Survey asks students to rate their UF experience

By Gavin Burgess
Alligator Writer

The UF Office of the Provost will finish handing out surveys today in an effort to gauge students’ perspectives about many on-campus issues ranging from discrimination to sexual harassment.

The survey, which spans six pages and contains more than 100 questions, has students rate their experiences and opinions about campus life with questions about sexual harassment, gender and racial discrimination and drug and alcohol abuse.

Vice Provost Jacquelyn Hart said the Provost’s Office is trying to measure campus climate by going directly to the people who experience or feel any discomfort.

“The idea is what we always try to determine – how to do better,” Hart said. “There is no better way to understand the climate than to talk to students.”

Students and teachers both credit part of the increase to the intimacy of the classes.

“It’s a lot more one-on-one interaction,” said Kylee Johnson, a teaching assistant in the program. “We really get to know the students, and I like that.”

One class—Psychology In Training—pairs individual students with a green yearling or 2-year-old ponies and allows them to break the horses into saddles and leads—ropes used to teach horses how to follow instruction—while another focuses on reproduction techniques and permits students to artificially inseminate mares.

“These classes give us a leg up in the industry,” Ripley said. “Most students who learn from the books have no idea what this entails. But here we are, rolling up our sleeves, getting in the mud, learning.”

Lora Ripley
UF animal science junior

UF animal science senior Valerie Schwenker mounts Diamond on Tuesday afternoon while teacher assistant Jodi Crowley helps her. Each student is assigned to work with a horse for a semester.

Survey questions include:

- Whether they feel comfortable at certain campus locations and events such as Turlington Plaza, classes or UF Homecoming
- Whether they have been randomly distributed to classes across campus since mid-November
- Whether they have been handed out to a wide variety of students
- Whether the survey questions are expected to be revealed sometime in the Spring

She said while the questionnaire response has been voluntary, the response has been large because the surveys have been handed out to a wide variety of classes.

The large participation will give the final analysis “some meaning” and will allow for the feelings and experiences of every on-campus constituency to be represented, Hart said.

UF freshman Melissa Moore said the survey did not mean much to her because she has not witnessed or encountered gender or racial discrimination on campus.

“I thought the survey asked some questions that aren’t really a concern on campus anymore like they could have been in the past,” Moore said.

While she said some students might be feeling discriminated, she said the results of the survey would show that many students are not “worried about that kind of stuff.”

The surveys come about two months after an associate dean at the Fredric G. Levin College of Law resigned his position because of the school’s inability to attract and retain minority faculty members, mostly due to what some term as an “uncomfortable environment.”

Gavin Burgess can be reached at gburgess@alligator.org
Gore risks losing Democratic election support

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four weeks into the election limbo, courts still hold the keys to the White House: The Florida Supreme Court agreed to hear an appeal of a ballot challenge to Bush's certified Florida victory and briefs were filed in reaction to U.S. Supreme Court decision. The Bush v. Gore trial was held one day after Circuit Judge N. Sanders Sauls rejected Gore's request to order hand recounts of disputed ballots and overturn Florida's official election results. Gore appealed, and oral arguments will be heard by the Florida high court Thursday.

On Capitol Hill, Democrats pledged their support — at least until the Florida high court rules on Gore's appeal. "If Gore and Joe Lieberman enjoy strong support with our caucus for what they are doing in trying to get every vote counted in Florida," said House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt.

Judge Sauls rejected Gore for "wrong on the law" and noted that the Democratic ticket narrowly won the national popular vote. Democrats also filed lawsuits in Seminole and Martin counties over absentee ballot applications. A trial in the Seminole case is scheduled for Wednesday, and there might be a ruling by Friday.

Florida Olympic plan threatens historic school

TAMPA (AP) — Florida 2012's Olympic plan has come under fire for threatening a historic church and school.

The school is not a sure deal, and this could kill historic preservation in this community," said Hillsborough County Commissioner Chris Hart after hearing that the proposal included knocking down St. Peter Claver church and its nearby school. The 2012 plan proposes demolishing three public housing complexes to make room for an Olympic stadium, park and housing for 17,000 athletes.

The school was founded in 1894 by Jesuit priests to educate black children who were not allowed to attend school with white children. A week after the school was built it was burned to the ground. It was rebuilt on the spot where it stands today. All but three of the 155 kindergarten through eighth grade students are black and 90 percent are not Catholic. Students come from throughout Tampa and Hillsborough County and fewer than half can pay the annual $2,500 tuition, relying on grants and donations. "I understand it's more than a six-day event," Hart said of the summer 2012 Olympics. "But you don't change the lives of all these children for it.

Florida 2012 is supposed to submit a bid document to the United States Olympic Committee by Dec. 15, after which members of the committee will visit Tampa and the other eight U.S. bid cities, which include New York City, San Francisco, Dallas and Washington, D.C., among others.

After they visit all cities, the USOC will announce the finalist cities in spring 2002 and the U.S. Candidate City in fall 2002. The U.S. Candidate City then will compete with international cities to determine who will ultimately host the 2012 Olympic Games.

The International Olympic Committee will make that decision in fall 2005.

The fierce fight for Florida's 25 electoral votes spawned more than 40 separate lawsuits that threaten to tie up the 2000 presidential race between the Dec. 12 deadline for states to assign electors. In Florida, Republicans controlling the state Legislature decided to "wait another day or two" before deciding whether to call a special session to appoint a slate of electors loyal to Bush. In papers filed with the Florida Supreme Court Tuesday in response to the U.S. high court's decision to vacate the Florida court's previous ruling, Gore's legal team urged the justices to reinstate its prior ruling allowing recounts. The court was still awaiting GOP briefs.
Students to display work from Costa Rica trip
Exhibit at the Alachua County Downtown Library starts Thursday and runs to Jan. 1

By Jenny L. Allen
Alligator Staff Writer

It was only 10 days, but the trip would forever remain imprinted in the hearts and minds of 14 UF journalism students. The student photographers and writers abandoned two weeks of classes in October, boarded an international flight and entered a whole new world — Santa Cruz, Costa Rica — as the first of five international trips to third world countries sponsored by The St. Petersburg Times.

The group's work, which captured the essence of the city in pictures and words, will premiere on Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Alachua County Downtown Library, 401 E. University Ave., and run through Jan. 1.

"We really wanted to reach out to Latin America and document the culture there," said John Kaplan, a UF associate photojournalism professor in charge of the trip. "I'm incredibly proud of how hard the students worked."

The experience, however, did not come easy. Living in a third world country, even if only for a little less than two weeks, was difficult to adjust to. The streets were littered with wild dogs and political messages were blared from speakers on top of cars.

"It was just a lot different than it is here," said Matt May, a UF photojournalism senior. "People really didn't have a lot of material goods to be concerned with."

Despite the obvious poverty, UF graduate student Rebecca King said the people were more open and friendly than those in developed nations. Every time she walked down the street, King said people would remember her name and greet her with smiles.

Before the trip, each of the students researched topics they wanted to pursue during their time in Costa Rica. Though not all the stories panned out and some had to scramble for new ideas in Santa Cruz, other subjects flourished while in the third world country, like UF journalism senior Amy Fischer's story about the decline of the cattle industry. Fischer spent the week, some days starting as early as 5:30 in the morning, with a ranching family.

"It was really an eye-opening experience to spend time with them," Fischer said. "It made me realize how good I really have it in America. I may be a poor college student, but compared to them, I am fairly rich American.

Not only did Fischer bring home a heightened sense of awareness about the plight of third world countries, she also brought home a more permanent reminder of her time.

Fischer rescued a malnourished stray dog that she found in Santa Cruz and brought it home on the flight with her.

"It was so sad to see all those wild dogs," she said. "Feeding them is just a luxury they can't afford."

Many of the students partnered while in Costa Rica to work on various projects. King reported a story that highlighted the struggles of a new 15-year-old mother — a scenario King said is quite typical in third world countries.

The young mother, though disowned by her parents when they heard of her pregnancy, was taken in by her boyfriend, 16, and his family.

"I've never seen anything so beautiful as the harmony of people helping that girl," King said. "The boyfriend's family gave her such incredible support — it was amazing."

Though the students all have returned safely to the United States without any mishap, many long to return to the land.

For May, the experience has given him confidence and made him eager to begin a career in international journalism — and to one day make it back to the small, rural city of Santa Cruz.

"I would go back there in a heartbeat," May said. "Despite the large language barriers we had to overcome, it was one of the most viable experiences to share one week with the people there. There's not a day that goes by that I don't think of my time in Costa Rica. I will never forget it."

An online magazine featuring photos and story excerpts of the trip will debut on Thursday at www.internationaljournalism.com or www.jou.ufl.edu.

Jenny L. Allen can be reached at j allen@alligator.org

UF's top leaders reflect progress, look toward future

By Andrew Marra
Alligator Staff Writer

The three respective leaders of UF's faculty, students and administrators agreed that the restructuring of the State University System is one of the largest issues facing UF next semester. That was one of the few things agreed on by UF Interim President Charles Young, Student Body President George Kramer and Faculty Senate Chairman Joseph Layon, as they took stock of the Fall semester this week and looked toward the Spring.

Young and Layon both praised UF's pay raises for entry-level UF employees from $6.23 to $7 an hour as one of the university's best achievements of the semester.

"That is amazing," Layon said.

Joe Hicks / Alligator Staff

That is a year's success right there," Young said that will be "very good for the university in the long run.

Both Young and Layon were also pleased with UF's ability to resolve a long-running dispute between administrators and UF custodial employees, who were placed on a night shift in October, they were given the option of returning to the day shift.

Kramer said the semester's highlight was answering the question of who UF's president will be for the next few years.

"The largest thing I can think of is Dr. Young deciding to stay on for a while here," Kramer said.

Kramer also pointed to the expansion of the Later Gator bus service, allowing students to travel at night directly from southwest Gainesville into downtown.

And neither Kramer nor Young could resist including the Gator football team's Southeastern Conference Championship.

"For a lot of people, that's their first one since they've been here," Kramer said.

When the three leaders looked forward, they seemed to focus on the effect of statewide issues at UF.

A proposed restructuring of SUS, which will replace the Board of Regents with a new governing system by 2003, was prominent among each of their remarks.

But Young also expressed concern about what effect the One Florida Plan, which eliminates race-based admissions in Florida's public universities, would have on the diversity of a new freshman class being selected this year.

"We'll be dealing for the first time with a total class admission process coming under that," he said.

Young also said he thought the tumultuous presidential election crisis would have some impact on higher education issues in Florida, which might in turn affect UF. He was not sure exactly what those effects would be.

Kramer added that there would be a number of important UF issues at stake in the Florida Legislature's spring session.

"It's important now that the University of Florida have a prominent influence in the Legislature," Kramer said.

Locally, Kramer said it is important that a committee of administrators and students finalize details of a transportation access fee, which will help UF improve transportation services on campus.

Andrew Marra can be reached at amarra@alligator.org

Matt May / Special to the Alligator

Donna Luz holds her daughter, Patricia, at their home in Santa Cruz, Costa Rica. Luz still dresses and feeds Patricia, who is developmentally disabled.
Negative era over for UF Greek system, leaders say

By Kristen Moczynski

Alligator Writer

In the recent past, the UF Greek system has been tarnished by trials and negative media coverage, but strong leadership and a return to an emphasis on philanthropy has brought the Greek community into a new light — one of success, leadership and community service.

Sorority Sisters established to give women a close-knit community at college, but now they also aim to help their sisters get ahead and break the traditional femininity roles.

Robert J. Stivers/journal staff

"Sorority life is to help an individual grow and develop," said Marni Kahn, outgoing Panhellenic Council president. "It creates another support system.

Fraternity men, who once wore their letters with pride, stopped donning the Greek alphabet for fear that they would be stereotyped negatively during recruitment.

The lack of visibility caused some people to think Greek membership was dwindling, but number counts continue to show growth.

"There's a lot more pride now because we're doing well," Jensen-Friedman said.

Fraternity members are working to escape the old stereotypes that they are only about drinking, hazing and partying — a reputation the groups have held during the 1990s.

Fraternities are returning to their roots and building more value-based groups.

"One of the biggest things is the strength of brotherhood," Jensen-Friedman said.

Sorority members, however, is a value that has remained strong since their foundation.

"It's always been about sisterhood and personalizing a large campus," Kahn said.

Fraternities and sororities make up about 11 percent of the campus population, and membership continues to increase.

Fraternities experienced their largest Rush in six years this semester, and sororities' recruitment numbers were right on target.

Jensen-Friedman said that IFC's recruitment process has changed since he became Greek council president.

"Every house gets a fair shot at these kids," he said, referring to the practice that only certain houses did well during recruitment in the past.

Kahn said that sorority recruitment has become more natural and less superficial.

"We've gotten away from a frilly recruitment," she said. "Everything is a lot less shallow." Kahn and Jensen-Friedman both said that recruitment focuses more on the individual and less on religious, ethnic and family backgrounds.

"The chapters ... really branched out," Kahn said. "They stepped out of their box.

The two also said that the Greek system is growing and becoming stronger because of the people who continue Greek life. Jensen-Friedman said that when he joined Delta Tau Delta Fraternity in 1995, academic requirements were lower, and men were more interested in partying.

Now, he said, men who join fraternities are more interested in scholarship and philanthropy and have higher grades.

Kahn said that women who join sororities are very smart and more focused on their careers.

Jensen-Friedman said that the Greek system has come to continue its success, and the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity leadership was interim dean for Greek Life, and that the community needs to be in touch with the needs of UF students.

And Jensen-Friedman said that the Greek system needs to continue recruiting men and women who focus on leadership and scholarship and make the "balanced person." It's one of the biggest aspects," Bolotin said. "One of the main things a lot of fraternities and sororities want to do is help the community.

A fresh start

In the past, suspensions and academic probations plagued fraternities, but this semester, only one fraternity faces suspension and three groups returned to campus.

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity is undergoing a sanction hearing to prevent its suspension from campus.

"I think people are taking action so will the Greek community," Jensen-Friedman said. "It's one of the biggest aspects," Bolotin said. "One of the main things a lot of fraternities and sororities want to do is help the community.

And as UF continues to grow, so will the Greek community. Cupoli said she hopes it will continue to work closely with chapters and build better relationships.

"They grow exponentially," Cupoli said. "We're really a pioneer in terms of Latino and Latina organizations."

NPIC President Kim Cartly said that the organization has made a lot of improvements.

"We have come a long way in the last five years," she said.

Looking back, looking ahead

But with the semester coming to a close, Jensen-Friedman and Kahn will pass on their posts to Tim Anderson and Roberta Hickman, who they hope will build on their successes.

Charence Presha will succeed Cartly, and MGC President Cyrus Wyclie will stay in his position through the Spring semester.

Jensen-Friedman said that he hopes the IFC will continue the precedent that has been set to continue to grow.

But he said the returning fraternity leaders will continue to work closely with chapters and build better relationships.

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Senate follows IRHA's suit, signs resolution for parking compromise

By Erin Bryce
Alligator Writer

Meeting in the basement of Broward Hall on Tuesday night, the Student Senate passed a resolution calling for a compromise with UF administrators concerning the change of almost 400 campus student parking spaces to faculty—something Inter-Residence Hall association officials did Monday night.

IRHA President Marc Dodd told the crowd of about 80 students and senators he was pleased with the joint effort Student Government and IRHA has formed in combating the parking decal change.

"It's been a pleasure thus far working with Senate," he said. "I certainly respect the faculty's needs for parking, but I just ask for an ear for student input."

UF administrators are looking to make 382 Red decal spaces into Orange spaces—taking away almost half of the more than 730 student parking spaces and replacing them with faculty parking. The spaces to be affected include those inside the block of West University Avenue on the north, North-South Drive on the west, Museum Road on the south and Southwest 13th Street on the east.

The resolutions passed by the two organizations stated that the "safety and convenience of students, faculty and staff should be considered and addressed through student forums and open communication with the university community."

Student Senate President Marc Adler told senators that he does not want just to focus on the safety aspect of the parking situation, but wants to make sure UF administrators realize students use those parking spaces for common tasks such as unloading their groceries.

The Senate Campus Committee has been working on compromises to present to UF officials—something senators and IRHA officials will do with Interim Vice President of Administrative Affairs Ed Poppe1 Thursday.

In addition, Adler met with Faculty Senate President Dr. Joseph Layon on Tuesday to discuss the concerns that have arisen.

"It went very well," Adler said of the meeting. "I am under the impression that they are looking to listen to what the students have to say."

Layon said it was nice the two senators could collaborate and that he plans to continue.

"It opens up the lines of communication that shouldn't have been closed but for a long time were," he said.

Adler also is meeting with Assistant Vice President of Administrative Affairs Bob Miller on Thursday to discuss the change.

Erin Bryce can be reached at ebryce@alligator.org

Tallahassee caravan plans to protest recent court rulings

By Ed Easton
Alligator Writer

For the second time in two days, Democrat activists protested recent court rulings on the vote counts in Florida and are set to caravan today to Tallahassee to make their voices heard.

Helen Strain, chairwoman for the Democratic Party of Florida, said she came out to show that Al Gore won the majority of Florida's popular vote but other results were certified and sent to Washington.

"It is not the business of the state Legislature to decide the election in Florida," Strain said. "This is a representative government, and it is blatantly obvious that their constituents voted for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman."

More than 60 buses statewide filled with activists, protesters and Democratic officials will head to Tallahassee to challenge the Florida Legislature and show that their votes should count, Strain said. Buses with Alachua County voters are set to leave from Citrus Field at 9 a.m.

Protesters draped Gainesville's downtown clock tower in a large orange ribbon to represent solidarity among Florida voters. About 10 protesters attended the noon rally, all wearing orange ribbons.

The orange ribbon has become a national symbol for voters who support recounting their votes.

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An Underground Life; Memoirs of a Gay Jew in Nazi Berlin

Wisconsin

Tomorrow Never Knows; Rock and Psychedelics in the 1960s
Nick Broomell. Both a meditation on the ways that the present remembers the past and a contribution to our understanding of that decade. $22.50.

Chicago

The Conference of Augustine

Anchorage

Louis Pasteur
Patricia Debré. A French immunologist presents a critical account of Pasteur's discoveries and the controversies they raised. $19.95p.

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How Cities Work; Suburbs, Sprawl, and the Roads Not Taken
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David McCully. The formation, development, and history of the Everglades from the geologic origins up to its recent sugar days. $19.95p.

Florida

The Invention of Modern Science
Isabelle Stengers. Goes beyond the often irreconcilable positions, that science is 'objective' and that science is 'socially constructed.' $18.95p.

Minnesota

Learning a Trade; A Craftsman's Notebooks, 1955-1997
Reynolds Price. Provides a window into a writer's creative process and sensibilities. $21.95p.

Where These Memories Grow; History, Memory, and Southern Identity

The Catholic Church and the Holocaust, 1930-1965
Michael Phayer. Official Catholic doctrine from the emergence of Hitler to the Church's official rejection of antisemitism in 1965. $29.95p.

Indiana

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Editorial

We here at the Alligator Department of Darts and Laurels are having a hard time moving on from all the pressure, cave being shot up in a bar somewhere neck deep in empty bottles of beer, instead, we remain for another day stuck in the Alligator's palatial offices.

Forget term papers, forget finals. We have this one last newspaper to worry about, and then we will be out of commission for at least two or three days.

Don't write. Don't worry unless you don't hear from us by Monday at the earliest. It's been a long semester and we need a vacation.

While some members of the Department are stepping down, others are moving up. Therefore, the transition between semesters should be fairly smooth. Smooth as a pint of Guinness going down the hatch.

Ah, that sounds great right about now.

So, put that calculus book down, pick up the paper and revel in this semester's final edition of...

Darts & Laurels

We start off this week with a bit of your job-to-decide important-constitutional-issues DART to the nine justices on the U.S. Supreme Court for passing the buck on the George W. Bush vs. Palm Beach County Canvassing Board case.

The justices, who are supposed to be unbiased and free of politics, have until today, deciding to ask the Florida Supreme Court to clarify how they reached their decision instead of making one of their own - extending the time it will take to iron out who is finally going to be the next president.

In stark contrast, we now give a thank-you very much for making a well thought-out decision LAUREL to Leon County Circuit Judge N. Sanders Sauls for first taking time out of his weekend to hear more than 20 hours of testimony concerning the disputed hand recounts and then leaving no holes in his decision.

He said Vice President Al Gore did not prove that the ballots left uncounted in Miami-Dade County and the contested ballots not certified by Secretary of State Katherine Harris from Palm Beach County would have changed the outcome of the election.

We don't know anyone else, but we're getting pretty tired of all these election nonsense. Good ol' G-Dub might stop "acting" presidential and finally have a legitimate reason to be standing in front of a myriad of American flags... leaving us with no choice but to break out with a new, stirring rendition of "Oh Canada."

On the home front, we're giving an activism-of-anything-kind-is-good LAUREL to UF Interim President Charles Young for taking action for the U.F. police force to hire the University of Pennsylvania's police and have a voice.

Under former UF President John Lombardi, the University Senate was nothing more than a tool for Lombardi and Provost Betty Capaldi to get their way. Under Young, the newly named Faculty Senate has put its two cents in concerning a number of issues, from the search for UF's new president to the transition task force to determine the future of the Board of Regents.

Finally, we give an it's-about-time-you-guys-did-something LAUREL to Student Government for getting Library West and the Reitz Union to stay open 24 hours during finals week. The two venues closed at night last semester, leaving students no choice but to study at home, an always-risky television with the legislature staring at you.

Way to go. It seems that SG has finally stopped fighting about the Big 8 budget and decided to do something this semester. Too bad it happened toward the end of the term.

Guest Column

Name calling and accusations makes Mideast peace impossible

All Jardenah, it is you and people like you who make the Arab-Israeli conflict continue ("Israel leads Palestinian Holocaust" in Tuesday's Alligator). Blind, one-sided name-calling and accusations only make peace more impossible. To call yourself a humanitarian while being so completely ignorant is "quite ironic."

The fact is that both the Palestinians and the Jews may claim historical and political rights to Israel. Both nations have wronged each other through violence and innumerable broken treaties from Faisal-Weizmann in 1919 to the present. Both groups claim divine rights to the land, but we will never know if either nation was truly intended by God to live on that land. There is no easy way to determine if either nation should be granted the land. The one thing that is sure is that neither group is an innocent victim.

Palestinians argue that in recent times the Jews illegally stole their land. Jews counter that Palestinians were nomads and never had ties to their land until Jews wanted to move in. They had opportunities to share Israel. The Peel Commission would have granted Palestinian ownership over four-fifths of the land, but they rejected the commission's plan. The Partition Plan would have split the land evenly but the United Nations did not give it to one side or the other.

The fact is that both the Palestinians and the Jews should be granted the land. The land is no easy way to determine if either nation should be granted the land. The one thing that is sure is that neither group is an innocent victim. The point is that as long as Palestinians and Jews remain biased in their views of the conflict, as long as they grieve their own losses and not those of their neighbors; as long as they look to their own historical, political and presumed divine rights to the land, as long as they look to the past and point fingers, there will be no peace in Israel or Palestine or what ever you want to call it.

Both nations must look to the future to make peace a shadow of reality. They must consider that they are not innocent victims of the other nation's selfishness and that they are partially to blame.

I respect all of the Palestinians who worry for their families in the Middle East. I worry for my Jewish family in the Gaza Strip and for my sister who was a few blocks from the Western Wall in Jerusalem when the fighting started again.

So, Jardenah, you can take your twisted facts and blind biases and keep on fighting. This is the only option our families will have as long as people like you are allowed to be heard. If you are concerned for the fate of your family in Israel, then you will consider the other side. If you truly want peace for your family, then you should recognize that compromise in the only solution to conflict in the Middle East because history, politics and divine right will not provide any worthy answers.

HEATHER SLAVKIN
Speaking Out

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Heather Slavkin is a journalism junior.

The views expressed here are not necessarily those of the Alligator.
Sew up loophole, increase control

Newspapers glow with headlines about the unfinished presidential election. However, when people across the country went to the polls, it was to cast a vote for more than just a candidate.

In Oregon and Washington overwhelming approved gun safety measures, emboldening gun control lobbyists, including Republicans that waiting up to three days for a background check was too much of a burden for gun buyers. The NRA argues gun control, even such background measures as background checks, is a violation of gun control and that any liberty-loving American should be appalled by the idea of gun control. What they neglect to mention, however, are the 38,937 victims of gun violence each year who are forced to give up both their life and liberty.

The Second Amendment makes reference to the right to bear arms in the context of a well-regulated militia in order to maintain the security of a free state. It is difficult to imagine any gun owner making an argument that his or her possession of a gun is protecting the freedom of the United States.

Furthermore, the Supreme Court decided in the 1939 case, U.S. v. Miller, that possession of a firearm is not protected by the Second Amendment unless it has some reasonable relationship to the preservation of a well-regulated militia, which they have today determined to be the National Guard. No gun control law ever brought before the Supreme Court, or any other federal court, has ever been overturned on Second Amendment grounds.

Additionally, the argument that gun control is ineffective is ridiculous when seen in the light of a truly effective gun control policy that would limit access to handguns. This could be accomplished on the local level by banning the sale of handguns or at least regulating the sale of them more stringently.

As for limiting the sale of handguns on the black market, this could be accomplished by imposing strict mandatory jail sentences for anyone in possession of a firearm, as well as prohibiting the public sale of bullets.

The arguments against gun control have little validity. That is not to say that gun control is the answer to the problem of violence in our country, but it is definitely a step in the right direction.

The United States, with the most lenient gun control policy of any industrialized country, must enact stricter gun control laws. Failure to close the gun control loophole and enact strong gun control measures would be tragic policy, most likely paid with lost lives. Human life should not be lost due to politicians' fears of upsetting a powerful gun lobby. Strict gun control makes sense on a statistical, practical and most importantly, humane level.

Elaine Albenda
(University of Maryland) Diamondbak
Nurse analyzes brain waves to treat disorders

By Teresa Wood
Alligator Writer

In a sparse, cool room at the back of a northwest Gainesville home, Melody Coffey goes to work.

A laptop computer and an EEG machine are her tools, and the registered nurse uses them to help people with diseases such as attention deficit disorder, dyslexia and smoking addiction.

Her technique - known as neurofeedback - helps people train their brains to overcome these disorders.

Coffey attaches clients to an EEG, or electroencephalogram, machine using sensors, or electrodes, smaller than a dime. The four sensors - one on each ear and one on either side of the head - transmit brain waves to a box about the size of an index card that interfaces with the computer.

Clients watch their brain waves on the computer screen and learn how to function in the brain waves they are able to.

Coffey believes many clients with ADD do not function in beta - the brain wave used during learning and concentration such as at school.

She helps clients learn to work through the other waves to reach beta so they can pay attention in class or elsewhere.

"This is where we function in the world, in beta," said Coffey, indicating a dark green area where it showed up on the screen.

One of Coffey's success stories is 8-year-old Tammie Duty.

Duty's mom, Jane Duty, said she is amazed at the improvement her daughter has shown since starting neurofeedback.

"Her test scores went up, especially in long. The flower opens up as clients move through to reach beta, Coffey said.

Those with ADD usually are given Ritalin, which acts as an upper and allows the person's brain waves to move into beta, Coffey said.

Coffey uses different programs to help clients do this with positive reinforcement.

In one program, clients look at a picture of a flower with petals about four inches long. The flower opens up as clients move through the waves to reach the one they need to be in. When the client reaches the right frequency, the flower opens.

Melody Coffey uses a computer screen to illustrate neurofeedback. With the use of a laptop and an EEG machine, Coffey can help to train people to overcome disorders such as attention deficit disorder, dyslexia and smoking addiction.

Jeffrey Klein, medical director at Triangle of Healthcare in Gainesville and a neurologist and psychologist, said the medical community accepts four brain frequencies - delta, theta, alpha and beta.

In his practice, he said he helps people learn to relax and move their brain to lower frequencies using techniques such as meditation and yoga.

Coffey said she uses more than just the four frequencies because her equipment allows her to go higher than beta.

UF lifts parking restrictions for students during finals

Students on campus will get a welcome break from parking hassles during Dec. 7.

During finals week, parking restrictions will be lifted for students.

However, faculty, staff and employees will still need access to campus for work or study.

Parking meters and gates will remain in place to ensure security and parking will still be strictly enforced.

Jane Duty said Tammie was tested for ADD but did not have it. She said her daughter still displayed the symptoms and could benefit from the treatment.

Coffey's EEG system displays brain waves from delta, which is sleep, to gamma.

"This follows delta.

"Theta is the gateway to sleep and the seat of creativity," Coffey said.

Alpha, the next frequency, is alert relaxation, "where you want to be after a long day's work," Coffey said.

"Good beta is an area of focus you have to be in to learn, teach and interact," Coffey said.

In clients with ADD, Coffey said, the brain moves too slow and is stuck in theta brain waves. Theta also is where trauma exists.

"Usually, they don't have any alpha at all, and they can't get up to beta," she said.

Coffey believes children with ADD have their problems compounded because not only is their brain moving too slow and stuck in theta, but these children are often teased as well. The trauma shows up in theta frequencies, and it takes longer for these children to work through to reach beta, Coffey said.

"We train them to go from theta to beta at will so they can speed up and slow down their brain at will," she said.

Those with ADD usually are given Ritalin, which acts as an upper and allows the person's brain waves to move into beta, Coffey said.

UF parking restrictions will be strictly enforced.

Freshman Molly Hennessey said she is looking forward to being able to park her car on campus without worrying about towing or tickets.

"Parking is the last stress I need during finals week," she said.

Student and meter parking will be lifted during the holiday break, Dec. 16 through Jan. 7.

"Because there is very little student activity, there is no need for restriction," Fox said.

"The faculty and staff will be working over the holidays and still need to be able to park."

Regional Transit System will continue its bus services through the holiday with a limited schedule that has not been finalized.

— Lizzie Johnson
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New director hopes students will use legal services

By Joe Black
Alligator Writer

After making what she calls her fortune in Tampa, Dainty Cleary, the new Student Legal Services director, said she jumped at the opportunity to come back to Gainesville.

As a former civil litigator for firms such as Holland & Knight and a career counselor in Tampa, she said that the chance UF offered her was what she wanted in a job—law and personal contact.

"I've got it all now," Cleary said. "It's something I really am glad to be a part of and something that is truly worthwhile for students.

Since taking the position, Cleary, a UF law graduate, has worked to get the "word out" about the service and started to look into bringing law students into the office to work on cases.

"This is such an amazing service that not that many know exists," she said. "I want to make students comfortable to come into the office and let us help them with whatever problems they might have.

Student Legal Services helps students free of charge with legal advice on issues such as family law, landlord disputes and traffic violations.

"We really run the gamut here," she said. "We try to get a feel for how much help a student needs and go from there. We do anything from providing legal advice to helping [proofread] consumer letters."

Cleary, who took over the job in September, said there had been an increase in student referrals to other programs such as the Career Resource Center and the Florida Legal Aid Society because she has been working closely with them.

"They tend to be better at what they do, but I want to help students on all levels," she said.

The program is funded through Activity & Service fees, money each student is required to pay with tuition, so students do not have to pay per visit.

Paul Meyers, Student Government business manager and chairman of the search committee in charge of screening applicants for the job, said 30 people initially applied. This number was narrowed by the committee to three before being turned over to the Dean of Students Office.

"We had very good candidates, and we did a good job of getting together and narrowing them down," he said. "All of the candidates were very qualified.

Lex Taylor, a first-year law student and a member of the search committee that found Cleary, said that her broad background made her the one the committee recommended.

"She has an exceptionally good background in law...and had experience working with large groups of people," he said. "We were looking for someone who was a good lawyer and a good administrator, and she fit both of those."

Dean of Students Julie Sina said that Cleary's background made her excellent for the position.

"Her resume really stood out as one of the best we saw," she said. "We thought her experience would really be an asset to Student Legal Services. I am confident she will be excellent for the job."

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Research suggests back belts do not prevent injuries

Study of more than 9,000 Wal-Mart employees shows support gear could be ineffective

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Just in time for all those workers handling heavy holiday packages, new research suggests that back belts widely used in industry to prevent lifting injuries do not work.

The findings, based on interviews and worker compensation claims, stem from a study of more than 9,000 employees at Wal-Mart stores in 30 states.

"Back belt use is not associated with reduced incidence of back injury claims or low back pain in material handlers," the researchers wrote in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The study was done by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

An increasing number of employers use back belts to prevent back injuries, which are one of the nation's most common occupational disorders, costing the nation an estimated $20 billion to $50 billion a year, according to NIOSH. The researchers noted that about 4 million back belts were purchased in 1995 to try to prevent back injuries.

The snug belts are purported to help strengthen muscles that support the spine, though little research has been done on them. A study published in 1996 on back belt use at Home Depot stores in California suggested that the belts reduced the incidence of back injuries.

But NIOSH statistician Douglas Landsittel, a co-author of the new study, said the previous study focused only on California stores.

There is no company-wide policy on belt use at Wal-Mart, the nation's largest retailer. Some stores require belts for certain employees involved in heavy lifting, such as those in shipping and receiving. Wal-Mart spokesman Tom Williams said.

Williams said the company collaborated with NIOSH after many employees questioned whether the belts did any good. The study focused on the findings and will use them to improve work conditions.

The researchers interviewed 9,377 employees at 160 Wal-Mart stores and collected worker compensation data between 1996 and 1998. The study included 89 stores that required back belts.

About two-thirds of the workers in stores with mandatory belt use reported wearing them daily, compared with about one-third of those at stores where use was voluntary.

There were 195 worker compensation claims filed for back injury during the study, and of 6,311 employees who completed follow-up interviews, there were 1,088 reports of frequent back pain.

Employees who wore the belts regularly were just as likely to report back pain or file claims as those who did not wear them.

The findings were questioned by an official with the International Mass Retail Association, an industry group whose members include 200 retail chains. The researchers did not directly compare workers doing the same jobs, said Morrison Cain, the group's senior vice president of government affairs.

Speed Up Your Progress
UF alumnus markets new online voting program

By Teresa Wood
Alligator Writer

As a solution to recounting ballots by hand and arguing about chads, a UF College of Engineering alumnus is president and CEO of a company that developed and produces an online voting program.

Jim Adler, a 1985* graduate, runs VoteHere.net—a four-year-old company with a mission to bring online voting to counties throughout the country.

"Ballots are encrypted and never decrypted, so the system is secure," Adler said.

His company markets the system as a way to vote anywhere, not something people would do at home.

"Many states are not comfortable with voters not visiting a voting booth," Adler said. "Voting is a very cultural thing, and it's regional."

So far, VoteHere.net has conducted pilot programs in 10 states and put the system to use for the 2000 election in three California counties and in Arizona.

"We hope to have it in 40 states by 2001," Adler said.

On the VoteHere.net Web site, results of a survey of Arizona online voters showed 100 percent felt that the system.

Adler foresees use of the system in malls and other areas as more convenient to voters than their assigned precincts.

"This is an evolution, not a revolution," Adler said. "This is the foundation of our democracy, a little prudence is called for."

And by still having voters come to the polls, the integrity of the voting system can be maintained.

Adler said his system is about one-tenth the cost of current systems, and the computers can be used for other purposes when there are no elections.

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Some learn proper grooming techniques or essential symptoms to look for when the horses act differently.

For Ripley, the most intriguing aspect of working with horses is watching a 1,000-pound animal follow her commands.

"The power of the relationship is incredible," she said. "I never tire of seeing it."

However, the horse teaching unit has not always played such an integral role in the lives of students.

In the late 1980s, UF considerably downsized the program due to budget constraints, said Glen Hembry, chairman of UF's animal science department. Hembry said the upkeep of the farm was maintained, but there were only a few horses.

Five years ago, animal science faculty members, including Hembry, decided to rejuvenate the 65-acre unit with outside funding, a revised curriculum and by adding "equine" to the list of animal science specializations.

"Florida is one of the leaders in the equine industry, so it's only natural for the facility to help our students get ahead," said Joel McQuagge, a UF assistant animal science instructor.

During the past few years, the facility has grown notably with the addition of structures such as hay barns and fences. Construction on the latest undertaking -- an on-site classroom with a 20-stall horse barn -- will begin Jan. 1, and contractors are scheduled to complete the more than half-million dollar structure as early as July 4.

"There was a definite need for [the on-site classroom]," said McQuagge, who teaches the bulk of the on-site classes. "It's really going to help us out a ton and allow us to have class, rain or shine, and host judging contests."

McQuagge said private grants with matching state funds paid for the majority of the addition. To supplement the grants, students also prepared horses for auction in Ocala and Pennsylvania, with some garnering more than $13,000 a sale.

While most students were a bit speechless about the flaws of the program, Jenna Seymour, a UF animal science senior who has worked at the facility for more than a year, said jokingly that she could name only one - the overwhelming absence of males on the farm.

"It's like a 100-to-9 ratio out here," she said with a laugh and a huge grin.

However, the lack of men allows female students the chance to break out of traditional feminine roles. On the grounds of the farm, carrying pocketknives is an "unnecessary rule."

Ripley said a couple of months ago during her first day at the farm, a rope started strangling a horse when he tried to lie down. A knife was needed, but Ripley did not have one and instead had to rely on a fellow co-worker to free the animal.

"Now, I always carry a knife on me," she said, pausing to proudly pull a pocketknife out of her Wranglers. "I feel naked without it."

Long hours, hard manual labor and early mornings feeding the animals are a few of the less appealing aspects of the job.

Seymour, also a member of the UF Equestrian Team, feeds the horses several times a week, sometimes beginning as early as 6:30 a.m.

"It's a lot of hard work, no doubt," Seymour said. "There are a lot of times you just don't want to go out of bed. The mornings in the wintertime are the absolute worst. Sometimes it seems as though you just get done feeding them, and then you have to go out and feed them again. But the horses have to be fed."

Seymour said the feeding routine -- which costs the facility two tons of feed and five gallons of corn oil each week -- takes between an hour and a half to four hours, depending on the medicinal needs of each horse.

And occasionally, Seymour brings a little something home from the farm with her.

"You go home and find hay in your bra at night," she said, wrinkling her nose. "Somehow it just makes its way through there."

Another strenuous time commitment for students arises when mares foal or give birth.

When that happens, students must go on a 24-hour watch until the fillies are born.

"It's so funny because many of the students in that class are new to horses, so I'll get phone calls all through the night any time the horse moves," Seymour said.

However, the hard-earned lessons and sacrifices do not come without rewards. Escaping the classrooms and trading their textbooks for real-world experiences, the students get the opportunity to live their dreams and work one-on-one with horses.

Every day in this peaceful outdoor arena, they retreat to the spot where they feel most at home -- on the farm.

"It's a great stress reliever," Ripley said. "For me, at least, being outside is nature's remedy for life."

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UF professor argues for fair treatment of mentally ill

By Sarah Myrick
Alligator Writer

While it may not be at the forefront of American society, mentally ill and retarded citizens are being sentenced to death across the country for crimes they committed but may not have had control over.

And at least one UF professor is not going to remain silent.

Christopher Slobogin, a professor of Mental Health Law at the Frederic G. Levin College of Law, recently published an article in the *California Law Review* condemning a system that executes the recently published an article in Frederic Sor of Mental Health Law at the society.

"I think it's because people equate mental disorder with abnormal dangerousness, and dangerousness is usually the bottom line for juries deciding whether or not to impose the death penalty," Slobogin said. "I think the way capital juries perceive mental illness is representative of the way the general population views people who are mentally ill."

At least one other well-respected authority in the area agrees with Slobogin.

Dr. Richard Greer, chief of the division of forensic psychiatry at Shands at UF, said that the mentally disabled should not be subjected to the death penalty for crimes they did not make a conscious effort to commit.

"They aren't necessarily making a choice when they misbehave. That's why I don't think you can repeal the not guilty by reason of insanity plea because then you would be saying these people have the same decision as someone like Danny Rolling," Greer said.

Greer, a forensic psychiatrist, has studied the mentally ill and the crimes they commit, as well as written several articles on the issue.

"As a scientist, I know full well that a person with schizophrenia or manic depression has a proven organic disorder. For example, manic depression has been proven to be genetically transmitted. So how can you hold accountable someone who suffers from a physical organic disorder?" he asked.

Students win prizes before finals week in Coca-Cola raffle

By Erin Bryce
Alligator Writer

UF sophomore Emma Grewal was not expecting the telephone in her Mallory Hall dorm room to ring during her break between lunch and class on Tuesday.

But when she answered the phone, she was glad it rang.

"It came at a really convenient time," she said.

Grewal was told that she was the Coca-Cola raffle winner and had a Motorola cell phone and one year's phone service from Alltel coming to her just at a time when her cell phone service was about to run out.

Grewal was one of 511 raffle entries in the contest.

Jeff Rubenstein, the college manager for the soft drink company, said that he decided to sponsor the event as a break right before students take exams.

"We thought this would be a nice holiday gift before the students start getting stressed out," he said.

UF freshman Nicole Staszkiewicz won a DVD player from the raffle. Although Staszkiewicz was not in her room to receive the call from Rubenstein announcing her as the winner, she heard the news from her roommate.

"We were like, 'Is this a scare?' she said. "We didn't know if someone was playing a practical joke."

Students could enter the raffle at all three of the convenience stores located on campus.

Both Grewal and Staszkiewicz entered at the Beaty Breadbasket next to Beaty Towers.

The raffle was the second Coca-Cola sponsored raffle this semester before finals week in Coca-Cola raffle. Six tickets won prizes in the contest.

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Greer also pointed out double standards in the law.

"Our government and laws have, for years, recognized physiological and organic disorders as a special class of people," he said.

He cited the American Disabilities Act as one example. However, he points out that these same individuals are sentenced to death in Texas.

Slobogin's article comes at a time when the U.S. Supreme Court is deciding the case of a mentally retarded man who has been sentenced to death in Texas.

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SEC fans open New Orleans bar with Gator theme for bowl game

By Joe Black
Alligator Writer

Coming through Gainesville like “Sherman marching to the sea,” bar owner Silky O’Sullivan sat in the middle of the Purple Porpoise for Monday night doing one of the things he loves most — being true to his conference.

From his table in the middle of the dimly-lit bar floor, the Louisiana State University graduate talked about the superior school at a time when Gator fans were popular in his old bar to his new one for the people who traveled from Gainesville.

“I believe it’s only proper to say that like this,” O’Sullivan said in his southern accent. “And the feel I get here in Gainesville is that you people like to have fun and watch your team win. I just want to join in.”

Following the opening of the bar on the French Quarter, O’Sullivan said he has been proud to make it a home for the Gators by decking the Russian President Mikhail Gorbachev in the middle of the bar to anyone in New Orleans.

“All I am an SEC man, and I want to bring the smell of the Gators to my home for the Gators by decking the Russian President Mikhail Gorbachev in the middle of the bar to anyone in New Orleans.”

O’Sullivan and Irish Admiral Jeremiah Buckley traveled throughout Gainesville before ending their day at the Porpoise trying to promote O’Sullivan’s bar to anyone interested in going to the bowl game. The bar, which opened on Oct. 29, is a mix of “Irish southern fun” here acts like the game in New Orleans.

“I’m here to set them free and help have a little bit of fun.”

With drinks that include the “Miami Chad” and “Pregnant Dimple,” the bar’s owner plans to poke fun at the Gators’ Sugar Bowl opponent - the Miami Hurricanes - and he said he also wants to “make a few Seminoles mad at the same time.”

“I believe it’s only proper to sate the superior school at a time like this,” O’Sullivan said in his southern accent. “And the feel I get here in Gainesville is that you people like to have fun and watch your team win. I just want to join in.”

Before coming to the French Quarter, the Irishman had started another drinking establishment in Memphis, Tenn., that, unlike his new one, did not have a Gator theme. It did feature what he says has become world famous barbecue.

“Better place could I bring my barbecue than to Gator fans in the French Quarter,” O’Sullivan said.

Buckley, dressed with a large shamrock on his chest, said O’Sullivan had cooked for former President Mikhail Gorbachev in the middle of the Red Square in 1985. He said Gorbachev hollowed out an old submarine and the Irishmen cooked in there.

“We’re just a bunch of old guys that like to cook and have a lot of fun,” he said. “We’re just hoping to bring our fun to the Gator fans.”

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Loud, intense movies may harm hearing, group says

By Alison Folks
Alligator Writer

With the recent trend of digital surround sound in movie theaters, people who go to the movies often may not be aware that their hearing can be damaged.

The Audiology Associates, a Wisconsin-based hearing group, states on its Web site that any sudden and prolonged loud noise can permanently damage hearing and produce a significant hearing loss.

David Walker, an audiologist with Gainesville Otolaryngology, agrees with these findings.

Sound is measured on a sound-level meter. The meter is placed in the area of noise for a few minutes and measures the sound level in decibels or dBs.

“Normal conversation is at about 40 dBA,” Walker said. “Anything above 90 dBA could be hazardous.”

Decibels are a measure of sound. Continual exposure to noise levels above 85 decibels (dB) may damage your hearing. Below is a chart that shows the (dB) ratings of many common sounds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decibels (dB)</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Damage Can Occur With Non-Stop Exposure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faint</td>
<td>Quiet library, whispering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Normal conversation, Sewing machine</td>
<td>10 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Loud</td>
<td>Heavy traffic, Noisy restaurant, Screaming child</td>
<td>30 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lawn mower, Motorcycle, Loud party</td>
<td>Less Than 8 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chain saw, Subway train, Snowmobile</td>
<td>Less Than 2 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extremely Loud</td>
<td>Stereo headset at full blast, Rock concert</td>
<td>15 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dance clubs, Car stereos, Action movies, Some musical toys</td>
<td>Less Than 15 Minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackhammer, Loud computer games, Loud sporting events</td>
<td>Any Length for example, hearing loss can occur from a few shots of a high powered gun if protection is not worn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“I have never heard of that happening, but I guess it depends on the type of movie,” he said. “But then again, if there is no digital surround the movie is not as loud.”

Hank Reidelberger, moviegoer and support service coordinator at the UF Office for Students with Disabilities, disagrees.

“I am not hearing impaired, and I have left movies with my ears ringing,” Reidelberger said. “I believe you could possibly lose your hearing going to movies. The movies have gotten so loud that I can hear the movie playing next door as well as my movie.”

UF sophomore Erica Libbey also has left the theaters with her ears ringing.

“I have been to so many loud movies, I almost feel deaf when I leave,” she said.

While people will always go to the movies, Reidelberger and Walker suggest moviegoers use some caution.

“These are the only ears you are going to have, make sure that you keep them for a long time,” Reidelberger said.

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STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8!
Experts: More regulation needed to curb smoking

By Tavares Holloway
Alligator Writer

Recent reports show that Florida is being won over by Truth, and one UF researcher says the anti-tobacco campaign can do much more in the state.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ranked Florida No. 33 out of the 50 states, with one having the most smokers and 50 having the least.

Mary Ann Ferguson, a UF public relations professor who headed research about anti-tobacco campaigns this summer, attributes Florida’s so-called success to Truth, the anti-tobacco campaign.

“Truth’s anti-tobacco campaign has played a very large part in discouraging Florida’s youth from smoking. Florida is a huge market for Truth right now, and it has proven to be effective here,” Ferguson said.

Even though Joe Camel, the logo character for Camel cigarettes, and the Marlboro Man, have been around for more than 20 years, Truth has fought the icons with television.

With commercials ranging from teen-agers dragging hundreds of body bags on the beach, to teen-agers confronting head executives of large tobacco companies about their misleading advertisements, Truth has captured the attention of its target audience.

“I don’t know much about Joe Camel, but I saw the commercial where the two dudes from Truth commercials went to see the Marlboro Man,” said Shannon Williams, a 16-year-old Buchholz High School student.

“Although success has been abundant among Florida’s youth, the Truth campaign has not had as large of an impact on Florida’s adults,” Ferguson said.

“Truth’s target audience is young adults. Therefore, the scare tactics it uses do not appeal to adults the same way they do to teen-agers,” Ferguson said.

Being the 33rd state out of 50 gives Florida the appearance that it is in good standing, but some of those who are working against tobacco do not think it is significant enough.

“A lot of our youth are now avoiding smoking, and some of the adults are beginning to quit, so we realize that things could be a lot worse, but I think that we still have a huge problem with smoking in Florida,” said Melvena Wilson, Gainesville’s team coordinator for Students Working Against Tobacco.

With Florida making progress with its anti-tobacco message, those who are actively involved are analyzing what else can be done to get youth and adults to quit smoking.

“Although Ferguson agrees that the Truth campaign has made a significant difference in teenagers’ decisions not to smoke, she still thinks Florida has too many smokers.”

Ferguson said Florida should use more of the money won in Florida’s settlement with tobacco companies to educate more people about the dangers of using tobacco.

“There is still yet a lot of money from the huge settlement that should be used if Florida really wants to continue in the direction of being No. 50th,” Ferguson said.

One of the more favorable solutions of those involved in the war on tobacco is the Florida Clean Air Act. As of Oct. 1, this act requires restaurants to reserve no more than 50 percent of their establishment for smokers. The act is to become more restrictive starting on Oct. 1, 2001, by only allowing restaurants to reserve 35 percent of their establishment for smokers.

“With Truth and the Florida Clean Air Act, Florida is definitely taking a step in the right direction. The key to Florida becoming 50th on the list lies on its ability to become less smoker friendly,” Wilson said.

“As long as people can just light up a cigarette almost anywhere, they will. Once they have to become more conscious about where they smoke, it may discourage them from wanting to smoke in their own home.”
Extreme fest highlights talents of local stuntmen

By Brendan McCarthy

The talent of Gainesville’s high-flying locals will be showcased tonight at the Winter Wonderland extreme dance and sports fest at the Florida Theatre.

The one-night skateboard and BMX jam will feature some of the finest local stuntmen.

X-Games ramp builder Robb Bjorklund has constructed a miniature skate park on the stage at the theater.

“It’s going to be a fun, legitimate place to ride for one evening,” Bjorklund said.

Although Bjorklund’s company, Team Pain, was not awarded the bid for the construction of Gainesville’s skate parks, the ramps might be a preview of one of the four parks that are being built in Gainesville.

The bid was awarded to Contract Connection, a Jacksonville-based contracting company.

The project has a budget of more than $200,000.

Cliff Crawford, director of parks and recreation, says construction of the skate parks will be complete by next summer.

“We don’t anticipate any significant hurdles,” Crawford said.

The ramp setup tonight might be similar to the future skate park at Lincoln-Williams Park.

Other sites for Gainesville parks include Northeast Park, Lynch Park and Northside Park.

Tonight’s festivities will feature the skateboarding of Bjorklund as well as Chuck Dudding.

Dudding is renowned in the Gainesville community for his professional-caliber skateboarding skills.

Also performing tonight will be Mike Andrews, a local professional BMX bicycle rider, who competes in contests across the country.

Gainesville outdoor recreation store Spin Cycle is sponsoring this first stop on the Winter Wonderland promotional tour for the KMX energy drink.

Cyclists sped around campus on Tuesday promoting the new drink.

Admission is $8. Doors open at 9 p.m.
Memorable moments

(Right) Taylor Mott (left) and Foluke Nunn, both 6, get all dirtied up for a chance to be the dirtiest duo in America. The two had the chance to showcase their talents in Los Angeles as they took on five other pairs of children—each corner of the country—in the national Stain-A-Thon to contend for the coveted title of Tide's Dirtiest Duo.

(Above) Texas Governor and presidential candidate George W. Bush waves to the crowd during a rally held on the campus of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University as he gains votes for the 2000 election.

(Left) Draped by a fall sunset, Justin Barlow (left) goes up for a rebound against David Thorne at Kanapaha Park. The teens said they often meet at the park to play the basketball game 21.
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  Two Worlds

- **NARADA**
  Caravan Of Light

- **DAVID ARKENSTONE**
  Caravan Of Light

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  Trio Live

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**Only abortion clinics may offer RU-486 locally**

By Jennifer Mazhek
Alligator Writer

Because of the high costs associated with the new abortion pill known as RU-486, it may only be sold in Gainesville at abortion clinics.

RU-486, or mifepristone, is the contraceptive approved by the Food and Drug Administration in September for use in the United States.

"I don't expect to see it at many doctor's offices because of the criteria that go with it," said Kathy Olsen, All Women's Health Center director. "You have to have a sonogram machine at the site, which costs $15,000 to $20,000, and if the drug doesn't work, you have to be prepared to do a surgical abortion."

The UF Student Health Care Center said in a statement issued on the day after the pill was approved that it would not offer the pill "particularly in light of the fact that we are not in a position to comply with the medical requirements proposed by the Food and Drug Administration."

The main criterion that the patient has to meet to be eligible for RU-486 is that she cannot be further along in her pregnancy than 49 days.

Second, the drug's protocol mandates the patient return to the clinic two days after the three RU-486 tablets are taken — something Olsen said could make some of the clinic's clients who live outside of town shy away.

"There is no guarantee that RU-486 will be effective," Olsen said. "So you have to have a medical place to go to if the drug doesn't work."

The woman has to remain at the clinic four to six hours on her return visit after taking more tablets in case of complications. She must return several days later for an examination to make sure the abortion is complete and to check for any side effects.

Joanne Auth, coordinator of education and training programs at the UF Infirmary, said when new drugs go on the market, the demand and the economics of the pill are her main concerns.

"After considering these questions, we think that offering the drug at the infirmary right now is just not practical," she said.

Some students are pleased with that decision.

"I don't think it should be offered on campus," said finance junior Uschi Pimentel. "It makes it too easy for people to be careless when a solution is right here — they won't learn from their mistakes."

But Auth says she has never had a patient dealing with an unplanned pregnancy make an "easy decision."

"Virtually everyone that has dealt with an unplanned pregnancy has had anguish over the decision they made," she said. "They'll never know if it was the right one."
More Than 2,200 Students Prepare For Commencement Ceremonies Dec. 16

Presidential Medal Awarded

Charles E. Young, president of the University of Florida, will present the Presidential Medallion to Robert "Bob" Crawford, commissioner of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, during the Dec. 16 commencement ceremonies. Crawford has served with distinction and reputation in public service in both the Florida Legislature and the cabinet. He has championed the preservation of Florida's agriculture industry in an increasingly urban state and has led the efforts for a safe, abundant, domestic food supply.

As a farmer and agricultural businessman, Crawford was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 1976. In the Senate, he served as chairman of the Committee on Criminal Justice and as chairman of the Committee on Tourism and Economic Development. In 1982, he was elected to the Florida Senate. In the Senate, he served as chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Finance Taxation and Claims. In 1988, he was elected Senate President, a post he held until he left the Senate in 1990. During his tenure in the legislature, the Miami Herald twice named Crawford the "Most Effective State Lawmaker," and he earned the Allen Morris Award for the most effective member of the Senate in 1988. In 1990, he won a seat on the Florida cabinet as Commissioner of Agriculture.

Crawford was elected president of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture in 1994 and was elected vice president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture in 1999. He is scheduled to become the latter organization's president in 2001. This year, he was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to Florida's Growth Management Commission, which will provide recommendations to guide the state's growth as Florida enters the 21st century.

UF Honors Distinguished Alumni

Every semester, the Alumni Association at the University of Florida recognizes alumni during commencement ceremonies. Award recipients are chosen by a committee appointed by the UF Provost, made up of UF faculty and administrators. This semester, J. Hyatt Brown and Maj. Gen. Maury Edmonds will be recognized for their outstanding achievement and leadership.

J. Hyatt Brown will be recognized during UF commencement ceremonies with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Brown is a member of the class of 1959, graduating with a bachelor's degree in business administration. While developing his company, Brown & Brown, Inc., into a large nationwide insurance brokerage, he was elected to become a member of the Florida House of Representatives. He served in the Florida House from 1972 through 1980 and led the House as speaker during the last two years of his term. He successfully shepherded a $40 million funding proposal through the legislature to build a new hospital at UF, replacing the university's radio-25-year old facility.

He has served as president and CEO of Brown & Brown, Inc. since 1961. Today the company is ranked as the ninth largest insurance intermediary in the nation and has been consistently named one of the 500 Best Small Companies in America.

Among his awards, Brown earned Time magazine's 1979 listing as one of the nation's top 50 young leaders. He was twice awarded the Allen Morris Award as the most effective member of the Florida House of Representatives and has earned the St. Petersburg Times' "Most Valuable Member of the House" award in 1977 and 1978. He is a member of Florida Blue Key and the university's Hall of Fame.

Maj. Gen. Maury Edmonds, a member of the class of 1953, has distinguished himself both as an alumnus of the University of Florida and as an American soldier.

Edmonds served in the United States Army for 35 years. While serving as an infantry officer in Vietnam, he earned his Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Soldier's Medal for valor, the Bronze Star with V device, the American Air Medal and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. After his tours of Vietnam, he served in several executive assistant positions before being selected to be the Army's deputy chief of staff for training and earning the second star of a major general.

During his career, he earned the Department of Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Department of Army Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Defense Superior Service Medal and the Legion of Merit. He has served on the advisory board of UF's College of Health and Human Performance and is a member of the University of Florida Blue Key society.

More information about commencement, including student honors, can be found inside University Digest.
Annual Leave Advance
Offered Dec. 18-29

In preparation for the holiday season and leave requests, UF has established a new policy for advancing annual leave. Annual leave may be advanced to faculty, A&P and USG employees when there is not a sufficient leave to cover normal working hours for the period of Dec. 18-29.

To keep accurate records of all advanced annual leave credits, central leave administrators should enter leave slips in a timely manner, allowing the employee’s annual leave to achieve a negative balance. This is an exception to the university’s normal policy. Other than during holiday leave, balances should not be allowed to achieve a negative balance.

All annual leave earned by the affected employees then will be credited against the leave that was advanced until the full amount of the advanced leave has been recovered and the employee’s balance becomes positive. No additional annual leave may be approved for employees until positive leave balances have been reached.

Many employees earn only four hours of annual leave each pay period, departments will want to use discretion with respect to the amount of leave advanced.

A form to report approvals of advanced leave is available from the University Personnel Services Web site at www.ups.ufl.edu/leave/advleave.pdf. Departments unable to download the form from the Web should call Central Leave Administration at 392-5732, 622-5732, to obtain a copy of the form.

Business College Earns EQUIS Accreditation

The Warrington College of Business has become the first school in the United States to earn European Quality Improvement System, or EQUIS, accreditation from the European Federation of Management Development, or EFMD. The EFMD is Europe’s largest network association devoted to management development, with 400 members from academia, business, public service and consultancy in 40 countries worldwide.

EQUIS was established as an initiative for benchmarking and accreditation of business schools operating in widely differing national contexts. The goal was to create a system for the assessment of institutions in any cultural environment.

The move toward globalization in business programs, and the subsequent need for widely recognized and accepted standards of excellence, was our primary motivation for seeking EQUIS accreditation from EFMD,” said Dean John Kraft of the Warrington College of Business. “We are extremely honored to be the first business program in the country to have attained the European Quality Label. This, in conjunction with our accreditation with the International Association for Management Education, is a clear characterization of the excellence and global nature of our program.”

UF Alumni Association Honors 11 Graduating Students

Each semester, the UF Alumni Association recognizes graduating students for outstanding performance. This semester, 11 students will receive awards for their academic and campuswide efforts.

Four-year scholars include Angelita “Angie” Campos, Jennifer Lewin, Manish Patel and Feiwen Chen. Constance Hendrix is UF’s two-year scholar for the fall semester. Outstanding students include Dean Gockel, Jill Goldstein, Stacey Barel Gross, Marquand Samuel, Suketu Pathak and Sarah Yoho.

Four-Year Scholars

Angelita "Angie" Campos is a Communication Sciences and Disorders major, and is a language assistant in linguistics. Her research involves seeking solutions to children’s attention and hearing disorders. Campos’ American Sign Language skills have allowed her to work with deaf children in the local community as well as volunteering in various Gainesville elementary and secondary schools offering her services to bilingual students in need of English speech development. She spent hours at the UF Speech and Hearing Clinic, delivering common diagnostic and rehabilitation techniques used by speech pathologists. She also has worked as a high school mentor, facilitating a more enriching environment for students with emotional handicaps and learning disabilities.

Her honors include selection to the Dean’s List, the President’s Honor Roll and as an Anderson Scholar. She is a recipient of the Florida Academic Scholarship and has been nominated for the NSCS award.

Jennifer P. Lewin graduates with a perfect 4.0 grade point average in her major, occupational therapy. For the past four years, she has worked to apply what she has learned in the classroom to benefit children with special needs in Florida.

Lewin has been selected as president and junior representative of the Student Occupational Therapy Association (in 1999 and 1998, respectively). She was a member of the Florida Cicerones, the Student Leadership Development Board, Gators Involved in Further Endeavors and the Women’s Studies Student Association. For her academic achievement, she was named Anderson Scholar with Highest Distinction, received the University Women’s Club Rita O’Connell Award and was inducted into several prestigious honorary organizations, including Golden Key National Honor Society. Lewin was named to the President’s Honor Roll for every semester she attended UF. She plans to pursue a career in pediatrics, helping people with disabilities and special needs.

Manish Patel graduates with a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry and molecular biology. He has earned a 3.98 grade point average.

Patel worked for the UF Department of Pediatrics, studying the effects of the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, Indomethacin. Conducted under the supervision of Dr. Josef Neu, this research could lead to a change on how this drug treatment is used to treat infants. For his work, Patel received a $2,500 University Research Scholarship.

His other awards and scholarships include the Target All-Around Student, the Mease Hospital Volunteer, the Wal-Mart, the Star Enterprise Retailers, the Florida Academic Scholarships and the Irene B. Kirbo scholarships. He has been involved in a number of organizations including the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians, the American Medical Association, the Golden Key National Honor Society, the Minority Preprofessional Association and the Indian Students Association.

Patel has been recognized through several awards including the President’s Honor Roll, an Anderson Scholar, the Top Student in Phlebotomy and the OASIS Exceptional Student. He has been selected by both the Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies and will be attending medical school in fall 2001.

WeiFeng Chen graduates with a 3.98 grade point average from the College of Engineering. He is earning a dual degree of electrical and computer engineering, having completed both programs in only three and a half years.

Chen has developed a strong working knowledge of computer architecture, computer operating systems, digital designs and microprocessor applications. As a member of an integrated product and process design team, he helped to develop an interface unit to transfer signals between digital devices over power lines in automobiles.

UF Chen was selected to be a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society and was a member of the International Association for Electrical and Electronic Engineers. He has been the recipient of numerous academic awards, including the Electrical and Computer Engineering department’s highest honor. His name appeared six times on the Dean’s List of the College of Engineering and five times on the President’s Honor Roll. He earned the Anderson Scholar Award during the fall of 1999 and several scholarships between 1997 and 2000 including the Florida Academic Scholarship, the P.M. Pope Scholarship and the IBM/Estridge Scholarship.

Two-Year Scholar

Constance Hendrix graduates with highest honors and a perfect 4.0 grade point average for all work completed since transferring into the joint electrical and computer engineering program. She came to UF as an Anderson Scholar and 10-year U.S. Air Force veteran.

Hendrix has earned both military and university scholarships. She was admitted into the Airman Education Commissioning Program, received a Pace Scholarship Award and an Electrical and Computer Engineering Scholarship. Recently, Hendrix was named Outstanding Student of the Year and received the highest honor awarded by the joint UF/UWF electrical engineering program, the Electrical Award. She is one of only three students in the history of the program to receive this award.

After graduation, Hendrix will attend Officer Training School and plans to continue her pursuit of knowledge in an engineering graduate program.

Outstanding Leaders

Allocating a budget of more than $5 million to provide programming for UF’s students was one of Dean Gockel’s responsibilities while attending UF. During his tenure with Student Government as board chair, Gockel and the Senate president pro tem, Gokel allocated funds to perpetuate UF’s diversity range of student programs. He was twice voted “Most Outstanding Committee Chair” in 1999. In 1999, Gockel was inducted into the Florida Blue Key and was appointed first assistant and then director of corporate affairs.
Gullah Tribe, African American descen-
dant of Decision and Information Sciences.

Carolina. The week volunteering in the
alternative route. Late
and mentoring at-risk youth. On
and academic purs-
ments. In recog-
nounced leadership
exemplify the suc-
school children in
A l a c h u a County, teaching
reading skills and

As captain of the UF Women’s Soccer
team, Sarah Yohe led the team to a se-
ries of stunning victories. Off the field,
she has been a leader by example, de-
voting herself to and community ser-
vice and encouraging others to do the
same. Her ability to excel simulta-
eously in athletics, volunteerism and
academics — Yohe is an honors gradu-
ate with a double major in finance and
marketing — has been recog-
nized both locally and
nationally.
Yohe was not only an
inspiring leader for her
team, she was one of its
most intense

As a participant
gaged in court
cases. In these
guardians of children
whose parents are en-
gaged in court

As you receive notification of
purchasing an animal, it is
noted at the top of the
purchase, the fiscal person can do
something prior to charging the ac-
count. This process
notice that a purchase is in

Suketu Pathak graduates with a
bachelor’s in political science and more
administration experience
than some small-town majors. As presi-
dent and business manager of the Inter-
Hall Residence Association, or IRHA,
Pathak coordinated operations of the 13
area student governments that represent
nearly 7,000-member on-campus
community.

After Pathak arrived on campus
two and a half years ago, he was elected
president of the Graham Area Council,
a 12-member board that oversees Graham’s
700 residents. That year Graham was
named “Area Government of the Year.”
Pathak was elected to con-
tinually higher
office each
year, serving as IRHA busi-
ness manager his second
year and presi-
dent his third.
Concurrent
with most of his
term as
president, he
served as
the state liaison
for the Florida Association of Resident
Halls, or FARH, and co-director of a day-
long summit hosted by UF for student
leaders from across the state.

Each year, the national leadership
association NACURH selects only one stu-
dent in the country to receive its top honor,
Residence Hall Student Leader of the Year.
In 2000, Pathak brought this honor to the
University of Florida. The award caps a
portfolio of honors he has accumulated
while at UF, including the John M. Kinzer
Award for Outstanding Service to UF. He
was inducted into UF’s Hall of Fame and
several honorary societies.

UF Changes Animal
Purchasing Policy

Effective Jan.1, all requisitions to
purchase animals for research
must be made electronically using
the Animal Care Services, or ACS,
electronic form found at http://
animaluse.ufl.edu under “Order-
ing Animals and Supplies.” Faxes
and e-mail will no longer be ac-
cepted.

The name and e-mail address for
a point-of-contact who is responsible
for the fiscal accountability of your
purchase account is now required.
Typically, this indi-

The College of Engineering
hosts the Order of the Engineer Ring Cer-
emony at 3:30 p.m. on Dec. 15 in the
Phillips Center for Performing Arts.
Jonathan Earle, assistant dean for
academic programs, will preside over the event. Jack Oahanian, inter-
dean for the College of Engi-
neering, will be the speaker.
The event is open to all engineering
graduates. Families and friends are
welcome to attend the ceremony.
The event requires registration
by Dec. 13. To register, contact
Jonathan Earle at 392-2177 or email
jearle@eng.ufl.edu.

A reception is scheduled for en-
gineering graduates and their
guests at the university’s Student
Center. The event is open to all engineering

The College of Education
honors the recipients of the
Distinguished Educators Award
at a reception at 4 p.m. Dec. 15 in
Norman Hall, Room 158.

Each fall and spring semester
since 1988, the university has recog-
nized Distinguished Educators
who are selected by their superin-
tendents as representatives of the
outstanding graduating level educa-
tors in their school districts. The
distinguished educators from each
of the educational regions also will be
presented with a plaque. This year’s
distinguished educators are
Rick Reed of Gilchrist County,
Carolyn Bowron Green of Lake
County, Michael Sidcar of Manatee
County and Elaine Christensen
Gates of Collier County.

Reed is an administrative assis-
tant at Bell Elementary School in
Bell. He received his master’s de-
gree from Nova University.
Green is a kindergarten teacher
at Umatilla Elementary School
in Umatilla and a recipient of
an award from UF. Both Sidcar, the principal
at Sea Breeze Elementary School
in Bradenton, and Gates, a media spe-
cialist at Gulf Coast High School,
earned master’s degrees from the
University of South Florida.

The educators also will be pre-
sented with certificates at the 2 p.m.
commencement ceremony on Dec. 16.
James Micheal Rollo, the current associate dean of students, has been named associate vice president for student affairs effective Dec. 4. He replaces Helen Mamarchev, who left in July after serving as assistant and then associate vice president for student affairs for 17 years.

"Mike has a long history at the University of Florida," said James Scott, vice president for Student Affairs. "His experience and background has made him an excellent candidate for this position, and we are really pleased to be working with him."

In his new duties, Rollo is responsible for divisional budget and financial management, staff development programs, student recognition programs, affirmative action/EEO compliance, coordination of the Reitz Scholar program, representation of Student Affairs on university committees, divisional information technology and resources management, and coordination of special projects.

In 1979, Rollo joined the UF faculty as coordinator of family housing programs, where he established the Family Housing Program office by developing educational and social programs for five Family Housing villages. He then became assistant dean for student services/director of student judicial affairs in 1980. In 1988, Rollo was named associate dean of students.

Hoffman Named Director For Government Relations

Provost David Colburn announced the appointment of Marion Hoffmann as director for government relations. Hoffmann will be responsible for leading and coordinating the efforts of the university's lobbying team and will report directly to the offices of the president and provost.

"She brings a combination of personal skills and experiences from both the private and public sectors that we believe will be invaluable in representing the university's goals," Colburn said.

Hoffmann comes to UF from Miami-based Burger King Corp., where she was director of government and community relations. Before that, she served for four years as the executive director of Cities in Schools of Miami, Inc., a nonprofit dropout prevention program supported by the public and private sectors. Additionally, she worked as a cabinet aide to state Treasurer and Insurance Commissioner Tom Gallagher, for the House Minority Office of the Florida House of Representatives and as director of governmental affairs for the Florida Cable Television Association.
Activities on Campus

Deadlines
Registration is open for the annual Women’s Leadership Conference scheduled for Jan. 27 in the Reitz Union. Applications are available at the Reitz Union information desk or at the Honors Committee office. For information, call 392-1811.

Lectures/Readings
The Department of Agronomy presents Ecology of an Invasive Florida Shrub, Rhodomyrtus tomentosa at 3:30 p.m. Thursday in McCarty Hall, Room G186. For information, call 392-1811.

The UF General Clinical Research Center welcomes Dr. Charles J. Epstein, professor of pediatrics and chief of the division of medical genetics at the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine. He presents The Role of the Superoxide Dismutases in Oxygen Free Radical Metabolism at 4 p.m. Thursday in the McKnight Brain Institute, Room LG-101 and also pediatric grand rounds on the Presentation of Down syndrome at 8 a.m. Friday in the Health Science Center, Room CG-9. For information, call 392-3845.

The Department of English, the Creative Writing Program and Goerings Book Store presents Pegadt Powell who will read from and autograph his book Mrs. Hollingsworth* at 8 p.m. Thursday at Goerings Book Store, 3433 W. Univ. Ave. “Mrs. Hollingsworth” is an effort to bury “Mrs. Hollingsworth” at the Ham Museum of Art. For information, call 392-9826.

Workshops
The Committee on Persons with Disabilities presents the Departmental ADA Information Session from 10 a.m.-noon today and 2-4 p.m. Dec. 19. The session provides answers to faculty and staff about educating students with disabilities, including appropriate methods of providing accommodations. Reservations are required and must be received one week prior to the session. For information, call 392-7056.

Dance
Danza, a student dance organization, performs Anything Goes at 7:30 p.m. today in the University Auditorium. There will be guest performances by the Jarcet Bra- zil Dancers and the Mod Project. Admission is free. For information, email DANZA_UF@hotmail.com.

The Florida Swing Dancing Club meets from 7-9 p.m. today in McCarty Building A, Room 110. Tickets are available. For more information, visit grove.ufl.edu/ swingUF.

The Danscompany of Gainesville presents Cinderella, a full-length ballet, at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. There is also a children’s matinee at 2 p.m. same day, where chil- dren can meet the characters and ballerina- nes following the show. Tickets are $10.

Spotlight on Student Scholarships
The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation will award up to 300 undergraduate scholarships nationally in Spring 2001. The awards are made on the basis of merit to two groups of students — those who will be college juniors and those who will be college seniors in the 2001-2002 academic year — who have outstanding potential and intend to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering. (Medical research, but not medi- cal practice, is also included). The Barry M. Goldwater Scholars will receive tuition and fees up to $7,500 per year. It is expected that Barry M. Goldwater Scholars will pursue advanced degrees.

Children under age 12 can be admitted free with a new unwrapped toy if accompanied by an adult. For information, call 371-0761.

Music
The UF School of Music presents a Chamber Music Recital at 8 p.m. today in the Music Building, Room 120. For information, call 392-0223.

The UF School of Music presents the String Project Concert at 7 p.m. Sunday in the University Auditorium. For information, call 392-0223.

Film
The UF Film and Media Studies Program and the Department of English present film screenings, an exploration of video production in relation to the history and theory of film, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Harn Museum of Art. For information, call 392-9826.

The broadway musical Jekyll & Hyde takes center stage at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. today and Thursday. For ticket information, call 392-2787.

Special Events
The Department of Botany hosts an Orchid Sale from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday on the corner of Museum Road and Center Drive. For information, call 392-1175.

Tickets for Sting live in concert go on sale Friday at noon and are available at all Ticketmaster outlets and the University Box Office. Tickets are $59.75 and $44.75 (plus service charge). The first 1,500 UF students can receive $10.00 off of the ticket prices by showing a valid ID (limit: 8 per ID). The concert is scheduled for 8 p.m. Jan. 26 at the O’Connell Center. For information, call 392-5500.

Flu Vaccine Offered To UF Students And Staff
The flu vaccine has arrived and is available to all students, staff and faculty who wish to receive it. Outreach clinics located across campus will administer the vaccine through Dec. 14. The vaccine costs $10 and only cash will be accepted at these clinics.

If a department, residence hall or college has 10 or more people wishing to receive the vaccine, a nurse may be available to come to your location by contacting Cheri Martin at 392-1161, Ext. 1-4217. Students may also receive the vaccine from any of the Student Health Care Cen- ter, or SHCC, medical teams, im- munization clinic or SHCC at 392-1811.

Send Us Your News!
University Digest is produced by UF News & Public Affairs. Digest is published weekly in the independent Florida Alligator and paid for at usual advertising rates to communicate official notices and important information to students, faculty and staff. Digest publishes information on campus events funded in part by UF Student Government. Below are some options for academic departments and student groups wanting to publicize events and news.

Publishing Information in Digest
To publish your event information, send it at least two weeks in advance to: Jennifer Doody Editor, University Digest P.O. Box 113075 Gainesville, Fla. 32611-3075 Phone: (352) 392-0186 Fax: (352) 392-3358 E-mail: digest@aa.ufl.edu

Marquee Sign:
Post information on the electronic signs at 34th Street and University Ave- nue, fax your the title, date, time, location of your event on UF letter- head to 392-3358 at least one week in advance of the event. Events sponsored in part through Student Government will be posted.

Guest Column:
Guest columns are written by acade- mic departments and official organiza- tions at UF. If you are interested in writing a guest column for Digest, call Jennifer Doody or email digest@aa.ufl.edu.

Parking Restrictions Lifted for Finals, Break
During finals week, Dec. 7-15, some parking restrictions will be lifted.

Restrictions for Commuter lots, Park and Ride lots, scooter zones and ‘All Decal’ lots will be lifted. Restrictions remain in effect for Red 1 and 3, Orange, Blue, Brown, Gated and Meter enforcement lots. All re- served spaces, service drives, handicapped and no parking zones will be enforced at all times.

During the winter break, Dec. 16-Jan 7, parking restrictions will be lifted in Red 1 and 3, Commuter, Park and Ride, ‘All De- cal’ and Orange lots, as well as scooter zones. Meter enforcement also will be lifted. Restrictions remain in effect in Blue, Brown and Gated lots. All reserved spaces, service drives, handicapped and no parking zones will be enforced at all times.

All decal restrictions remain in effect at all other times throughout the months.

For information, call the Department of Transportation and Parking Services' Parking Information line at 392-7275.
AMA: Pill should be accessible to public

The Associated Press

ORLANDO — The American Medical Association approved a resolution on Tuesday asking the government to consider making the morning after contraceptive available over-the-counter.

"This is a wonderful decision by the AMA. This is a terrific resolution," said Joan Coombs, senior vice president of Planned Parenthood.

But Cathy Cleaver, a spokeswoman with the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, said proponents of the morning after pill are misleading the public with claims that it prevents pregnancies rather than causing abortions.

Coombs estimated that widespread use of the pill could prevent annually 1.7 million unplanned pregnancies and 800,000 abortions.

Taken within three days of sexual intercourse, the pill prevents ovulation or, if it has already occurred, blocks implantation of a fertilized egg. A report by the AMA's Council on Medical Service suggests that women might not be able to get the pills in time to prevent a pregnancy unless they are made available over-the-counter.

Some AMA members said selling the pills over-the-counter would lead to lost opportunities to counsel patients on sexually transmitted diseases.

Calling the AMA move "tragic," Cleaver said that if the pill were widely available, teen-age girls would be able to buy it without parental involvement.

"They may not realize that what they're doing is aborting their developing baby," Cleaver said.

But Planned Parenthood does not consider the use of the pill a form of abortion since it does not work if a fertilized egg has already implanted itself in the uterus, the scientific definition of pregnancy.

There are two morning after pills on the market: Preven and Plan B. They were approved for U.S. use within the past two years.

For the FDA to make the pills available over the counter, a pharmaceutical company must apply to the FDA. The FDA then takes a number of criteria into account when making a decision, such as written instructions to patients and the product's safety history, FDA spokeswoman Susan Cruzan said.

"We decide on each application on its own merits, on scientific issues," she said.

Morning after pills can cause side effects, most commonly nausea and vomiting.

The pills are "considered safe and effective by the medical community as a whole," the report said.

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Defense secretary ups Persian Gulf security

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary William Cohen has authorized military commanders to send dozens of additional U.S. forces to the Persian Gulf to strengthen port security, Pentagon officials said on Tuesday.

The move is part of a Pentagon effort to improve the protection of American ships and other military forces in the region in the aftermath of the Oct. 12 terrorist bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen.

The Navy, meanwhile, said the heavily damaged Cole is due to arrive back in the United States next week.

The Cole, which lost 17 sailors in the suicide bombing, has been in transit from the Middle East since early November and will be off-loaded at Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss., for repairs that are expected to take one year and cost roughly $240 million.

A small boat maneuvered close to the Cole while it was refueling in Aden harbor and detonated a bomb that blew a hole in the ship's hull 40 feet wide and 40 feet high. Yemeni and American law enforcement authorities are still investigating the attack.

The day the Cole was attacked, U.S. Navy commanders in the Middle East ordered all ships out of port, and they have not returned since.

To strengthen port security in the Gulf, Cohen authorized the deployment of extra Navy and Coast Guard security personnel, Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. Craig Quigley said. He did not immediately have any details and said the Pentagon would be deliberately vague about where the security forces would operate and how they would be equipped.

Adm. Vern Clark, the chief of naval operations, told reporters that he could not comment on the ongoing Cole investigations, which include an internal Navy probe focusing on whether the Cole's captain took the required self-protection measures prior to entering Aden harbor - for what was supposed to be a four-hour stop.

A separate investigation, by an outside panel appointed by Cohen, is reviewing whether the U.S. military as a whole can take steps to improve the way it protects and supports U.S. forces abroad.

Clark said the Navy investigation's preliminary results are expected to be forwarded in the next few days to the commander of U.S. Atlantic Command in Norfolk, Va., Adm. Robert Natter. Because it ultimately will come to Clark for review, "it would be totally inappropriate" to comment on the specifics of the investigation, he said.
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The Alligator’s Advertising Production dept. is now accepting applications for spring term positions of Proofreader/Proofreader Assistant. If available, training will begin in December. Must have strong English/Grammar skills and good attention to detail. Responsibilities will include proofreading, line, coding, verifying, and creating correctly ads & Classifieds on the computer. Must be a selfstart- er,dept., some past upprocess camera work (will train), and be willing to learn computer software. Experience with word processing is a plus. Send resume to Classifieds, P.O. Box 422, Ocala 32671-0422. Fax (352)985-8488.

Please be aware that we do not publish classifieds, nor do we carry classifieds on our website. If you would like to contact us for any reason, please call 1-866-424-1121.

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Tickets for UF-Miami Sugar Bowl go on sale

Staff Report

Sugar Bowl tickets are now on sale through the Gator Ticket Office to all UF season ticket holders. The Sugar Bowl will take place at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans on Jan. 2 at 8 p.m. as the Gators play Miami for the first time since 1987.

Orders can be placed by calling (352) 384-3261 or (877) 428-6742. Tickets also can be purchased at the Gator Ticket Office located at Florida Field.

Gator boosters' orders must be received by 5 p.m. today to have their tickets ordered filled within their respective booster priority.

This will be the Gators' seventh trip to the Sugar Bowl. UF has won two of its previous six attempts, the last one for the 1996 National Championship, defeating Florida State 52-20 in 1997. While Miami and UF have met 49 times, neither UF coach Steve Spurrier nor Miami coach Butch Davis have coached against each other.

We believe we have put together one of the most competitively intriguing matchups for this year's bowl season," Sugar Bowl president Terry Alarcon. "Given that these two schools have not faced one another since 1987, we believe the fans from both schools will show up in New Orleans to see this battle for bragging rights and more."

The last meeting between the Hurricanes and the Gators ended with a Miami 31-14 win in 1997. The Sugar Bowl will be broadcast by ABC Sports.

Soccer places four on regional team

The UF soccer team placed four players on the National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-Southeast Region team - matching the region's top total for a single program. Of the four that received NSCAA All-Southeast Region honors, two were named to the Region's first team.

Junior defender Keisha Bell and junior forward Abby Wambach made the All-Southeast Region first team. Bell, a member of the 2000 Southeastern Conference first team and the SEC All-Tournament squad, makes her second consecutive appearance on the Region's first team.

Wambach led UF with 54 points and 23 goals this season. She ranked sixth in the nation in points a game (2.57) and seventh in goals a game (1.10). Wambach, the SEC Player of the Year, makes her third consecutive appearance on the Southeast Region first team.

Sophomore defender Danielle Murphy was named to the second team, while junior forward Andi Sellers appears on the third team.

Murphy led the Gators with an average 84.2 minutes a match in 2000. Sellers started every match for UF this season and ranks second on the team in points (50), goals (20) and led the Gators in assists (10).

Murphy and Sellers both were named to the All-SEC first team and Sellers also appeared on the SEC All-Tournament team.

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Murphy led the Gators with an average 84.2 minutes a match in 2000. Sellers started every match for UF this season and ranks second on the team in points (50), goals (20) and led the Gators in assists (10).

Murphy and Sellers both were named to the All-SEC first team and Sellers also appeared on the SEC All-Tournament team.
Gators in the NFL

WR: Darrell Jackson, Seattle Seahawks (5 rec, 96 yards, 1 TD)
WR: Willie Jackson, New Orleans Saints (2 rec, 46 yards, 1 TD)
WR: Mike Peterson, Indianapolis Colts (9.0 tackles)
DE: Kevin Carter, St. Louis Rams (6.0 tackles, 3 sacks)
DT: Ellis Johnson, Indianapolis Colts (5.0 tackles)
DT: Jevon Kearse, Tennessee Titans (2.0 tackles, 1 sack)
SAF: Tony George, New England Patriots (1.0 tackle)
WR: Jacquez Green, Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2 rec, 15 yards)

New Orleans Saints

RB: Emmitt Smith, Dallas Cowboys (30 attempts, 181 yards, 3 TDs)
CB: Jimmy Spencer, Denver Broncos (9.0 tackles)
RB: Fred Taylor, Jacksonville Jaguars (30 attempts, 181 yards, 3 TDs)
CB: Elijan Williams, Atlanta Falcons (1.0 tackles)

SAF: Tony George, New England Patriots (1.0 tackle)
QB: Shane Matthews, Chicago Bears (22-43, 233 yards, 2 int)
DT: Reggie McGrew, San Francisco 49ers (1.0 tackle)

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By Seth Traub
Alligator Writer

The last time the UF women's basketball team beat a "top-15" opponent, at then-No. 9 Alabama on Dec. 10, 1998, the Gators were defeated in their next game by 20 points by an unranked Illinois.

The last time they won against a ranked team was January, when the Gators defeated then-No. 20 Mississippi State at the O'Connell Center. UF went on to lose four straight games, including four road. Their next game was against then-No. 20 Illinois.

"It's a big game for them," Striegler said. "It's a big game for them.

"Most of our players are from Florida so they know what this game is about. They know UF is the team to beat," Striegler said. "It's a big game for them.

UCF has seven freshmen and sophomores on the roster, and is on top of the Trans America Athletic Conference. They are currently first in the conference at 2-0.

One of those freshmen is 5-foot-5 guard Molly McGriff, a Gainesville native from Buchholz High. McGriff has played in four games but has yet to score.

"Molly is your typical freshman. She is improving and doing a better job, and she is going to get more minutes as we go," Striegler said. "Learning the point guard position is difficult because she has to deal with new players, a new staff and a whole new system."

Guard Tombi Bell and the Gators have not lost to an in-state opponent in seven years and have never lost to Central Florida. "Knowing how good she is and stopping her are different things," Ross said. "We have to play better defense to stop her because she is getting her points in a variety of ways.

"Her scoring hasn't been our game plan, and regardless of what people do she will be able to adjust."

McCain and the Gators had enough motivation Sunday, as they almost ran over their coach coming out of the locker room before the game.

"I would hope the big win would inspire us to take care of business on our court," Ross said. "It is my job to make sure we are ready to play. Our main goal was not to beat Penn State, it's to defend our home, and we still have a hard road."

Golden Knight coach Gail Striegler said her team will be motivated for this game also, even without words of encouragement from her.

"Most of our players are from Florida so they know what this game is about. They know UF is the team to beat," Striegler said. "It's a big game for them.

UCF has seven freshmen and sophomores on the roster, and is on top of the Trans America Athletic Conference with a 2-0 record.

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FOR EVERY SEASON

UF ATHLETIC TEAMS BEGAN AND ENDED FALL SEASONS ON HIGHS AND LOWS

Quarterback Rex Grossman (top) and the UF football team won their first Southeastern Conference Championship since 1996 on Saturday and will play in the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 2. Kristin Fisher (right) and the UF soccer team were not able to advance past the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the second-consecutive season after winning the National Championship in 1998.

Sophomore Justin Hamilton (top) and the UF men’s basketball team began their season Nov. 17 after advancing to the National Championship Game last season. Wide receiver Jabar Gaffney (below) set NCAA records for freshmen in receiving yards and touchdowns.
Volleyball duo returns home for third round

By Jason Trreibwasser
Alligator Writer

California natives Jacque Robinson and Niki Hartley will have a chance to visit with family and friends today as the No. 10 UF volleyball team prepares for its NCAA Regional Semifinal match against Southern California.

However, on Thursday, the Gators will be concerned with top-seeded Trojans.

"It will be nice to play in front of my family and friends. But that is not my main concern. The game plan is we are trying to win," Hartley said.

Outside hitter Niki Hartley will return to her native state of California as the Gators face Southern California on Thursday. Hartley also mentioned that she will be glad to see her parents. But she is maintaining a business-like attitude about the match. "It is just another road trip," Hartley said.

When the teams step on the court at the Los Angeles Sports Arena, Hartley will see some familiar faces across the net, including sophomore Julie Mariani, who played with Hartley at St. Francis High School in San Jose, Calif.

Hartley also played against several other players on the No. 2 Trojans' (27-2) roster in high school and club team competitions. She knows the Trojans' strengths. "They are very athletic. They have strength in every position." There is no weak link," Hartley said. "We are going to have to be able to defend everything from every angle."

This is the second meeting between the teams. UF defeated USC 3-1 in the 1998 regional semifinal on its way to the Final Four.

The match is not at USC's home court, the Lyon Center, where the Trojans were undefeated this season. Coach Mary Wise feels that this could be an advantage for UF (29-4) because the Trojans will be unfamiliar with the setting as well.

There are similarities between the Gators and the Trojans, including that both teams have received strong contributions from freshmen this season. USC starts three first-year players while UF starts five.

UF's Aury Cruz and USC's April Ross won their respective conferences' Freshman of the Year awards. These two outside hitters led their teams in kills per game.

"The freshman classes are similar, but the difference is that they have three players who played in the regionals two years ago [in Gainesville]," Wise said.

Just one Gator, senior Jerilyn Hattendorf, saw action in that regionals.

UF guard to face a hostile crowd after last season's incident

from page 43

HOOPS

"Pretty much every place we play is a hostile environment," Dupay said. "It disappoints me as a player that people think I would try to hurt another player."

"I know Mateen Cleaves understands I didn't try to hurt him. Sometimes from the outside looking in things appear like they are not."

The suspension and history set aside, the matchup between the two top-10 caliber teams is uncertain. A total of five starters are missing from both teams in comparison to last season.

One player that has returned, junior Udonis Haslem, is a difference maker.

"I'm going to have to play for each other in situations like this when no one thinks that we are going to win."

Jason Trreibwasser can be reached at treib@ufl.edu
UF and Miami have something to prove in bowl

It's like some kind of wonderful dream. The Gators matching up against the Hurricanes in New Orleans two days after New Year's Eve. Quite frankly, it simply cannot get any better than that.

Well, actually, it probably could. I'm sure both teams would much rather be playing close to home, like in Miami. But playing in the Sugar Bowl ain't half bad - especially when you consider the things that are at stake.

Sure, the fancy crystal football will be hanging out in Pro Player Stadium to be given to the winner of the Orange Bowl, but there are a few less tangible things at stake.

First of all, Miami has something to prove. The Hurricanes defeated one of the teams playing for the National Championship in the Orange Bowl, Florida State, earlier this season. The 'Canes finished the year with an early-season defeat to the Washington State, earlier this season.

Yet they are on the outside looking in the Sugar Bowl Championship Series rankings - despite the fact the Hurricanes are ahead of FSU in The Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today polls.

The Gators are looking to prove they are the best team in the country and are looking to prove it by blowing out the Gators and winning a share of the National Championship.

Meanwhile, the Gators have something to prove as well. After getting blown out of Pro Player Stadium to be given to the winner of the Orange Bowl.

Even though it hung another ugly loss on Auburn in the Southeastern Conference Game, UF still is not looked upon as a national power. The Gators figure the best way to prove UF is still a national player is to pounce on the Hurricanes in the Sugar Bowl.

Not many young Gator fans know this, but the Gators and Hurricanes used to be bitter rivals. The two teams first played in 1938, when Miami defeated UF 19-7 in Gainesville. Since then, the series has seen saw.

Right now, the Gators have a 25-24 series edge against the Hurricanes. But the two teams stopped playing after the 1987 season, before the Gators came to power and during the Hurricanes' period of dominance.

The Hurricanes can even the series and earn a piece of the National Championship with a win in New Orleans. The Gators can earn some respect.

We'll see what happens.

Jason Brown
Brown's Mood

Dupay to return against Spartans

By Bart O'Connell
Alligator Writer

Fans of both the No. 6 UF men's basketball team and No. 2 Michigan State will have revenge on their minds tonight in what could be college basketball's most anticipated rematch of the 2000-01 season. The Gators and Spartans last took the court in the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, Ind., for the NCAA Championship Game on April 3.

A big question heading into the 7 p.m. game in East Lansing, Mich., was whether the Gators and Spartans would play for the National Championship in this tournament. The game was awarded by Coach Billy Donovan on Tuesday afternoon before the team left Gainesville.

"Teddy Dupay is playing," Donovan said. "He's done everything we've asked. He has humbled himself. He wants to be part of our team.

"I am a guy that doesn't believe in a doghouse. He made a mistake and we are going to continue to move forward.

Donovan did not specify what Dupay had to do to return to the team. Donovan also did not name Dupay a starter.

"I'm not going to get into what
dupayhas to do to get into that," Donovan said. "I don't know who is starting.

In his first media appearance since Nov. 27, Donovan said his suspension was frustrating and humiliating.

"I am really embarrassed that I wasn't out there with my team and that I embarrassed the university, the coaches, myself," Dupay said. "I am just going to try to bounce back from here and see what I can do."

Dupay's removal from suspension actually pleases both UF and Michigan State.

For the Gators, Dupay's team-leading 22 points a game should spark the offense, which had a subpar shooting effort Saturday against DePaul.

The Spartans also want him out there.

"I would like to see him play," Spartan coach Tom Izzo said. "He's one of the great players in the country. He's a kind of player...Michigan State fans collectively held their breath during the championship game when Dupay collided with Mike Chess.

The result of the collision was an injured foot, which kept Chess out of the floor briefly before he returned, visibly hobbled, to lead Michigan State against UF to an 89-76 win.

Izzo said the incident has not been important in the locker room but expect a lot to be made of it elsewhere.

"Everybody will want to make a big issue out of it," Izzo said. "It hasn't come up with the team.

Donovan said he is angered by the negative comments stemming from the incident.

"The comments about Teddy are extremely unfair," Donovan said. "The last thing he would do is try to hurt another player. I was disappointed with the exposure he got on that play."

Staff Report

UF wide receiver Jabar Gaffney was named the Southeastern Conference's Freshman of the Year on Tuesday by The Associated Press and was one of nine players named to AP's All-SEC teams.

The Gators tied Mississippi State for the SEC high with nine players honored on either the first or second teams.

Representing UF on the AP All-SEC first team were Gaffney, offensive tackle Kenyatta Walker, cornerbacks Lito Sheppard and free safety Todd Johnson.

The AP All-SEC second team included offensive tackle Mike Pearson, quarterback Rex Grossman, kicker Jeff Chandler, defensive end Alex Brown and defensive tackle Gerard Warren.

Gaffney, who is the first freshman wide receiver in UF history to garner first-team All-SEC honors, set NCAA freshman receiving records this season with his 1,184 yards and 14 touchdowns. His 71 catches set an SEC freshman record and were shy of the NCAA mark.

Walker started 10 games this season for UF on the offensive line and already has been named third-team All-American this year.

Sheppard led the SEC by averaging 14.0 yards a punt return, bringing 124 for 1,214 yards and 28 touchdowns. His six interceptions were one shy of the school record of 29 set by Tim Wansley of Georgia for the most in the SEC this season.

Johnson was the only UF defensive player to start all 12 games. Johnson led UF with 121 tackles, 19 more than second-place Marqueaud Manuel's 83. His five interceptions were second on the team to Sheppard.

Pearson started all 12 games for UF and ranked second on the team in rushing before being suspended for breaking team rules.

Nine Gators named to All-SEC team

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