SOUTH FLORIDA 14 💥 FLORIDA 38

Gators head into conference play on right foot

By MIKE McCALL
Alligator Staff Writer
mmccall@alligator.org

For about two-and-a-half quarters against USF, Florida looked every bit as vulnerable as it did in its season opener.

Then, Jeff Demps popped the pressure bubble.

With the game tied midway through the third quarter, the junior running back took a handoff around the left side, leapt over a fallen defender at the line of scrimmage and dashed down the sideline, breaking a tackle before following two blockers into the end zone.

On a tense, sweltering afternoon inside The Swamp, Demps’ 62-yard run provided the next-best relief to a cold towel and tall glass of sweet tea.

It was the big blow in his career-high 139-yard performance, kicking off a 31-point second half that turned a nail-biter into the No. 10 Gators’ 38-14 win in front of 90,612.

“I think everyone knows how I feel about Demps,” UF coach Urban Meyer said. “I know how the offensive line feels about Demps. You give him a crack and that guy’s gone.”

The Gators (2-0) racked up 251 rushing yards on 11 carries, losing the total yardage battle 162-157 and failing to score until Carl Moore’s 11-yard touchdown grab with 0:44 left.

The offense opened the contest in a groan-inducing fashion reminiscent of last week’s error-filled victory against Miami (Ohio).

Demps brought the opening kickoff out to the 43-yard line, but the Gators couldn’t capitalize on the field position. Brantley was hit as he threw on the first play, and on 3rd-and-6, he dropped the shotgun snap before hitting umpire Johnny Hibbett with his pass.

The first three drives ended in punts, then kicker Caleb Sturgis missed a 39-yard field goal. Meanwhile, the Bulls (1-1) pieced together a 96-yard touchdown drive to take a 7-0 lead on their first possession.

The deficit marked the second straight game in which UF has trailed after the first quarter, a feat not seen in back-to-back home games in more than a dozen years.

In need of a momentum change, the Gators turned to their most reliable playmakers — the secondary.

With a little more than a minute left, safety Ahmad Black picked off USF quarterback B.J. Daniels to set up a short touchdown drive, the first of four interceptions that led to 21 points.

Black added another pick on the Bulls’ next drive, defensive end Justin Trattou returned it to the UF 13, and UF quarterback John Brantley followed it up with an 11-yard run — a yard to go that Daniels couldn’t come up with. The Gators moved on to 255 all-purpose yards.

UF midfielder McKenzie Barney scored a goal 15 seconds into overtime after FSU tied the game in the 89th minute. The Gators are undefeated through their first six games. See Story, Page 14.

Protestors demonstrate, march to Dove center

By KATIE EMMETS
Alligator Staff Writer

Eight-year-old Rebecca carried a white cutout of the word peace while marching to protest the Dove World Outreach Center on Saturday.

Nine years earlier, her father, Albert Meyer, was in the World Trade Center’s Shabro’s pizza restaurant when he heard what he thought was a gunshot.

Meyer walked outside to see what caused the noise and looked up to find a jet caused the noise and looked up to find a jet.

“Since then, peace has been close to my heart,” said Rebecca’s mother, Marivic.

Eight-year-old Rebecca carried a white cutout of the word peace while marching to protest the Dove World Outreach Center on Saturday.

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“Since then, peace has been close to my heart,” said Rebecca’s mother, Marivic.

Albert Meyer
Gainesville local

sticking out of the first tower.

About four years ago, Meyer and his wife, Marivic, decided they wanted to move out of New Jersey to raise their children somewhere else.

“We picked Gainesville specifically because of its religious and ethnic tolerance.”

Albert Meyer
Gainesville local

The organization hosted the Gathering for Peace, Understanding & Hope this Friday at the Trinity United Methodist Church and greeted more than one thousand visitors with speakers, art galleries, music and food representing the traditions of various faiths.

The event was held to encouraging tolerance and love in both the religious and international communities. Rijaab Mansoor, a junior at East

SEE PROTEST, PAGE 4

Event promotes peace

THE INTERFAITH FORUM
SOUGHT TO UNIFY CITY.

By BRITTANY WALTERS
Alligator Contributing Writer

The Dove World Outreach Center’s threat to burn the Quran gained worldwide attention, but amid the threats of violence and media chaos in Gainesville, one organization held tightly to its founding principles of peace, understanding and hope —

the Gainesville Interfaith Forum.

The organization hosted the Gathering for Peace, Understanding & Hope this Friday at the Trinity United Methodist Church and greeted more than one thousand visitors with speakers, art galleries, music and food representing the traditions of various faiths.

The event was held to encouraging tolerance and love in both the religious and international communities. Rijaab Mansoor, a junior at East

SEE CHURCH, PAGE 4

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visit www.alligator.org
WHAT’S HAPPENING

Gainesville Roller Rebels
Roller Derby Scrimmage
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Alachua County Fairgrounds
The Gainesville Roller Rebels’ (GRR) non-profit roller derby league will open a mixed scrimmage practice to public viewing. While admission is free, attendees are encouraged to bring donations for the league’s Peaceful Paths need-items collection. Skaters also will be on hand to answer any questions about joining the league as a skater or referee. For a full list of Peaceful Paths need-items and more information about the event, visit gainesville-rollerrebels.com.

Deadline to request absentee ballot for SG elections
Friday
Students can request an absentee ballot to vote in the Student Body Fall election. To access an application for an absentee ballot, go to the Student Government website at www.sg.ufl.edu/elections and look under “For the Voter.” The election will be Sept. 28 and 29. If you have any questions, please contact Supervisor of Elections Amanda Griffin at elections@sg.ufl.edu.

Forecast

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Learn to Row
Friday to Sunday
Newnan’s Lake
Gainesville Area Rowing is hosting “Learn To Row” at Newnan’s Lake in Gainesville. Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. will be land instruction, including rowing on an Indoor Rowing Machine. Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. will be on-the-water instruction of Sweep Rowing. Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. will be on-the-water instruction of Sculling. Adults 18 and older. Cost of $25 includes $50 credit toward a GAR membership. GAR is a non-profit organization. Visit gainesvillearearowing.com for information.

Heal the World Car Wash
Sept. 19, noon to 3 p.m.
Burger King by the Oaks Mall
Come support Heal the World at its car wash benefiting the American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life. Get your car clean while hanging out with HTW members and officers and helping a great cause. Contact Priya Vijapura at priyav@ufl.edu for more information.

Tipple’s Beer Run: Four Mile Race
Oct. 1, 6 p.m.
Tower 24 Center
The Florida Track Club presents this fun-filled, four-mile run for all to enjoy. Register early and win your weight in beer. All are invited to walk or run, but you must be 21 or older for free beer provided by Tipple’s. The beer will be prizes, awards, food, music, and a costume contest. The run will benefit the Florida Opportunity Scholarship Program. Arrive early to warm up. Day-of-race registration will also be available. Register at www.thebeerrun.org.

Got something going on?
And want to see it in this space? Send an e-mail with “What’s Happening” in the subject line to prunnestrand@alligator.org. Please model your submissions after above events. Improperly formatted “What’s Happening” submissions may not appear in the paper. Press releases will not appear in the paper.

BRIEFS

Cinema Verde hosts fundraiser for upcoming film festival
Cinema Verde, a Gainesville environmental film and arts festival, is hosting its first fundraiser tonight for the festival, which will be held from March 18 to March 27.

The event includes a free screening of the movie “Age of Stupid” at the Civic Media Center, 433 S Main St., from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Cinema Verde is asking for $5 donations. The first hour of the fundraiser will have free food and drinks. The movie will be shown at 8 p.m., and a film discourse will follow.

All money collected will be split between the Civic Media Center and Cinema Verde, which will use the money to fund the festival.

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

The Alligator is the student newspaper serving the University of Florida, published by a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educational organization, Campus Communications Inc., P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, Florida, 32604-257. The Alligator is published Monday through Friday mornings, except during holidays and exam periods. During UF summer academic terms The Alligator is published Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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Professor receives $10M grant to study genes, blood pressure
Grant will fund clinical trial

By MEREDITH RUTLAND
Alligator Contributing Writer

A UF researcher received about a $10 million grant to study the relationship between a person’s genetic code and the effectiveness of high blood pressure medications.

Julie Johnson, chair of pharmacoengineering and translational research in the College of Pharmacy, is the leader of one of 14 research groups that received funding from The National Institutes of Health as part of the National Pharmacogenomics Research Network.

Rochelle Long, director of the Pharmacogenomics Research Network, said Johnson received the funding because of the significance of high blood pressure and the drugs she is testing. Long said that the selection process is competitive, but Johnson had the most meritorious application.

The funding will be used to pay for five years of research, including a clinical trial, lab work and statistical work, Johnson said.

“It’s thought that in the next decade more people will have their genetic code in their medical record,” Julie Johnson, chair of pharmacoengineering and translational research, said.

She said treating a patient’s high blood pressure quickly is important in preventing heart attacks and strokes.

“Even getting blood pressure controlled one or two months quicker leads to better outcomes two, three years down the road,” Johnson said.

Candlelight vigil marks nine years since 9/11 attack

■ 2,977 FLAGS WERE ON DISPLAY AT THE PLAZA OF THE AMERICAS.

By SAMANTHA SUMILANG
Alligator Contributing Writer

In the culmination of a week-long, national commemoration of Sept. 11, the 9/11: Never Forget Project hosted a candlelight vigil to mark the ninth anniversary of the tragedy. The memorial was sponsored by the UF College Republicans, Americans for Prosperity and the Network of Enlightened Women.

About 50 people gathered next to the cluster of more than 2,977 American flags on the grass of the Plaza of the Americas, holding white candles and listening to commemorative songs and prayers.

Sophomore Stacey LaSala read a prayer she wrote, recognizing the victims of Sept. 11.

“People were saying that the memorial was infringing on their ability to tailgate,” she said. “I am so grateful that we still have people here to remember.”

Sophomore Stacey LaSala read a prayer she wrote, recognizing the victims of Sept. 11.

“People were saying that the memorial was infringing on their ability to tailgate,” she said. “I am so grateful that we still have people here to remember.”

The thoughts that inspired me were the hurt that people who lost someone were feeling and how God can be there to comfort them,” she said.

Inside UF

Constitution Day program looks at social media

Government agencies at all levels use Facebook and other social media. Many are unaware they may be more vulnerable than private-sector users to lawsuits and other legal action.

A Constitution Day presentation – “All the President’s Tweets” – will examine the complex relationship between the First Amendment and how it applies to government’s relationship to social media. It will be presented by Stephen C. O’Connell Chair and Professor of Law Lyrysa Lidsky from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Friday.

A discussion with UF Law Center for Governmental Responsibility Director Jon Mills and Brechner Center Executive Director Sandra Chance, moderated by UF Law Dean Robert Jerry, will follow. The presentation will take place in the UF Levin College of Law Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom, 180 Holland Hall.

UF’s Constitution Day Programs continue from noon to 1:30 p.m. with “ UF Reads the Constitution,” an open-mic reading of the U.S. Constitution on the Plaza of the Americas outside Library West. That event is sponsored by Smathers Libraries and offers complimentary cake, lemonade and pocket copies of the Constitution. It is presented jointly by the University of Florida Levin College of Law and Smathers Libraries in cooperation with UF’s Faculty Senate and Academic and Professional Assembly.

UF Calendar of Events

Sept. 15
Career Resource Center presents Extreme Resume Makeover. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Career Resource Center (1st floor, Reitz Student Union). Free and open to UF students. Call 352-275-3232 for more information.

Sept. 17
Fall degree applications deadline


Ongoing events
UF College of Fine Arts School of Art and Art History University Galleries Art Exhibitions: “Sideshow” on display through Sept. 24, University Gallery. Free and open to the public. Call 352-273-2302 for more information.


Recurring events
Weekend tours, 11 a.m., every Saturday, docent-led tours, 2 p.m., every Saturday, Sunday, Haury Museum of Art. Free and open to the public. Call 352-392-9828 for more information.

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

August Wilson Symposium
Sept. 17-18

In concurrence with the UF production of “Gem of the Ocean” Performances: 7:30 p.m. Sept. 17-18 & 21-24; 2 p.m. Sept. 19 & 26
Constant Stage
http://wilsonsymposium.pandgprojects.net/

Passports available here

The University of Florida Mail and Document Service Department is now a United States Passport Acceptance Facility. Students, staff, faculty and U.S. citizens may apply for a passport at the department’s location on Radio Road. To go to www.travel.state.gov for specifics. Hours for passport service are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday (except UF holidays).

Check your browser

A software upgrade on the myUFL portal in late September may affect some users, based on their Internet browser. Microsoft Internet Explorer 6, known as IE6, will not work with the upgraded myUFL system. The upgrade will also require that pop-ups are enabled and the myUFL site is accepted as a “trusted site” within the tools menu. For more help, contact your unit’s IT provider, UF Help Desk at 352-392-HELP (4357), or AskGrady@ufl.edu.

One Less Car returns

Faculty, staff and students are urged to use alternative transportation to campus on Oct. 6 and throughout the fall semester as part of the third annual One Less Car Challenge. Visit http://sustainable.ufl.edu/onelesscar.

InsideUF is produced by the University Relations Office for faculty, staff and students. Editor: Ron Wayne

The Foundation for The Gator Nation
**LOCAL**

Community gathers downtown to fight intolerance

By ALEXANDER KLAUSNER
Alligator Writer

Although the Dove World Outreach Center Quran burning was canceled, members of the Gainesville community still came together to stand against intolerance Saturday.

Four hundred people gathered at the Bo Diddley Community Plaza for a Day of Peace and Unity, hosted by the Gainesville Muslim Initiative.

“We want to continue doing positive things for the community,” said Karim Khan, Project Downtown Gainesville outreach coordinator. “Even though [Terry Jones] is not burning books, we’re still out here.”

The activities continued through sunset, including a call to prayer and a rendition of “The Star Spangled Banner” played on the oud, a Middle Eastern instrument.

“My message is to congratulate the city for coming together around things we all have in common,” said Russell Meyer, executive director of the Florida Council of Churches. “The future lies along the way of peace and respect. I’m very proud of what Gainesville has done to express their common love and hope for humanity.”

After the speeches, the crowd held a moment of silence for the victims of Sept. 11.

**Event featured food, representations of world religions and cultures**

**CHURCH**, from page 1

side High School in Gainesville, explained why she was moved to participate in the Gainesville Interfaith Forum, started the initiative for the event.

The event expanded beyond the Gainesville community, eliciting donations from all over the country and support from around the world.

“I received e-mail affirmation from all over the world,” Johnson explained, noting an e-mail from a woman in Pakistan who “thanked God” for his church. “People are so bombarded by this Dove stuff, they are eager to find anything else [positive].”

Amanda Monaco, UF junior and president of Humanitarian Interaction on Campus, agreed with the positive response of the Gainesville Interfaith Forum to the Dove World Outreach Center.

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After the speeches, the crowd held a moment of silence for the victims of Sept. 11.

**More than 300 protestors marched from park to church carrying signs**

**PROTEST**, from page 1

“We picked Gainesville specifically because of its religious and ethnic tolerance,” he said, adding he is an atheist who was raised Jewish and that his wife is from the Philippines.

“What’s happening now is not Gainesville.”

More than 300 protesters agreed with Meyer when they marched half a mile from Possum Creek State Park to the church.

“They wanted to protest what they called Dove’s promotion of bigotry, hate and Islamophobia.

The protesters carried signs promoting peace and love and chanted, “No burning, no hate. Not our city, not our state.”

Joe Richard, an organizer for the International Socialist Organization, said they started planning the protest shortly after Pastor Terry Jones announced “International Burn a Koran Day” in mid-July.

“After 9/11, people of all religions banded together. People who didn’t talk for 25 years hugged. Everyone helped each other. It was solidarity. That is the spirit of 9/11. What Mr. Jones is doing is just the opposite,”

Josh Pusey, the youth director at Trinity United Methodist Church, said, “It is a testament to our community. We are a people committed to the idea of living in harmony.”

Asad and Humeraa Qamar, husband and wife and founders of both the Ocala and Gainesville interfaith forums, created the organizations in response to the wearing of the “Islam Is of The Devil” T-shirts by members of the Dove World Outreach Center about a year ago.

The forum is composed of members from the Hindu, Muslim, Jewish and Christian faiths.

“The group meets together, holds hands and prays together,” Humeraa Qamar said. “[They are] outstanding individuals who make the effort to promote love and peace.”

The group meets every three months and discusses topics of mutual interest, seeking to find similarities and common ground.

She said the mission of the group is “to foster love, peace and understanding between different faiths, recognizing faiths are different yet alike.”

Jones canceled the burning to fly to New York in an effort to negotiate the moving of Park 51, an Islamic cultural center in downtown Manhattan.

Had the church followed through on its plan to burn copies of the Quran on Saturday night, Richard said there would have been more than 1,000 protesters, including people from New York and Chicago who would have come on buses.

While marching, Meyer was thinking about the positive effects of the Sept. 11 attacks.

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At a press conference Friday, Ismail ibn Ali, president of Islam on Campus at UF, announced that even though Jones had canceled the Quran burning, the group still intended to go ahead with all events it had planned in response, including Quran 101, a public discussion of the Islamic holy book.

“We have the same hopes and dreams as everyone else, and we want to establish relationships and connections with our neighbors who enjoy good and repel evil,” said Ali.
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 ● ALLIGATOR**

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**Political candidates tailgate with student groups**

**ALEX SINK HAD TO CANCEL.**

By HANNAH WINSTON

Alligator Contributing Writer

The UF College Democrats and College Republicans both held tailgates with a purpose before Saturday’s football game. The Democrats tailgated under a blue tent near Library East to help campaign for candidates. Originally, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Alex Sink was scheduled to make an appearance and join in the pre-game festivities, but she had to cancel at the last minute.

Erin Murphy, vice president of the College Democrats, said she is sure Sink’s campaign will stop at UF before the Nov. 2 election.

Voters met two other candidates at the tailgate instead.

Jon Paugh, a candidate for Florida House of Representatives District 22 is only 27 years old but said he wants to make a difference in the state.

“I have three boys, and what I witnessed as a teacher teaching economics, and seeing how Florida operates made me decide I wanted to bring the right policies to Florida.”

Perry McGriff Jr., 73, who is running against Sen. Steven Oelrich for State Senate District 14, which encompass 8 counties and includes all of Alachua County, also went to the tailgate.

After graduating from UF and playing football and baseball for the Gators in the late 1950s and early 1960s, he stayed close to Gainesville. McGriff served as mayor, Chairman of the Alachua County Commission and remains a season ticket holder for Gator football.

Scott Maddox, the Democratic candidate for commissioner of agriculture and consumer services, was also supposed to be at the tailgate but got stuck in traffic. However, he did make it to the game but left immediately after to start a 12-day bus tour of South Florida.

In a phone interview, he said the best thing he can do for college students is make sure there are jobs for them when they graduate, which he hopes to accomplish by creating green jobs in Florida.

Not far away from the Democrats, the UF College Republicans competed for party exposure at their own tailgate.

Keith Perry, Jon Paugh’s opponent in District 22, was there, and signs for other republican candidates created a border around the tailgate tent.

But in addition to campaigning, the Republicans were also there to guard the 2,977 flags of the 9/11: Never Forget Project on the south side of the Plaza of the Americas.

Carly Wilson, chairwoman of the College Republicans, said one tailgater tried to put a satellite in the center of the memorial, between the nine and the eleven, which are spelled out in flags. She said he complained when the College Republicans asked him to move the satellite.

She said many fans were frustrated that they couldn’t use the space to tailgate, but hundreds of UF and USF fans passed by the Sept. 11 memorial, stopped in reflection and asked for 9/11: Never Forget pins.

“It’s a reflection of what we do here,” Wilson said.

Wilson said the USF College Republicans were supposed to join the UF Republicans. None of them were able to buy tickets, so they didn’t make it to Gainesville. Plus, she added, “they didn’t want to see their team be slaughtered up here.”
Peace & Dove
Locals showed sense of community

The circus came to town this week.
And the circus performed of its own accord with
its own rules in its three frenzied rings.
As Gainesville took the international spotlight for one
of its churches’ planned-then-cancelled-then-cancelled
Quran burning, the media swarmed to our tiny town in
north-central Florida like moths to flame.
And as front-page sightings of the pastor began to
dwindle as the story-to-beat-all-stories fizzled, the circus
just wouldn’t let go.
This story was too good to die.
On Saturday morning, Gainesville returned to normalcy
with the announcement that the Quran burning was
canceled and that Pastor Terry Jones had flown to New
York City.
The Swamp’s orange-and-blue-bathed crowd was re-born,
and the Dove World Outreach Center was surprisingly
quiet.
But the media waited for something — for anything.
The sound of news vans idling, carrying satellites larg-
er than the Dove Center’s entrance marquee, filled the air
as the front yard of the church started to look like an RV
campground.
And that’s because this was the story that became the
story, and the storytellers became the characters. We’re
sorry it came to that, Gators.
As the publication that not-so-officially represents
the university that lies within the same city limits as the
church that has caught the international spotlight for its
hateful messages, we’ve been overwhelmed by the media
knocking on our doors and camping in our town.
But Saturday afternoon, as news began to fizzle and
stories began to die, the people became the story.
And we’re glad because that’s the real Gainesville. This
was the Gainesville the world needed to know.
Students for a Democratic Society marched in droves to
the center to send a message of peace.
Floridians and citizens from across the country joined
to see church on a narrow two-lane road and tell the world
what they wanted most: peace.
Heck, even People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
was there, talking about veganism’s correlations with a
peaceful world.
We’ve come a long way during these past weeks, Gators.
Members of our community have received death
threats, and our police were forced to set up a rumor-con-
trol hotline to dispel lies and enforce the truth.
UF had to ensure the safety of its students, as parents
and students alike shared concerns about potential vio-
ience at Saturday’s football game.
Religions were tainted, and there’s no repairing that.
Ultimately, the damage has already been done.
As Gators and Gainesville residents took time out of
their Saturday to stand outside the church with an ironic
peace-invoking name to promote their own messages of
peace, we were there, talking about veganism’s correlations with a
peaceful world.
This is the real Gainesville. This was the
Gainesville the world needed to know.
As Gainesville showed its community
with one international terrorist organization is nothing
more than nonsense.
Instead, some people are choosing to turn it into one
more example of American ignorance.

Ignorance mars community relations

The proposed Islamic community center known as
Park 51 in New York City has drawn a lot of critici-
cism that, quite frankly, makes Americans and the
media look absolutely foolish.
I want to address all the misconceptions about this cen-
ter. There are so many wrong generalizations and criticisms
of Park 51 that I don’t even know where to begin, but why
don’t we start with its name.
So many critics and members of the media continue
correctly refer to this building as the “Ground Zero
Mosque.”
Is it at ground zero? No. In fact, you can’t even see it
from ground zero.
Is it a mosque? No. It has been made very clear
that while the building will have a prayer space, it will not be
a mosque. There is a difference. The Park 51 leaders have
noted if it is a mosque, any member of the faith must be
allowed in, regardless of ideology. However, if it is con-
sidered a prayer space, leaders can control who is let in.
Essentially, because it is not a mosque, leaders can stop
terrorism from coming in and using the center. Let’s stop
referring to it as the “Ground Zero Mosque” and recognize
its official name as Park 51.
So many of the critics have an us-versus-them mental-
ity and claim that building this center is a triumph for the
terrorists who attacked the United States nine years ago.
Those people would also be wrong. This is an Islamic cen-
ter for Islamic Americans. Connecting an entire religion
with one international terrorist organization is nothing
short of nonsense.
While it has a small area for prayer, the majority of the
building will be home to community-involvement areas,
including an auditorium, performing arts center, fitness
center, swimming pool, child care area, bookstore, culinary
school and an art studio.
The center would be a place for people of a particular faith to come
together, similar to the YMCA and Jewish Community Centers.
Critics also have said building this center is insensitive to families of
those lost on Sept. 11. But again, the center is not being built for terrorists
but for American citizens. In fact, many family members of
Sept. 11 victims have come out in support of Park 51 for
that very reason. To really hammer home the point, this
center will actually have a Sept. 11 memorial inside.
The brain behind the center, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, is
an activist who has worked to improve the relationship between
the Muslim world and the United States for years.
Rauf condemned the actions of the terrorists and said
terrorism has no place in Islam.
This is exactly the type of person who could help improve
relations between Americans of all religions and re-
mind us that at the end of the day, regardless of religion, we are all Americans.
Even if you don’t support the location of the center, you
have to respect the decision and recognize that the group
has a right to build it.
The First Amendment gives everyone the right to free-
dom of religion and, as such, there is no basis at all to stop the
building of this center.
This is an opportunity to come out in support of coop-
eration and civility between people of all faiths.
Instead, some people are choosing to turn it into one
more example of American ignorance.
Chris Dodson is a first-year journalism and finance student.
His column appears every Monday.
I am sad to report that on-campus residents have been dealt a great injustice by their voice within the residence halls, the Inter-Residence Hall Association.

The IRHA was created with the intention of providing service for the on-campus community. But it has started a precedent of selfish and unethical spending that will ultimately hurt your on-campus college experience.

It is only fair that the approximate 7,000 on-campus residents understand what their leaders are doing with the funds that were appropriated for the residents’ entertainment and personal development.

This trail of selfishness and poor ethics began last year with the purchase of a $2,000 conference table for the IRHA workshop/office.

This table, I can assure you, was never and, never will be, intended for the residents — a notion that is in clear violation of the organization’s founding documents.

This theme continued at the Sept. 7 IRHA general body meeting. Many of the representatives at the meeting reached a new low when they allocated hundreds of residents’ dollars in order to fund “IRHA’s Camping Trip,” the housing equivalent of a Greek woodsey.

Take note that this trip was not designed to be an IRHA business retreat or an event dedicated to the residents. No, this vacation was designed for 50 privileged friends many of whom openly take pleasure in robbing you of the money necessary to fund your programs.

As disgusted as I am to be writing this about my own organization, you should feel even sicker. Point blank, you are being robbed.

Rob Winston, 4BA
Freshman serves up Gators win

By GREG LUCA
Alligator Staff Writer
gluca@alligator.org

Less than 24 hours after 15 service errors cost Florida a chance to beat No. 1 Penn State, a pair of service aces brought them a measure of redemption.

With No. 4 Florida's (6-1) match against No. 5 Texas (5-3) tied 14-14 in the fifth set, the Gators' freshman Chanel Brown stepped up and delivered back-to-back aces, lifting her team to a 3-2 (25-11, 27-25, 16-25, 20-25, 16-14) victory in its final match of the Nike Volleyball Big Four Classic on Saturday in the O'Connell Center.

“I just came out like it was any other serve,” Brown said. “I came out calm and relaxed because we're so team-oriented, and I knew we had each other's backs the whole way through.”

Brown led the way with four aces as the team recorded a season-high nine, providing the offense with a vital lift way through.

Senior Alix Klineman led the Cardinal with 16 kills en route to being named the tournament's MVP.

FOOTBALL

UF did not commit a turnover from page 1

turned one 35 yards for a score in the third quarter, and Janoris Jenkins notched his second interception of the year in the final frame.

“The thing we went into this game with was to let [Daniels] try to beat us running the ball,” Black said. “We knew for a fact he wasn’t going to beat us throwing the ball. If he put the ball in the air, it was ours.”

And just as importantly, the Gators didn’t give it back.

A week after fumbling three times, they kept a clean sheet in the turnover department.

And after Dernags’ big run, the offense’s wheels found some traction.

Florida leaned on its offensive line and stable of running backs to surge ahead and burn the clock. Meyer called it “blue collar,” and the result was 209 second-half rushing yards.

That made life easier on Brantley when his number was called. He threw the ball just nine times after the half, completing six and connecting on a play-action pass to tight end Jordan Reed for a two-yard touchdown, the game’s final score.

It wasn’t as clean a performance as Brantley or Meyer would have liked to see heading into Southeastern Conference play next weekend at Tennessee, but Meyer said the offense’s identity is starting to take shape.

“That’s kind of what we want to be: a very physical offense that has backs who run real hard and a quarterback that can throw it in there with receivers making plays,” Meyer said. “You started to see that in the second half. It’s a little more traditional than we’re used to.”

Congratulations to Chanel Brown for being named the SWAMP STUDS Player of the Game!
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Overtime goal sends No. 6 UF past No. 10 FSU

By JESSE SIMONTON
Alligator Writer

From heartbeat to euphoria in a matter of seconds.

Stunned by a goal in the final minute of regulation, No. 6 Florida instantly regrouped and knocked No. 10 FSU in the opening seconds of overtime, scoring a golden goal to claim a 2-1 victory Friday in Tallahassee.

It took McKenzie Barney just 15 seconds to silence the FSU faithful in front of a raucous, capacity crowd of more than 2,000 at the Seminole Soccer Complex.

“It was another Florida-Florida State thriller, just as we expected,” UF coach Becky Burleigh said. “It just showed great focus to come back after giving up a late goal.”

The Gators (6-0-0) overcame the demoralizing late goal by setting down before overtime and making sure they finished strong.

Barney, the team’s captain and eventual hero, said Burleigh told the team to take a deep breath and get the job done. Barney also spoke to the players, saying they had to believe in each other and know they would win the game.

On the opening kickoff in overtime, the Gators used a designed cross by fullback Nicky Kit. She whipped the ball into the box, where Barney finished with a well-hit strike to the near post.

“It was a terrific finish in terms of the goal,” Burleigh said. “It was literally just like we drew up. Kickoff is a set piece for us. It was a beautiful serve, beautiful finish.”

The game lived up to expectations, as it was a barn-burner for all 91 minutes. FSU (4-2-0) wore black jerseys and its fans followed suit, creating a loud, intimidating environment for the visiting Gators.

Burleigh chose to start a more experienced group Friday night, inserting Sarah Chapman and Lindsay Thompson into the starting lineup. Burleigh said she decided to bring usual freshman starters Taylor Travis and Caroline Triglia off the bench after they were able to soak up the atmosphere and see the game progress.

“It was another Florida-Florida State thriller, just as we expected. It just showed great focus to come back after giving up a late goal.”

Becky Burleigh
UF soccer coach

After a scoreless first half, the Gators finally got on the board in the 62nd minute off a rebound goal by Erika Tymrak. It was her first goal of the season and was set up by a strong shot and buildup from Tahnai Annis.

The Gators continued to push forward following the goal, but the final 10 minutes were agonizing as they were forced to sit back and hold off the Seminoles’ relentless attack.

UF’s offside trap wasn’t working and forced it into several late, unnecessary fouls. FSU was solid in its set pieces and eventually put one into the back of the net (89th minute) off an easy header from Janice Cayman.

“It wasn’t our strategy to sit back and try and hold on,” Burleigh said. “It’s never a good environment for the visiting team’s first fall tournament with wins in its set pieces and eventually putting one into the back of the net (89th minute) off an easy header from Janice Cayman.

UF midfelder McKenzie Barney scored a goal 15 seconds into overtime to clinch a 2-1 victory against FSU on Friday. She leads the team with five goals.

Fans should not hold this year’s team to same standard as 2009 squad

Through the first 97 minutes of Florida’s football season, Gators fans had little reason to be optimistic.

Florida was locked in a 7-7 battle with South Florida, a team that started playing college football 14 years ago, in the second game of the season after defeating Miami (Ohio), a team coming off a one-win year, by the embarrassing score of 34-12 at home.

The offensive line looked suspect at best — comically dreadful at worst. Deonte Thompson already dropped two balls, John Brantley showed little of his promised passing prowess and the kicking game made more than 90,000 people hold their collective breath.

In a sport where opinions are formed, cemented, changed and re-cemented with every snap, it was entirely possible that anyone tuned into Saturday’s game at 2 p.m. would’ve thought the Gators were the worst BCS team in the state of Florida.

Then Jeff Demps broke a 62-yard run to put UF ahead 14-7. The floodgates opened shortly thereafter and the Gators cruised to a 38-14 victory.

And if the best half of football Florida has played all season wasn’t enough to make fans feel better heading into Southeastern Conference play, intra-state rivals Miami and Florida State collided to the beat in road games against Ohio State and Oklahoma late in the afternoon. (To say the Seminoles crapped the bed is like saying John Mayer does OK with women, but I can’t think of the next level up.)

In a few short hours, the Gators were once again the undisputed kings of Florida — even if that only lasts until they take on Alabama in three weeks.

Saturday was a great example of how fast a knee-jerk reaction can be proven wrong, especially with UF still forming an identity after replacing so many players from a year ago.

Last season, the Gators were supposed to win the national championship. They had won the year before, returned every meaningful contributor from that team except for Percy Harvin, and were led by a former Heisman Trophy winner and one of the best players in college football his...
Demps proves to be game-changer

By TYLER JETT
Alligator Staff Writer
tjet@alligator.org

Florida fans knew entering this season that the fastest man in college football wasn’t going to be caught from behind.

But running back Jeff Demps hasn’t just outrun opposing defenses in the Gators’ first two games, he’s eluded upset bids.

Before Demps’ 62-yard touchdown run midway through the third quarter Saturday, No. 10 Florida found itself in an unexpected dogfight against an overmatched team for the second straight week. And, once again, Demps carry swung the momentum.

The running back’s day also included a 21-yard catch negated by a holding penalty and a 54-yard kick return that set up a Gators field goal. When Demps touched the ball, Florida’s offense gained an average of 13.3 yards. On the 56 plays when he didn’t, the Gators averaged about 4.7 yards.

“No. 10 Florida found itself in an unexpected dogfight against an overmatched team for the second straight week. And, once again, Demps carry swung the momentum.”

“You’ve got to create your own momentum,” offensive coordinator Steve Addazio said. “All of a sudden, you feel that energy. You feel that surge. You can see the eyes pop back open and it’s like, ‘Bam!’ Sometimes that’s what you need.”

Five minutes after Demps’ touchdown Saturday, the Gators held a 28-7 lead.

At halftime, the speedster had only touched the ball five times. But he became the focal point of the Florida offense following his long run, ending the game with 253 total yards on 14 touches, including a career-high 139 yards rushing.

“Jeff Demps is a guy who you want to have the ball,” coach Urban Meyer said. “We were very conscious of that in the second half. Demps really had a hell of a day.”

The running back’s day also included a 21-yard catch negated by a holding penalty and a 54-yard kick return that set up a Gators field goal. When Demps touched the ball, Florida’s offense gained an average of 13.3 yards. On the 56 plays when he didn’t, the Gators averaged about 4.7 yards.

Those are big hits," Addazio said. "You need those. It’s hard to go 99 yards. You need some hits.”

Demps’ third-quarter touchdown also seemed to energize the Florida defense. The Gators forced a three-and-out on the next drive, and cornerbacks Janoris Jenkins returned a punt 30 yards to set up Florida’s third touchdown.

On the following drive, linebackers Brandon Ficklin and Jon Bostic pressured USF quarterback B.J. Daniels, forcing him to throw a pass directly toward defensive end Justin Trattou, who returned the interception 35 yards for an easy touchdown.

Florida limited USF to just five first downs after Demps’ score.

“We were down a little bit in the first half,” Bostic said. “But his run, getting the offense going, actually helped pick us up, too.”

“In Florida’s first two games this season, long touchdown runs by Jeff Demps have boosted the productivity of the whole offense. Above are the combined stats for the offense before and after his two long runs and a comparison between plays when Demps touched the ball and when other players touch the ball.
UF in fourth after first round

The Gators are seven shots out of first

By MATT WATTS
Alligator Writer

High expectations are common for the UF women’s golf team. Heading into the first round of its tournament Sunday, sophomore Mia Piccio was one of the latest to be in that spotlight.

She shined.

Piccio had four birdies Sunday — three on the back nine — en route to a team-leading 70 (-2) at the Cougar Classic at Yeamans Hall Golf Club in Hanahan, S.C.

Coach Jan Dowling said Piccio played consistently throughout the round, keeping the ball in the fairway and finding the green frequently on the back side.

“She hit a ton of fairways, obviously made some putts,” Dowling said. “It was fun to watch.”

Piccio is tied for second in individual scoring with Katie Detlefsen of Central Florida and one back of North Carolina’s Courtney Gunter at 69 (-3).

The No. 19 Gators sit in fourth place, but only seven shots back, after the first round of play with a team score of 292 (+4). North Carolina leads the 21-team field at 285 (-3).

“We're in the ballpark, which is great and all we can ask for. There's lots of golf left to be played.”

Jan Dowling
UF women's golf coach

After an up-and-down outing in its first tournament at the TPC at Sawgrass, Dowling said her team remained composed Sunday and she is excited for what's to come.

“That's going to allow us to shoot those low numbers,” she said. “Emotionally, there's no roller coasters going on. It's going to allow us to go low when everyone gets hot.”

Junior Evan Jensen played steady on the 6,210-yard layout shooting a +1 round of 73. Jensen parred 15 of 18 holes Sunday.

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Jan Dowling
UF women's golf coach

Dowling said the course is “a lot of fun” to play, with generous fairways and scoring opportunities abound.

That proved true Sunday, as the Gators combined for 14 birdies.

Junior Andrea Watts, playing No. 1 after her strong finish at TPC, had four of those birdies to help balance out a +2 round of 74.

Playing second this week, Jessica Yadloczky started fast. She shot a one-under on the front nine, but the senior fizzled slightly on the back to finish with a 75 (+3).

“I'm looking forward to the next two days,” Dowling said. “Depending on where they put the pins, I'm expecting to see some lower scores still.”

UF sophomore Mia Piccio shot four birdies Sunday to finish with the second-lowest individual score in the event for the first round.