWEN RAHN
Alligator Contributing Writer

After debate over which university is the No. 1 party school, some UF students have developed their own ways of deciding.

Five students launched partyschooltexts.com, an interactive Web site similar to textsfromlastnight.com that will allow users to vote for the No. 1 party school starting May 23.

The Web site lists text message conversations categorized by universities and gives viewers a chance to vote on their favorites. The most popular posts will help determine the ranking.

“It’s ridiculous how the same company who produces SAT reviews also does party school rankings,” said Nick Gilboy, one of the creators. “College students know much more about partying than the Princeton Review does.”

Gilboy, 22, and Alex Baden, 21, came up with the idea two months ago after believing textsfromlastnight.com was misleading viewers with the use of area codes.

“College students rarely have phone numbers with the same area codes as their college town,” Baden said. “Their school doesn’t get credit for all the crazy things that happen.”

In collaboration with Kevin Ruiz, Sunil Tangri and Tony Feria, Gilboy and Baden equally financed the $1,000 start-up fee and hired a Web designer for the site’s design and coding.

“At this point, we aren’t asking for ads or trying to make a profit,” said Ruiz, who controls the marketing aspect with Feria.

“We are trying to create an entertainment service for college students. It is interesting to see what school they think is really No. 1.”

“It’s ridiculous how the same company who produces SAT reviews also does party school rankings.”

Nick Gilboy
co-creator of partyschooltexts.com

The Web site has already received about 1,000 unique views, but the creators are hoping word of mouth will increase popularity out of state.

All five members plan on staying in Gainesville after graduation in May to concentrate on the new business, and they hope the site matches the level of textsfromlastnight.com.

“We are trying to add a level of accountability to schools who claim they party hard,” Ruiz said.
ON CAMPUS

Disney representatives to recruit interns on campus

By MATTHEW RIVA
Alligator Contributing Writer

Disney representatives will be on campus today looking for students who want to make a career at the happiest place on Earth.

During their first day on UF’s campus Monday, Disney recruiter Mel Morales and several internship alumni presented in Pugh Hall for about an hour on the benefits of the Disney College Program. The program is an internship available to college students 18 or older at either Walt Disney World Resort or Disneyland Resort.

Students who are selected to participate can live on-site for four to six months, earning credits and getting paid work experience in the process.

In addition to working, members can also take classes created specifically by Disney for the program.

Disney’s representatives discussed their experiences and how they were able to do the program and remain full-time students with Bright Futures or other scholarships.

Many, including Morales, mentioned benefits to working with Disney. “When you go for an internship, you want a company big enough to give you exposure to move laterally,” Morales said.

Morales said interns receive a number of perks, including free admission to the Walt Disney theme parks and discounts for friends and family.

After the presentation, Morales and the representatives met with students to discuss potential roles in the internship.

Students must be enrolled at UF or graduating soon to be eligible.

Disney employs more than 65,000 people in more than 2,000 roles in its Orlando location alone.

For more information, students can attend today’s presentation at 7:20 p.m. in the Pugh Hall Ocora.

Angry Florida teachers line up to testify against bill

SENATE BILL 6 WOULD ENACT MERIT PAY IN FLA.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALLAHASSEE — They arrived early, found strength in numbers but shared a sense of futility, their legislative battle almost assuredly lost even before they awakened Monday.

But hundreds of Florida teachers gathered in the halls of the state Capitol anyway, lining up to testify before a House committee against a bill they believe could damage Florida’s educational system and ruin many of their careers — a bill that links teacher pay increases to student test scores and ends tenure for new teachers.

They carried signs and wore buttons: “Legislators Need to Do Their Homework” and “I teach, I vote.”

They spoke passionately: “If you don’t stand up and say what you believe, who will ever pay attention to you?” asked teacher Gregory Champagne of Brooksville.

They expressed solidarity: “I’m here to fight for my kids, for the teachers I work with,” said teacher Holly Allain of Panama City Beach.

But it all seemed for naught, and Allain and the others knew it. “It’s going to pass,” Allain said. “No question about it.”

The Senate approved the measure (SB 6) 10 days earlier. The Republican majority bulldozed its identical version (HB 7189) through an earlier House committee test.

The governor has expressed approval.

So why bother? Why confront these seemingly impossible odds?

“Our superintendent told us before we came that this was a done deal, but we have to try,” said Diane Price, a teacher from Wakulla County. “We care so much about our students, we can’t just sit back. We have to try.”

And they did. The committee room offered 292 seats, and it wasn’t enough. Most schools are observing Spring Break this week — so the room was filled. A number of teachers, some carrying their infants, lined the back wall what we could do.”
Students to rally to support shot graduate student

By ELIZABETH BEHRMAN
Alligator Writer

A rally calling for justice for graduate student Kofi Adu-Brempong will take place today from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Turlington Plaza.

More than 400 students are expected to meet and march to Tigert Hall and the University Police Department, said Dave Schneider, an organizer of the event.

Schneider said the group will present a list of demands to the administration, including dropping the criminal charges against Adu-Brempong and eliminating UPD’s Critical Response Team.

He said the main purpose of the protest is to get the administration to stop ignoring the students, drop the charges and take radical action against police brutality.

“Our goal is obviously to get all of the demands met,” Schneider said.

UF spokeswoman Janine Sikes said university officials are ready to welcome the students at both UPD and Tigert Hall.

However, Sikes said officials are restricted in what they can discuss with students until the results of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement investigation are released.

“We urge some patience at this time,” Sikes said.

Students to paint orgasms on T-shirts

BY NICOLE FLIKIER
Alligator Contributing Writer

What does an orgasm look like?
Students can gather on Wednesday to express their ideas on a blank T-shirt during Paint Your Orgasm, an event of Pride Awareness Month.

This event is co-sponsored by LGBT Affairs, Voices for Planned Parenthood and the county health department.

Jose Tebar, director for Paint Your Orgasm, said aside from the T-shirt painting, students will be able to get more comfortable with sexuality.

“Straight people have as much right to celebrate their sexuality as the gay community,” Tebar said. “Our event is about celebrating the things we have in common, not the things that separate us.”

Tebar said free HIV testing will be offered on the North Lawn from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sparkle Antoinette, 22, who dresses as a drag queen on weekends, thinks the safe-sex aspect is important.

“I love the idea that I get to show my version of sex in such a fun and creative way,” Antoinette said.

Tebar said he expects about 200 people to attend.

Students to rally to support shot graduate student

THE EVENT IS PART OF PRIDE AWARENESS MONTH.

By NICOLE FLIKIER
Alligator Contributing Writer

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ACTIVISM

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Some text that needs to be converted to plain text format and then copied into a document.
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Debose participates in practice

By MIKE McCALL
Alligator Staff Writer
mccall@alligator.org

Florida is still searching for its offensive identity, but the Gators got a step closer to figuring it out Monday.

Redshirt freshman receiver Andre Debose participated in team drills for the first time since the hamstring surgery that caused him to miss the 2009 season.

“It feels good. He’s a heck of a player, fast as can be, and I’m just happy to see him back out here running around. ... He’s only going to get faster, so that’s a plus.”

John Brantley
UF quarterback

The speedster from Sanford Seminole High worked in the slot, where he and running back Chris Rainey hope to reprise the role Percy Harvin played during his time at UF.

Debose’s progress will have a lot to say about how potent Florida’s offense can be this season, and quarterback John Brantley was excited to have his playmaker back.

“It feels good,” Brantley said. “He’s a heck of a player, fast as can be, and I’m just happy to see him back out here running around. ... He’s only going to get faster, so that’s a plus.

“It’s a little too early to tell, but I’m hoping for big things from him.”

Debose, ranked the nation’s No. 2 wideout by Rivals.com out of high school in 2009, wasn’t made available for interviews after practice, and it’s unclear how much of a role he’ll play in the team’s spring game Saturday.

ELAM SETTLES IN: After a roller-coaster recruiting ride, Matt Elam has found stability on the field.

He kept UF coach Urban Meyer guessing throughout his recruitment — even switching to rival Florida State shortly before National Signing Day — but he’s happy with his decision to enroll at Florida in January.

He says now the pictures of him wearing a Seminoles jersey make him “start getting sick to my stomach,” and feels bad about breaking his initial commitment to Meyer.

“I was very confused,” Elam said. “I really didn’t know what to do. People thought I was playing around, but I really wasn’t. I wanted to do what was best for me, but trying to make people happy and everything, it was tough.”

If Meyer was bothered by the flip-flopping, he got over it quickly. Meyer said Friday that Elam has already earned the right to play in the fall.

He has worked as a second-string strong safety and starting nickelback during spring practice, as well as on all four special teams units, though Elam said there’s no plan for him to see time on offense.

“Every team we’ve had, there’s always been a fresh who stepped up after Bob Huggins passed his guard while he was lying on the floor.

Does Nike think Tim Tebow is going to be a legitimately good NFL player? Or was the company just trying to make amends for the Tiger Woods debacle? ... West Virginia guard DaSean Butler was diagnosed with a torn ACL after getting hurt in a semifinal loss to Duke. I’m surprised there weren’t a few bruised ribs after Bob Huggins passed his guard while he was lying on the floor.

By TYLER JETT
Alligator Writer
jet@alligator.org

Brian Johnson used to keep runs off the scoreboard.

But UF coach Kevin O’Sullivan is now calling on Johnson, a starting pitcher, to contribute some runs, too.

The freshman moonlighted as UF’s designated hitter last weekend against Vanderbilt, leading the Gators with five hits in the series.

Now, he will try to build on his success at the plate tonight at 6:30 as No. 8 Florida hosts Jacksonville in McKethan Stadium.

Johnson also drew three walks in the Vanderbilt series, helping him reach base on eight of 12 plate appearances. O’Sullivan said he will keep Johnson in the lineup until the lefty struggles with his bat, even if he has to pitch the same day.

“I asked him in the pregame meal if he wanted to hit and pitch (Saturday),” O’Sullivan said. “His eyes lit up and he said, ‘Yeah.’ I said, ‘OK, it’s the same thing you’ve been doing since high school.”

Johnson hit .551 with nine home runs as a senior at Cocoa Beach High. And in his first college game pulling double duty, Johnson allowed one run in 5.2 innings while going 3 for 3 from the plate.

One of his few mistakes on the day came in the top of the sixth,
Johnson takes on dual role similar to Wilkerson’s while at UF

BASEBALL, from page 17

when he gave up a solo home run. O’Sullivan pulled Johnson after that pitch, but he stayed in the game as the DH and responded with a single the next inning.

Being able to use his bat allowed him to shrug off the pitching mistake.

“You have to have a short memory,” Johnson said. “You have to move on from one thing to the next thing.”

Johnson is the first UF player to be the team’s starting pitcher and hit in the same game since center fielder Matt den Dekker did it in 2008. But den Dekker allowed three runs in 2.2 innings and hasn’t pitched since.

Johnson, on the other hand, could be a dual threat for the rest of the season, reminding Florida fans of Brad Wilkerson. During his three-year career at UF in the ’90s, Wilkerson split time at first base, the outfield and on the mound.

The Gators’ first three-time All-American hit 55 home runs and pitched in 75 games. He said he could never sit out during practice because he was involved in all facets of the game.

Likewise, Johnson has three sessions in the batting cage between pitching drills.

“It takes a lot of time and dedication to do both,” Wilkerson said. “Each and every day you have to do extra stuff.”

Players going both ways are rare today because AAU coaches train them to focus on one position at a young age, making Johnson’s feat more impressive, Wilkerson said.

“That’s a special accomplishment,” he said. “Especially at the University of Florida, which has such a good baseball program.”

UF freshman pitcher Brian Johnson will hit in the Gators’ lineup when they host Jacksonville tonight at 6:30 in Gainesville.

Moody out due to leg injury

FOOTBALL, from page 18

and has been a significant contributor,” UF safeties coach Chuck Heater said. “I’d say he’s in that category right now.”

MOODY OUT, POWELL LOOKS ON: Running back Emmanuel Moody, who left Saturday’s scrimmage with a leg injury, was not at Monday’s practice, but incoming freshman Ronald Powell was on the sideline to watch.

Rated the nation’s top overall prospect by Rivals.com, Powell will join the team in the summer and could see playing time at defensive end and tight end.

Cornerback Adrian Bushell, who missed time earlier in the spring for off-field issues, was also absent.

KYLE, from page 18

keep him out there?” all night.

Even Hayward, who willed himself to 12 points and eight rebounds, struggled mightily during a 2-for-11 shooting performance. The game was back and forth, with Duke representing the old major conference powers and Butler representing a new wave of “mid-major” teams that are more major than mid. Programs like Gonzaga, Xavier and Butler are here to stay regardless of Monday night’s result. Butler was the underdog, but it wasn’t George Mason.

The Bulldogs will be back next year with a great chance of winning a title.

Fifteen or 20 years ago, schools from smaller conferences were capable of making a run or two behind the right player who inexplicably slipped through the cracks, but the Butler team that held mighty Duke to 61 points and 5-of-17 shooting from three-point range was a product of sustained success. Yet, as in any sport, it’s important that a team knows how to win when it comes time for the biggest moments.

And no team or coach knows how to win more than the Blue Devils and Coach K. Duke ran through maybe the most diverse assortment of opponents’ playing styles in the Tournament, defeating slower-tempo teams like Purdue, West Virginia and Butler, and faster, more high-scoring teams like Baylor and California.

Singer, Scheeyer and Zoubek were the poster boys for a Duke team that was never quite as good as the teams that came before it, but through all those previous early Tournament losses, they learned how to win.

Perhaps that’s why I can’t bring myself to hate them.

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SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Join International scholars for a discussion about the relationship between art and politics.

Keynote Speaker
François Cusset, Professor of American Studies, University of Paris

Speakers
Alex Albarrán, Virginia Woolf Wright
Moments of Art, History, Barnard College, Columbia University
Bora Aker, Professor in Film and Media Studies, University of Florida

Claire Bishop, Associate Professor of Art History, Graduate Center, University of New York

T.J. Demos, Lecturer, Department of History of Art, University College London

Tim Griffin, Editor of Artforum

Manola Hlavajova, Curator and Artistic Director, BAK; Program Director, Transit

Shepherd Steiner, Visiting Assistant Professor in Modern and Contemporary Art, School of Art + Art History, University of Florida

MUSEUM NIGHTS
Project Europa
Thursday, April 8, 6 - 9 p.m.
Enjoy live music, dance performances, poetry readings, presentations by UF doctoral students, movie screenings, a scavenger hunt and free food at this Museum Night.

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A Man’s Game

By BRETT WILLIAMS
Alligator Contributing Writer

He was taught never to hit a woman. He knew that if he ever rough-housed or bullied his sister, he’d be seeing the business end of his father’s belt. So he kept his hands to himself and grew up to be a gentleman who opens doors and pulls out chairs.

But when the ball hits the rim, a lifetime of chivalry goes out the window. He forgets his father’s belt and the lessons learned as he shoves the women aside to grab the rebound.

Nick Augello doesn’t show any remorse for the woman he just slammed to the ground — that’s his job.

As if confining their game wasn’t hard enough, the guys on the practice squad still have to worry about matching up against a bunch of women who play like anything but. For many of them, the transition to the women’s game was not an easy one.

"My argument against that is if your opportunity in practice is being taken away by a practice player, then you’re not working hard enough, and that is a problem there," Butler said. "If you’re not valuable enough to be used in practice then there’s a gap somewhere in either how hard you’re working or your skill level.

All Guts, No Glory

The guys on Butler’s squad aren’t Division I athletes and weren’t recruited to play big-time college basketball. Instead, they got spotted by one of the coach’s assistants while playing intramurals or pick-up ball, or they were brought along by a team member.

Other than a pair of basketball shoes, they don’t receive compensation or scholarship money, and they certainly don’t get the acclaim that goes with being a UF athlete.

"It’s definitely a job where you get no glory," said Justin Seitz, a junior history major.

"Most practices we’re playing defense most of the time, but I’ll tell what I can get. Being away from the game for a couple years makes you realize how much you like playing basketball," Seitz said.

Seitz had a few offers from small schools to continue his playing career after high school, but ended up at UF and now wants to be a basketball coach. He said playing for Butler has afforded him the opportunity to learn a lot that will help him in the future.

"Getting in there and seeing how a coach runs a D-I basketball program is good experience," Seitz said. "I try to take everything in and learn every time I go to practice.

For Travis Young, the experience is just a way to get consistent, scheduled exercise. A 6-foot-5, 235 pound senior studying civil engineering, Young hadn’t played organized ball since middle school.

Now, he’s one of the key pieces in helping to prep Butler’s squad for some of the towering forces who own the lane in SEC play.

"Travis is awesome, because the hardest thing to find is big guys," Butler said. "He’s not just a big man, he’s a really big man. We played against a 6-foot-8 kid and a 6-foot-6 kid this year in the league, and our tallest player is 6-foot-2. There’s no way we could mimic what that’s going to feel like in the same way that Travis can.

Even members of the practice squad for Connecticut, the nation’s No. 1 team, told The Associated Press this week they can defeat the Huskies 35 percent of the time.

When pressed for an answer, Young admitted he thought his band of intramural stars and retired high school ballers could beat the women’s team if they were given the chance. But, they resign themselves to playing defense and dishing out the scraps.

To be able to challenge your players with individuals who in most instances have a physical advantage, not just in size and strength but also in vertical jump, that’s what you always want," UF coach Amanda Butler said. "Most of the girls playing college ball are learning how to outplay boys, and that’s what we got good enough to be Division I college athletes. So it’s just an extension of that.

The use of male practice players against women has gone on since before Butler’s playing days in the early 1990s, though the NCAA tried to do away with it in 2007, saying it was unfair to give不公平的 game opportunities to other female athletes. It was also argued that it gave bigger schools an advantage over smaller programs, which may not have the ability to put together a practice team. Butler, who had male practice squads when she coached at smaller schools like Austin Peay and UNC-Charlotte, doesn’t buy it.

"This argument against that is if your opportunity in practice is being taken away by a practice player, then you’re not working hard enough, and that is a problem there," Butler said. "If you’re not valuable enough to be used in practice then there’s a gap somewhere in either how hard you’re working or your skill level.

Butler has afforded him the opportunity to learn a lot that will help him in the future. "I think our kids have a great appreciation for the sacrifice these guys are making to make us better." As long as they’re contributing and doing the little things, we want them on the court.

Not Backing Down

As if continuing their game wasn’t hard enough, the guys on the practice squad still have to worry about matching up against a bunch of women who play like anything but. For many of them, the transition to the women’s game was not an easy one.

"First time I went out there I didn’t know if I was supposed to play 100 percent or what," Seitz said. "Then the first time someone scores on you, your pride kicks in, and from there on out I’m going 110 percent to stop them. I didn’t realize how strong some of these girls were. Skill-wise, they are as good as any of the guys. [Sophomore guard] Jordan Jones is one of the best shooters I’ve ever seen, and I lived with (former UF men’s sharpshooter) Lee Humphrey for a year.

That respect is echoed by Butler, who said she wouldn’t know how to do without the practice squad. She’s especially impressed by how the men check their egos at the door and do what they do without any fanfare.

"They are a bunch of guys who are not scholarship players or Division I athletes, she said. "I think our kids have a great appreciation for the fact that they are rearranging their schedules and letting us beat them up on them every single day and that they come to the games and sit behind our bench to support us. I think our players have a great appreciation for the sacrifice these guys are making to make us better."

But to truly have an impact, the men on the practice squad must go through an adjustment period. They have to learn it’s acceptable to get rough in practice.

"My first expectation was that they’re not going to get smocked, because they’re Division I players, so I just didn’t want to get embarrassed," Young said. "It was tough to be physical with them. I have a hard enough time being physical at Southwest Rec versus the guys, so it took me awhile to get used to being aggressive and throwing my weight around in practice."

Young said he has no reservations about using his big frame when backing down a defender in the lane, because players like Sharielle Smith and Azania Stewart won’t hesitate to do the same to him.

Roles have been reversed. Now, Young and the other players won’t be criticized for manning up on a woman, but they will for not being man enough.

By BRETT WILLIAMS
Alligator Contributing Writer

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The men of the UF women’s basketball team’s practice squad (from left to right): James West, Nick Augello, Travis Young, Stephen DeAngelo (dunking) Jason Horton, Mehiel Zolnoon and Justin Seitz.
Gators in first after two rounds

THE TEAM’S SEASON-BEST 16-UNDER-PAR FIRST ROUND PROPELLED IT TO THE TOP OF THE LEADERBOARD.

STAFF REPORT

After two consecutive disappointing performances, the Gators were in desperate need of some momentum.

No. 10 Florida’s men’s golf team got exactly what it needed with a season-best team score of 16-under par in the first round of the BancorpSouth Intercollegiate Tournament in Madison, Miss., on Monday.

While it could not duplicate that performance later in the day in the second round, UF still finished atop the leaderboard with a score of 15-under par after 36 holes of play.

The Gators came in as the highest-ranked team in the event and didn’t disappoint on the course Monday.

Seniors Tim McKenney and Tyson Alexander led the team with individual scores of 10-under par and 9-under par after two rounds, which were good enough for the two lowest individual performances of the tournament.

McKenney shot nine birdies in the first round and during one stretch finished with a birdie in six of eight holes.

But over the next 18 holes, he shot three bogeys, all on par-four holes. McKenney still finished in the red at 1-under par in the second round, however.

The other senior, Alexander, took a different approach to his great performance Monday. He used an eagle in each of his first two rounds to negate three bogeys. Both eagles came on long par-five holes.

The only other Florida golfer to avoid finishing over par after 36 holes was junior Bank Vongvanij.

He was consistent and shot two even rounds.

Vongvanij fared well with the longer holes as he shot four of his eight birdies on par-fives but seemed to struggle with the shorter ones.

Seven of his eight bogeys came on either par-three or par-fours.

The other two UF golfers who participated in the event were not as fortunate as the rest.

Freshmen Phillip Choi and Tommy Mou struggled. They shot a combined 11-over par Monday, and could not provide a solid fourth score for the team.

Choi only shot 1-over par in the first round, but two double bogeys in the second set of 18 hurt his cause.

However, he did rack up five birdies throughout the two rounds. He also finished with six bogeys.

But Mou could never get it going. He finished with four bogeys in each of the two rounds.

Tournament host, Ole Miss, is right behind the Gators with a team score of 10-under par, good enough for second place.

UF, Ole Miss, North Florida and Louisiana Tech are the only teams that finished under par at the end of Monday’s play.

UCF is in seventh place with a team score of eight over par.

With one round to go on Tuesday, Florida will have to turn in another solid performance to hold off the Rebels and UNF, which is in third place, just seven strokes behind the Gators.

UF’s Tyson Alexander shot 9-under par in the first two rounds of the BancorpSouth Intercollegiate Tournament to put Florida in first place.