Group gives Young list of improvements

By Kimberly Anne Lopez
Alligator Writer

Following a series of racial issues over the past year at UF, a group of student leaders have presented UF President Charles Young with a list of recommendations to make UF more accepting of diversity.

Vice President for Student Affairs James Scott, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs Corey King and Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures Director Ines Ruiz-Huston were among those at the April 5 meeting with students, including former Student Body presidential candidate Gil Sanchez.

Five of the 13 recommendations involved beatification and improvements of the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures, commonly known as La Casita, and the Institute of Black Cultures, while the remaining eight called for campus improvements.

Gil Torres, one of the students who worked on the recommendations, said Young agreed on the majority of the recommendations, only showing an opposition to hiring a vice president for Multicultural Affairs.

Under the campus improvements, students recommended the creation of an Office of Multicultural Affairs that would report to the provost and president to guarantee the importance of multicultural issues and assist in recruiting students from the beginning of the 10th grade.

Other recommendations included translating all UF Web site connections into Spanish. Vice President of Public Relations Gail Baker has said people are working on the project, Torres said.

The meeting took place the day before the Rally Against Hate, in which over 300 students, faculty and staff members participated. Other campus suggestions focused on increasing diversity among students, faculty and staff by making a cultural diversity education course mandatory.

see DIVERSITY, page 10

Buffett on list as potential FAU trustee

By Kristen Moczynski
Alligator Writer

Florida Atlantic University may soon find itself surrounded by parrots, its students draped in tropical shirts and margaritas available in its food court.

The school has nominated, among 26 others, Jimmy Buffett to serve on its Board of Trustees, should the education reorganization plan pass this legislative session.

"He's able to capture the imagination of all generations," said David Lee, a geography professor who helped develop a list for the university. "His stand on the environment is especially inspirational."

The Board of Trustees would serve as a local governing board for the university, responsible for all operational functions of the school as well as the hiring and firing of the president.

While Buffett may seem like an unusual candidate for a university board, Lee said Buffett's creativity and thought-provoking lyrics would make him an ideal trustee. Buffett is merely a poet who happens to sing, he said.

"There would be no raised eyebrows if we were to put forth one of the nation's most revered and successful poets," he said. "It's not unusual that a celebrity might be on the list."

Lee said Buffett makes an ideal candidate because he is a successful businessman and could help the university through risky endeavors.

"When he speaks people are going to listen," Lee said.

Buffett is just one of the many names the university submitted on Tuesday to Lt. Gov. Frank Brogan.

Other names include former Boca Raton Mayor Carol Hanson and former FAU professor and presidential candidate Michael Dukakis. Fort Lauderdale Regent Welcom Watson and Riviera Beach Regent Phil Lewis also made the list.

FAU and the other nine state universities are in the position to nominate the candidates they want for their boards, so faculty members and administrators have been formulating lists of recommendations.

Last week, Brogan sent an e-mail to administrators:

see BUFFETT, page 13

Senators say goodbye, best wishes

By Sarah Myrick
Alligator Staff Writer

Graduating student senators bid farewell to fellow counterparts Tuesday night in a series of speeches aimed at encouraging new senators and thanking old ones for hard work put in.

"It's sad to leave Senate but over the last four years we've got a lot done," Heshmati said. "The doors of Student Government have been slightly opened. Now it's time for someone to open them all the way."

Heshmati also received praise from several senators he's been at odds with over the course of his term in Senate.

see SENATE, page 10
Today

Speaker
Accent; Student Government's speakers bureau, will present a speech by actor Christopher Reeve tonight at 8 at O'Connell Center.

The speech is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 392-1665, ext. 306.

Seminar
The Center for Wetlands Seminar Series presents "Biological Assessment of Florida Fresh Water Marshes," with Charles Lane from 11:45 to 12:35 a.m. in the Phelps Lab Conference Room.

For more information, call 392-2424.

Correction
Mary Frances Sheppard is an X-ray technologist at Shands at UF. We reported otherwise on Monday's Alligator.

We regret the error.

Tallahassee (AP) - House Speaker Tom Feeney said Tuesday he'll cut his demand for tax cuts in half and the Senate will cut his planned local spending to meet him and give Floridians about $175 million in tax relief, breaking a budget stalemate.

"Thanks to the hard work of the Senate, taxpayers will get about $175 million in tax relief," he told lawmakers Tuesday night.

Feeney appointed members to a conference committee to work out the details between the House's budget and the one the Senate passed.

Feeney had been pushing for $355 million in state tax cuts, but while Senate President John McKay had said the state couldn't afford enough money coming in to do any tax cuts this year.

But in a letter to Feeney on Tuesday, Senate budget chairman Jim Horne said the Senate had found $145 million in new money, including top state officials expected to be cut from the state's settlement with the tobacco industry.

Horne also said the Senate would agree to give up $67 million in money that had been earmarked for senators' local projects, such as water cleanup and local building projects.

That would allow for a tax holiday for clothing and some school supplies and a cut in the intangibles tax on stocks and bonds, Horne said.

Gov. Jeb Bush on Monday suggested that both chambers meet halfway and agree on a budget with $175 million in tax cuts.

"We take our campaign pledges very, very seriously. I think it led us to dig in a little deeper," Feeney said. "But the Senate made a good faith effort to find every available dollar."
By Anne Marie Nari
Alligator Writer

"Oh, why does it have to be too late to withdraw?" Rob Saccenti said to himself as he left his biology class at UF during his freshman year in 1998.

He wasn't doing too well in that class. How, come to think of it, he wasn't doing too well in his chemistry class either, and in two weeks he had back-to-back exams in both classes, plus the lab.

Saccenti walked back to his dorm, really bummed out — he had to start studying soon.

So later that night, he decided to begin his book-bound adventure. But he had to do a few things first.

He started straightening his room. Next, he turned off his computer, knowing that if he didn't, America Online would beckon to him. And he tried to study.

But somewhere between particle A and combustion type B, Saccenti's mind started wandering. Anxiety built up and he started looking at the clock more than he was looking at his books. Overwhelmed with the amount of knowledge he had to memorize, Saccenti's tired eyes frantically jumped from one book to another, unable to comprehend one subject at a time. He decided that he had to take a break. Power nap time! But he still worried in his sleep.

In the next weeks, stress went on. An all-nighter. Then the effect — during his biology test his eyelids felt so heavy that he almost fell asleep. Luckily, a friend nudged him. Then the monotony number two bubbling became almost rhythmic and appealed to his easily distracted side. This was academic hell!

Would it ever end? Well, of course it did, and an exhausted Saccenti hibernated in his room for 24 hours afterward. With an experience like that, it's no wonder he switched majors and is now a junior in English and film instead of pre-med.

Sound familiar? (All college students should be thinking their heads "yes" so fast whiplash could result.) For some odd reason, stress and anxiety seem to really get a kick out of visiting college campuses before finals. To make things worse, they overstay their "friendly" little visits.

But should ulcers come free with paid tuition? Didn't think so. Relax, there is a way to beat stress and anxiety from running amok during these next few days.

Paul Presson, an assistant professor of psychology at Westminster College in Utah, likes to stress is not a universal entity in everyone's eyes.

"Test anxiety is interesting because it differs from daily stress," he said. "It primarily depends on how people see it. Some people see it as a challenge and are motivated to conquer it, but some see it as a threat and fight with fear."

Mark Gorkin, known as "The Stress Doc" and as AOL's "Online Psychohumorist," believes in a buddy system to deal with stress.

"It's good to know when you should study alone or in a group," said Gorkin, a national speaker and syndicated essayist in Washington, DC. "While some group sessions can be full of distractions, a little peer influence can make healthy competition when you see how track others in the group are."

But Gorkin says there should be a balance between the two before tests.

"Having a stress buddy can be very helpful too," he said. "It has to be someone you feel comfortable and safe talking to, but not necessarily a best friend. They have to be objective and give honest feedback."

Above all, Gorkin and Presson say stress is not always a bad thing and shouldn't be avoided completely. The most important thing to learn is how to tolerate anxiety, but not shut it down totally," Gorkin said. "It propels us to move forward with tasks."

Lindsay Litowitz studies for finals behind the Java Lounge on University Avenue.

When preparing for exams, Gorkin suggests taking small steps.

"Sometimes just setting the materials out and walking away is an important first step in the preparation ritual," he said. "Plus, remember to set up a schedule so everything doesn't get done at the eleventh hour. Some people think they work better at the last minute, but if they haven't been keeping up, they can't do the best they could with some preparation."

Gorkin also suggests listening to your body. Find a time to study that works best for you — are you a morning person or a night owl? He also says to find a reasonable time frame to study — do your eyes go fuzzy after two hours? And of course, cramping is to be avoided.

"Study more efficiently and your stress level will be alleviated," Presson said.

Even with those things to try, still there are those who just can't seem to let it go. Presson says medication might loosen things up.

"Sometimes people are very good at meditating and some don't find it easy," he said. "If it doesn't work for you, try 30 to 40 minutes of aerobic exercise to work off tension and to release endorphins, the natural mood enhancers that calm us down."

Besides just encouraging exercise, Gorkin also advises against "comfort foods." He says people sometimes use food as a way to numb themselves and high-fat foods slow down the brain's functions. He also says that along with compulsive eating, that over eating the entire responsibility or situation.

However, exam-time anxiety can be added to by the use of other comfort things, like drinking coffee after hours or staying up late into the night. In essence, don't be afraid to say "no" to extra responsibility and make sure to keep some space open in your schedule.

No one ever announced there was a grand-prize for having the most ink-filled planner or date-book. Well, not around here, anyway. Now with that said, don't you think it's better to study hard with the books and immersing yourself with knowledge for those upcoming exams?

Library, Reitz Union open extra hours finals week

By Cher Phillips
Alligator Writer

The Reitz Union and Library West will be open 24 hours a day during finals week to give students a quiet place to study, said Alex Bond, Student Government and Academic Affairs cabinet director.

SG is footing the $2,000 bill to keep the library open, and the Reitz Union is absorbing its costs to remain open longer than usual.

"It gives someone who has roommates who don't have any exams or the place they live is isn't quiet a place to go and study that is quiet so they can get their work done," Bond said.

Library West will remain open from Saturday at 10 a.m. through 1 a.m. on May 4. The Reitz Union will be open 24 hours a day from Sunday at 8 a.m. until Friday at midnight.

The Java Hut always will be open, and either Subway or Wendy's will be open as well.

This is the second semester this program has been coordinated through SG, Bond said. It previously was operated by the provost's office, Bond said, but in 1998 was discontinued because the office decided it was not cost effective.

Bond said last semester, the facilities averaged about 40 students an hour during the beginning of finals week. He expects attendance to increase this semester, and said the program works out to about six cents for each UF student.

Bond said SG plans to continue the program in future semesters and would like to create a similar one during midterms. Plans also exist to works to create a 24-hour study room, he said.

"Last semester, everyone was happy to have it," Bond said. "You may not use it this semester, but I guarantee you're going to need to study at 4 or 5 a.m. sometime you're here."
Zookeeper learns work with hands-on training

By Teresa Wood
Alligator Staff Writer

While lions, tigers and bears are not among her charges, zookeeper Marsha Mitchell gets plenty of experience learning how to care for boa constrictors, capuchins and squirrel monkeys.

As a Santa Fe Community College student, Mitchell is one of about 70 future zookeepers-in-training at the SFCC Teaching Zoo.

"I came here because I was looking for a program that would give me hands-on experience," says Mitchell, who entered the program four semesters ago after attending the University of Georgia.

Though she says her work is fun, it may not quite fit the typical definition.

Sometimes, she has to search for droppings and clean enclosures. Today is one of those days.

After weaving her way along the shaded path with a wheelbarrow piled high with food, Mitchell and a fellow student zookeeper enter the corral-like pen of the rheas and the guanacos.

Leaving the wheelbarrow outside, the two enter, one of them with a rake to dig in moss so the guanacos and rheas have to dig to find the treat.

Each time the students visit the animals, they offer them an unusual task to perform.

This time, they bury ice cream cones in moss so the guanacos and rheas have to dig to find the treat. Mitchell's day begins around 8 a.m. when the zookeepers meet with their instructors to go over what they will do for the day. Then, the students check each animal area, caring for each and observing their behavior.

Her final task before she heads to class is to sweep the research enclosure and check on the 82 baby alligators.

"When they get mad, they do make a hissing noise," Mitchell says, holding a squirming baby alligator by its chest to show the tiny marking tag. "They're small, but they do have razor sharp teeth."

As she sweeps the leaves and dirt from the enclosure, Mitchell says her dream job would be taking care of monkeys and working in conservation.

Although her daily tasks of caring for animals can be taxing, she is quick to point out that working with the animals makes it all worthwhile.

"This is definitely the best place to be able to learn," Mitchell says. "There's only so much you can learn in a classroom."

Teresa Wood can be reached at twood@alligator.org

Zookeeper Marsha Mitchell holds a baby american alligator at the Santa Fe Community College Teaching Zoo.
Greeks continue cooperation

By Diana Moskovitz
Alligator Writer

As spring draws to a close, the Greek community at UF looks back at a semester that saw increased interaction between the community’s four councils.

The Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council and Multicultural Greek Council moved closer to their goal of cooperativeness, Assistant Dean of Greek Life Kara Kravetz Cupoli said.

“We are taking significant steps towards the goal of having them utilize the best of what each council has to offer the Greek community,” Cupoli said.

Encouraging work between the four councils began with the early February retreat for leaders from all four councils in Georgia, Cupoli said. It was the first time any retreat involving all four councils was held.

Greek Week continued to increase cooperative work among the four councils and did so while helping local charities. This semester was the second time all four councils competed.

For this year’s Greek Week, the points system deciding the winner was changed so that points were given based on percentage, not number, of members who attended an event. The change cured the advantage larger groups had over smaller groups in the past.

This semester was also the first time Greek Week focused entirely on community service.

“Together, the Greek community spent hundreds of hours of community service and raised thousands of dollars, shoes and cans of food for use,” Cupoli said. “And there was participation from all four councils.

But the emphasis on all the councils working together will not end this semester. Next year, the Greek telephone directory, which previously only included IFC and PC, will include MGC and NPC. Also, a meeting will be held once a semester between the councils.

This semester also saw individual achievements for some of the individual councils.

This semester, Panhellenic decided next year all philanthropies will be alcohol-free, Panhellenic President Roberta Hickman said. “The women think we should be raising money for causes with the selling of alcoholic beverages,” Hickman said.

The demonstration will be held at 3 p.m. in Benton Hall Room 332 and is open to the public.

Students to display self-designed robots

By Juan Ortega
Alligator Writer

A machine that steals valuable items and flees in the dark was what a UF computer engineering senior decided to create in January.

Now, Uriel Rodriguez has completed "Thief" - a pencil-length, three-wheeled wooden robot that finds and grabs a small wooden block and then hides in an until place. Infrared sensors identify where the object is and then detect changes in light so the robot knows where it is dark.

The robot, along with 15 others, will show off its capabilities today at a free demonstration.

The robot was Rodriguez’s semester-long, $250 assignment for Intelligent Machines Design Lab, which requires students to create an operating "intelligent" machine, Rodriguez said. When he was presented with the assignment, he was undecided on what to make.

After considering several robot designs, he came up with something a little different. “I choose something that would annoy people instead - a thief,” Rodriguez said.

In the last class, students’ final grades depend on how well their machines complete their intended tasks. And plus, Arroyo, associate professor of electrical engineering and design lab instructor, said Rodriguez is in the top of his class because of the consistency with which the block-toting Thief completes its assignments.

"Uriel delivered exactly what he said," Arroyo said. "I chose the class started about six years ago to offer engineering students a more "hands-on approach" to engineering.

"There are a lot of classes that don’t really emphasize the creativity that should take place in engineering," Arroyo said.

The demonstration will be held at 3 p.m. in Benton Hall Room 332 and is open to the public.

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Editorial

You simply cannot imagine how happy the Alligator Department of Darts & Laurels is that the semester is finally over. The relief of not having to publish again until the Summer is covering the palatial offices of the Alligator like a warm, down blanket.

The Department is weary. We've been through a lot this semester and, quite frankly, a break from the random nonsense in Gainesville and the random morons and weirdoes we encounter on a daily basis would be more than welcome. We need a breather like a fat man — our editor — running a marathon.

We are sick and tired of dealing with people who just don't seem to comprehend, well, anything. Time and time again, people have gotten their daily regimen of exercise by jumping to conclusions about the Alligator, its staff, and the Department.

Thus, we will take this break and run with it. Besides, any amount of time dealing with the slings and arrows from an ignorant public is good enough for us.

So shut down your e-mail programs, spend more time studying for your finals than complaining to us, and borrow some money from a friend and buy a clue before you read this week's edition of...

Darts & Laurels

We are so damn sick and tired of Gainesville, we have decided to ignore it this week. Thus, leading off this week, the Department hands our a turning-the-police-loose DART to the Supreme Court for ruling that police around the country can now handcuff and arrest people for minor traffic violations.

The ruling was against a woman in Texas who was handcuffed, arrested and even had her license taken away because neither her nor her two small children were wearing seat belts. The woman was released on a $310 bond and was eventually fined $50.

Anytime conditions in this country get closer to martial law, the Department gets frightened. This is just another reason members of the Department are afraid to leave the house.

Moving on, the Department fires off a better-parenting-would-be-nice DART to the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC released a report saying popular media, especially the recording industry, are marketing adult material to children even though they were told to scale back that kind of behavior last year.

The FTC claims the recording industry is doing a bad job with marketing movies and music with explicit lyrics and adult themes to children under the age of 17. The recording industry defends itself saying claims of marketing to children is a stretch.

As much as we hate to agree with the recording industry after the whole Napster business, we think they have a point. Besides, if parents would do a better job of paying attention to their children in terms of what they watch and listen to instead of allowing popular culture to raise their children, none of this would be an issue.

And, finally, the Department would hate itself in the morning if it didn't give one final nice-legacy-jackass DART to your friend and ours, President G-Dub. Apparently, some of the ideas he had to make Texas the great place to live that it is coming under considerable fire now that he is gone.

Both Democratic and leaders in Texas agree the state's charter schools, one of G-Dub's pet programs, need to be fixed, his environmental initiative is weak, and easing enrollment requirements in Medicaid — a move resisted during G-Dub's time in office — may be needed.

Way to run a state, G-Dub. Don't worry kids, he'll be gone soon enough. Four years goes by faster than you think. So does the Department.

The Alligator encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words. They may be edited for length, grammar, style and libel. Bring letters to 1105 W. University Ave., or send them to P.O. Box 14527, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257. Letters also can be sent to the following e-mail address: letters@alligator.org. Columns and editorial cartoons are also welcome. Questions? Call 374-1493.

Letter of the Week

Matthew Boedy

Speaking Out

I don't know why I started writing, but I guess it was because we grew up together. In my family there are pairs in the clan. My older sister and my cousin Paige. My younger sister and mmy cousin Jen. And me and Joey. All born about the same time. All got the same gifts from our grandmother. And all going through the same life lessons. All except one. I guess some lessons are best learned alone.

The lessons learned in prison can be monumental for the young and educated. I don't know if Joey learned the lessons that I hope he has. But I guess there are some lessons I refuse to learn as well.

He was released a few months ago and by now should be back at home after spending some time in a halfway house.

He can start his life over. He won't be allowed to do certain things, but at least now he is free. But one thing I know, from talking over the past six months with former college students who are now in prison, he will never be free from the thoughts.

There are many things people think about in life — the mistakes, the opportunities lost and the guilt. In prison, those thoughts exponentially deepen.

I don't know much about what he thought about in that cell, but for Joey's sake, I only hope he thinks about how fortunate he was with a man who died, a criminal like him, and who died a criminal for him.

Matthew Boedy is the chief news editor at the Alligator.

Some lessons learned out of class

It is somewhat a surprise when my parents call me. Usually it's my dad on the answering machine with the one-word message, "Call." But one day about three years ago, the message, though still short, was pregnant with meaning. "Matt, something has happened. You need to call home."

I called and listened to my father tell me that my cousin Joey had been arrested for robbing a bank with some of his friends. He was an acting major at the junior college in his hometown of Marianna and he and his friends were living irrevanly, my father tried to explain.

At the time, I got it. My father said, "Joey was in a bank robbery today." A bank robbery? Is he alive? Did they get away? I never thought it would ever include a member of my family.

Well, the robbery's script did not end with a ride off into the sunset. A retired police officer was on his way home and saw the end. He shot out of his car, shot my cousin in the head and arrested everyone. For me, two weird things happened. First, we were before while I was in Marianna for Christmas, I remember reading this particular book was often robbed. I started to think Joey read the same article. Second, the robbery... was going to be worthy of the Associated Press wire and got beamed around the world.

This is one I knew had to be told. College students, who sometimes don't think, sometimes don't believe they can be tripped up, who sometimes believe they are invincible, often forget if you can't do the time, don't do the crime.

Joey was sentenced to about four years in federal prison. He was shipped to Arkansas and left behind a broken family.

There are a lot of things families don't talk about. For my family, at least one of the many things we leave unspoken is my cousin. Case and point, it was my father's mother who called me to confirm that the Joseph Hamm she read about in the Jacksonville newspaper was my cousin. He was, I told her.

We have gotten more open since it happened. But in a small town like where this part of my family is from there is often the silence of shame. In a family like ours, like the rest of the world, black sheep sometimes get the silent treatment.

After the robbery came the soul-searching for my family. Joey's mom, as one can imagine, nearly lost her self in guilt and sadness. But in a letter I received from her about three weeks after, she reminded me the point of it all. "Maybe God will use this to wake him up," she wrote.

The question for my family was, where did he go wrong? But the question I often felt was unasked was "what explains this?" What explains a kid growing up in a small, very Baptist town with very Baptist parents turning to an act that almost costs him his life?

I began to write Joey every month in prison. I didn't want to speak to him. I didn't want to say what I am sure he heard over and over again from people. I just wanted to ask if he believed in forgiveness. It's a principle I depend on, a principle that changes people.
members from Gainesville speak about their abortions at the National March for Women's Lives in Washington, DC (which the Alligator did not cover).

We are sick of women who have abortions being depicted as guilty and ashamed. We're not.

For the past two years, the Campus National Organization for Women has held speak outs (that the Alligator did not cover) where women from the university and the community testified openly and honestly about their experiences with abortion. This past Sunday we had two NOW

Letter to the Editor

Campus NOW

mad at Alligator

Editor: The walls can't talk, but the women who have had abortions can. We are sick of women who have abortions being depicted as guilty and ashamed. We're not.

For the past two years, the Campus National Organization for Women has held speak outs (that the Alligator did not cover) where women from the university and the community testified openly and honestly about their experiences with abortion. This past Sunday we had two NOW

propaganda and provide biased and medically untrue information to women.

We are sick of abortion doctors and clinic staffs not getting the recognition they deserve. Every day they risk their lives in order to save the lives of women that they don't know.

We are fed up with the stigmas surrounding abortion. Before 1973, women weren't allowed to talk about their abortions because they were illegal. Today women can talk about their abortions, but it is biased media portrayals, like the ones presented here the last two days, depicting abortion as a necessary evil that prevent women from speaking of their abortions for fear of being ostracized.

We are sick of women being lied to and of information being hidden from us. When the Alligator listed the oral contraceptives available at UF, it failed once again to mention emergency contraception.

We are fed up with the Alligator not covering up the feminist movement in Gainesville. For the past two years, when numerous women willing to be identified have spoken about the relief that having an abortion has provided them, the Alligator has ignored them. Yet the Alligator gives women who express doubts about their abortions front-page stories two days in a row.

Instead of recommending that women seeking abortion counseling go to a clinic that exists to help women, like Planned Parenthood, the Alligator suggested that women visit an anti-abortion clinic, where the staff makes women feel guilty about choosing abortion.

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Professor presses UF for review of salary equity

By Lee Piper
Alligator Writer

Maxine Margolis has taught anthropology at UF for 30 years.

In that time, seven books, at least 10 fellowships and grants, including two Fulbright fellowships and numerous lectures here and abroad have characterized Margolis as a renowned faculty member.

But UF is not paying a salary that reflects these accomplishments, simply because she’s a woman, Margolis contends.

Margolis, a full professor, began her struggle for pay parity in 1990. She appealed to the university twice, once in 1990 and again in 1997.

Increased U.S. -mi, -tiz: tim does have my professions as professor of tourism at UF.

Although she says she is the highest-paid female professor in her department, she receives a salary comparable to the lowest-paid male full professor in the department. And she makes several thousand dollars less than the average male full professor, she said.

Margolis has been nominated for intra-university awards that give recipients permanent pay increases, but she has never won.

Committee appointments have been less numerous as well, Margolis said.

“I am positive that some of it has been subsequent to the previous case and even in retaliation for it,” Margolis said.

The university says comparing professors’ qualifications and achievements is a difficult and complex process.

“You will never find any two professors, male or female, who have exactly the same qualifications and achievements,” said Joe Glover, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Kim Tanzer, president of the Association for Academic Women, said pay discrimination may not be intentional, but there are cases in which females with similar qualifications are paid less than males.

“I know of specific instances across campus where this is the case. Our university is so large. I’m not sure any single person wants to or would be in the position to deny most women equal pay for equal work,” Tanzer said. “Rather, many small, apparently unrelated acts of skewed judgement might, when taken as a whole, reveal a pattern of discrimination.”

Gas prices may cause Florida to lose summer tourists

By Marty Fulgueira
Alligator Writer

Increased gas prices, an unstable international economy and droughts will keep tourists away from the Sunshine State in the upcoming summer months.

Florida usually has many tourists from Canada and Europe, but tourism professionals fear the American dollar is not in a position to compete for tourists because of high gas prices.

It has become cheaper for Americans to travel to Europe because they get more money for the dollar, she said.

“Gas prices continue to rise as high as $2 or more in the summer, then tourism will decline. It (the decrease) will be seen first by those traveling by car,” he said.

The appreciation of the American dollar is also affecting tourism. It has weakened other currencies, making it more expensive to travel to Florida, said Heather Gibson, assistant professor of tourism at UF.

The Canadian dollar is very weak compared to the American dollar, discouraging Canadians to travel to Florida, she said. It’s the same situation with the British pound.

“Spain and Florida are big competitors for tourists because they have very similar climates. Tourists may find it cheaper to go to Spain rather than Florida,” Gibson said.

It has become cheaper for Americans to travel to Europe because they get more money for the dollar, she said.

Florida officials are trying to increase tourism with a marketing program called Visit Florida, Gibson said.

In Gainesville, tourism numbers have not gone down. Occupancy rates in hotels were 64 percent in 1999 and 2000. This year, occupancy has risen to 65 percent, said John Pricher, tourism sales coordinator for the Visitors and Convention Bureau.

“Unlike cities with attractions, we are a very economical destination because we are nature based,” Pricher said.

Pricher said the bureau has not felt a decrease of American tourists, but the Gainesville Welcome Center has experienced a decrease in foreign visitors, possibly because of high gas prices.

The Welcome Center has experienced about a 30 percent visitor decrease.

This is partially because signs promoting the center were removed and because of high gas prices, said Les Miller, ambassador at the Welcome Center.

“We used to have about 130 visitors a day, but now we only have about 70 or 80,” Miller said.

The Ladies of Phi Mu would like to congratulate our graduating sisters:

Karen Porzio
Tiffany Pokabla
Marie S Repeidad
Michelle Harwood
Lisa Tillette
Jane Carole Bunting
Sarah Duffy
Jessie Silley
Andrea Christie
Keri McKee
Valerie Shotwell
Maria Guerra
Kelly Diane
Harkleroad
Lauren Rosenzweig
Kim Hood

Best of luck in the future and remember you are always Pi Phi
Two suspects rob food store

After hitting a store clerk with a gun Sunday night, two men drove off with about $40.

Employee Bernice Brown told Gainesville Police she was closing Candy's Food Store, 432 SE 13th St., at about 9:35 p.m. when a man with a black stocking over his head entered the store and demanded money, said Gainesville Police spokesman Keith Kameg.

Kameg said Brown handed the man $40. Meanwhile, another suspect entered the store and grabbed the black tray out of the cash register.

The first suspect then took out a “revolver-looking” gun and hit Brown on the head, Kameg said.

The first suspect was described as 5 foot 6 inches, 150 pounds. He was wearing blue jeans and a white T-shirt. He was wearing blue jeans and a red-collared shirt.

Anyone with information can call GPD's Detective Division at 334-2470 or Crime Stoppers at 372-STOP.

Local GNC robbed

A man walked away with about $250 and a book Sunday night.

At about 7 p.m. a man walked into the General Nutrition Center at 207 SE Second Ave. and asked employee Emily Kucinskas about weight gain products. He then picked up a book entitled “Creatin” and walked to the counter to pay for the item, Gainesville Police spokesman Keith Kameg said.

When Kucinskas opened the cash register, the man pulled out a silver and black hammer and said, “This is a robbery. Just give me the money. I don’t want to hurt you,” Kameg said.

The suspect was described as a black male, 5-foot 6 inches tall and about 185 pounds. He was wearing blue jeans and a gray shirt.

Anyone with information can call Gainesville Police's Detective Division at 334-2470 or Crime Stoppers at 372-STOP.

Bouncer arrested for aggravated battery

A club employee was arrested after allegedly chasing a man in the parking lot and beating him with a flashlight.

Clyde Garrison, 32, of Orlando was charged with aggravated battery after getting into an argument with Steven McCook, 21, 2832 NW 41st Place, over allowing McCook into the Royal Blue, 4652 NW 13th St., said Gainesville Police spokesman Keith Kameg.

Garrison was working security for the club at the time. Kameg said he and McCook got into an argument and Garrison chased McCook into the parking lot and hit him several times with a flashlight.

Kameg said Garrison told police the fight was over whether McCook had paid to get into the club. Garrison also told police McCook attempted to throw the first punch and missed, Kameg said.

--- Erin Bryce

Gator Baseball

Florida vs. Mississippi State

Sat., Apr. 27 @ 7:00 pm

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Gator Zone: www.gatorzone.com

Shands HealthCare

Sun., Apr. 29 @ 1:30 pm

All Shands employees admitted free with valid ID!
DIVERSITY
for all incoming Fall 2002 students and hiring a diverse staff to reflect the UF population.

In efforts to increase retention efforts of minority faculty and staff, students recommended that institute directors receive an increased salary to the assistant dean level.

The group asked that promotion of multicultural activities be improved by including the institutes on campus tours and using key representatives to pose in front of the institutes, such as Young speaking in front of the institutes during sports advertising.

Institute improvements called for both houses to receive "massive improvements" on the exterior grounds, painting on the inside and outside, and that lighting be added on all sides. Since the meeting, the grounds have been cleaned up and La Casita has been measured for new paint.

We're not expecting everything to be done within the next three weeks, but already things are being done," Torres said.

The recommendations also note that neither institute is accessible to people with disabilities. Making it possible to have functions upstairs without discriminating. However, no specific recommendations were made to improve access.

Following an incident at La Casita where vandals spray painted a racial slur apparently aimed at Sánchez, the recommendations ask the university to establish a protocol committee to handle such incidents and make students aware that disciplinary action will be taken for "any type of overt racism."

In efforts to catch such offenders, students also recommended that the Crisis Response Team assist in maintaining a hotline and an anonymous reporting form to document such cases.

The group, however, will take place May 2 to continue discussion about recommendations.

"We want to make sure to keep the communication with [President Young]," Torres said. "We need to make sure that this doesn't get brushed under the rug."

Kimberly Anne Lopez can be reached at klopez@alligator.org.

Multicultural Affairs Recommendations

- Beautification and improvements of the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Culture and the Institute of Black Culture
- Increasing diversity among students, faculty and staff
- Making a cultural diversity education course mandatory for all incoming Fall 2002 students
- Hiring a vice president of Multicultural Affairs
- The creation of an office of Multicultural Affairs
- Hiring a diverse staff to reflect the UF population
- The creation of a UF Latino Dance Troupe to be funded through Student Government
- Institute directors receive an increase in salary to the Assistant Dean Level
- Translating all UF Web site connections into Spanish
- Include the institutes on campus tours
- Key representatives to pose in front of institute during campus tours
- Crisis Response Team assist in maintaining a hotline
- An anonymous report form to document cases

From page 1

SENE

Notable accomplishments by Etzkin and Heshmati include their vocal opposition to a controversial Senate bill that moved three organizations — the Board of College Councils, Music Ensembles and the Graduate Student Council — out of Student Activity and Service Fee Budget. After the bill passed in the Fall, Etzkin and Heshmati worked on the SUN Party, which formed out of opposition to the bill.

Incoming-Senate Body President Marc Adler wished Heshmati good luck in future endeavors and chided him for his reputation in Senate. Senate President Lou Roselli also publicly thanked Heshmati and Etzkin for their work and said they will be missed.

Heshmati will be leaving UF to attend medical school in the Fall. Etzkin, an engineering senior, also is graduating and thanked many senators for their cooperation, but warned them not to give up on goals.

Etzkin, a three-time elected Student Government senator, is ready to move on, he said.

"Student Government is truly starting to be representative of the student body," he said, noting more inclusion in the once closed process.

Etzkin said he's sad to leave Senate, but has learned his lessons from student leadership and he's ready to move on.

"It's bittersweet because I feel like I've accomplished a lot, but I also feel like there's still a lot to be done," Etzkin said. "It's sad that I won't be here to help and I won't be here to see it."

A handful of senators will be graduating on May 5 and some senators will be departing for summer, however at least one leader plans to put the rest of the student leader lot to work.

While bidding farewell to the graduating senators, Adler — who will take office May 1 — issued a strong statement to senators that there would not be any slack during summer.

"For those of you not leaving, there is a lot of work that needs to be done," he said.

The Senate will meet again May 15 at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union.

Sarah Smyrick can be reached at smyrick@alligator.org.
Deaf students perform at Silent Gators banquet

By Diana Moskovitz

The young couple walked onto the stage, she in a brightly colored shirt and long skirt, and he in plaid suit with a fake kiss planted on the lapel. The girl turns to the boy and looks at him sternly. The boy looks back, trying to appear as innocent as possible.

Then, the music starts and Connie Francis’ “Lipstick on Your Collar” begins as possible.

As every performance ended, the ballroom filled with applause. But the evening began much more quietly.

The mass of people trickled into the ballroom and were greeted with signs saying “Signing Gators Silent Banquet” and “Have you ever wanted to learn American Sign Language?” The signs foreshadowed the one condition upon which each person entered – no talking was allowed inside, only signing.

“One is a tradition of no talking at the banquet,” Lenes said. “It is a chance for people to practice their skills and learn from each other.”

Inside, people sat around tables holding conversations by signing. The only sounds were the shuffling of chairs and clinking of plates. Many at the banquet had the ability to speak; only 50 of the 150 who attended were deaf.

When people began whispering,Signing Gators faculty advisor Michael Tuccelli walked across the ballroom making talking motions with his hands and rolling his hand over each other, reminding everyone only signing was allowed. Soon, the ballroom returned to silence.

After eating, the performances began. Students from the Florida school performed various songs, from contemporary pop groups to 1950s doo-wop. Some were simply signed for the crowd while others included costumes, choreography and audience participation.

For the performances, the banquet continued with the induction of officers for Signing Gators and presentations.

“This is an event for people from both the UF community and Gainesville to come together and enjoy,” Lenes said. “Whether or not you are deaf does not matter for you to have a good time.”

Diana Moskovitz can be reached at dmoskovitz@alligator.org
Dangerous intersection to receive first traffic light

By Kane Parker

Gainesville residents will finally get a traffic light at the intersection of Southwest 34th Street and Southwest 35th Place, the site of several accidents that could have been avoided according to a state Department of Transportation study.

DOT spokeswoman Gina Busscher said the intersection has been the site of 12 accidents between August 1997 and August 1999.

Though there were no deaths, Busscher said the accidents were classified Angle Tide crashes, which means they could have been prevented by the presence of a traffic signal.

There are 11 different requirements needed for the final decision to begin a construction plan for a new streetlight - Busscher said the intersection met five of those requirements.

However, it is not just accidents and fatalities that decide the need for a new light. “The number of traffic coming out of a side street over a continuous eight-hour period can justify putting a signal there,” she said.

The city will install a light at the intersection, as well as another signal on Southwest 39th Boulevard and Southwest 34th Street. Busscher said the total cost of the project is about $300,000.

Area workers said the light is necessary to protect drivers. They say the lack of just one traffic light makes the intersection dangerous and they deliberately avoid that stretch of road.

Sherona Howard, who works at the Chevron gas station located on the intersection, said she has been an eyewitness to many accidents, including what she thought at the time was the death of a woman when a truck rolled over on top of her. The woman survived.

“Yes, I see accidents all of the time,” Howard said. “I have seen people rushed off in ambulances.”

Ernest Garcia, a DOT assistant resident support engineer, said it is important for community members to get involved when something as serious as a dangerous intersection needs inspection.

“The Department of Transportation should be told of the complaints and accidents,” Garcia said.

Garcia said planning for the project is scheduled to begin Oct. 31, with construction set to begin three to six months later.

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Current regents respond to trustee nominations

By Kristen Moczynski
Alligator Writer

With members of the Florida Board of Regents losing their jobs July 1, two already have been nominated to serve on a university Board of Trustees.

Riviera Beach Regent Phil Lewis and Fort Lauderdale Regent Welcom Watson have been nominated to Lt. Gov. Frank Brogan by Florida Atlantic University faculty members.

Pending the outcome of the 2001 Legislative session, Gov. Jeb Bush will have the responsibility of appointing 110 trustees to the 10 state university boards. He has requested nominations for the positions as well as releasing applications.

Lewis said he was honored and pleased FAU nominated him for the position. "I've got other things in the fire," Lewis said. "At this point I can't respond one way or the other."

By Kristen Moczynski
Alligator Writer

But Lewis said he would not have any problem working for just one university rather than the entire State University System. Bush has, after all, asked for people who will look beyond the scope of their single university.

"A former Regent would be perfect for that job," he said.

Watson, who also said he was honored to be named, said he does not think he will be offered the job.

"I don't think they're going to appoint a Democrat," he said, noting the appointments could be political.

Watson said his age also has a lot to do with whether he will accept or reject the appointment. He is 78.

"I've had my day in the sunshine," he said.

"I don't have the energy I used to have."

But Watson agreed with Lewis, saying Regents would make excellent trustees.

"It's going to be doing what we do now for one university instead of 10," he said. "They certainly have a grasp of what to do."

Kristen Moczynski can be reached at kmoczynski@alligator.org
Calendar of Events

April

25 — The Civic Media Center will hold a presentation on Nicaragua's indigenous people at 8 p.m. at 1021 W. University Ave. The discussion will be led by UF doctoral student Jerry Mueller, a member of the Nicaragua Network's environmental committee.

5 — The Corner Drug Store will present Celebration of the Arts — Spotlight on Youth at 7:30 p.m. in the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. The event will feature performances by high school students talented in music, poetry, dance and the visual arts. Tickets are $15 a person, $5 for students. For more information, call 334-3800 ext. 3819.

4 — Four Seasons Garden Club will present a flower show running through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Powell Hall.

26 — The Faculty Senate will meet from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Reitz Union, Room 222. Senators will be discussing issues left over from the Spring semester and will consider passage of a resolution in support of campus diversity. That resolution was tabled in a previous meeting because of concerns it would stiff freedom of expression.

28 — A coalition of state employees and activist groups will hold a protest march against Gov. Jeb Bush's Service First Initiative, which they say will result in a loss of state jobs. The march starts at 10 a.m. in front of the Dollar General on Northeast 16th Avenue, and continues to the front gate of the Florida State University, Gainesville. For more information, call the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees at 375-3359.

30 — The Duval Area Neighborhood will hold a rally to celebrate the Front Porch Florida Initiative, an attempt to support Florida's urban citizens by revitalizing neighborhoods. The rally will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Duval Elementary School, 2106 NE Eighth Ave. For more information, call 377-1911.

May

15 — The Girls Club of Alachua County will hold a celebrity grill at 6 p.m. in the Reitz Union. The fundraising event will feature a slate of speakers to 'roast' State Sens. Rod Smith and DeeDee Smith. Tickets to the event are $50 a person or $175 for a table of eight, and can be purchased at the Girls' Club offices at 2101 NW 39th Ave.

30 — The UF Sustainability Task Force will meet at noon in the Rinker School of Building Construction conference room. For more information, call the Office of the Vice President of Administrative Affairs at 392-1336.
Campus NOW protests bias in abortion series

By Joe Black and Sarah Myrick
Alligator Staff Writers

One by one, cars drove past the offices of the Alligator Tuesday honking in support of the right to choose.

Anthropology senior Luci Olewinski cheered as first a green Sport Utility Vehicle gave its support and then a brown Celica – each giving their support to her sign that said “Honk for abortion rights.”

“We need to be able to make the choice if they want to about abortion,” she said. “It boils down to a moral issue and where you stand, the paper presented the issue biasedly.”

More than 20 people protested articles printed by the Alligator dealing with abortion that ran Monday and Tuesday. The protest was organized by the Campus National Organization for Women.

The protesters claim the articles were clearly biased against the practice and showed it in a dark and solemn manner.

Virginia Williams, a counselor at the Bread & Roses Women’s Health Center in Gainesville, said she has been working with women who have had abortions and has never witnessed anything like the descriptions in the articles.

“You are doing a fantastic job,” said center director Gary St. John. “I think you are doing a great job representing both sides of the issue. I got to encourage you. Keep it up.”

The Women’s Resource Center, a place that provides post-abortion counseling, disputed the claim of Campus NOW.

“Women need to be able to make the choice if they want to,” Williams said. “It boils down to a moral issue and where you stand, the paper presented the issue biasedly.”

“I’m really proud of what we do, and I would never go home and mope around about what we do,” Williams said. “Obviously any individual can have any experience unique to them, but my problem with it was that it wasn’t a balanced portrayal.”

The protest was organized by the Campus National Organization for Women.

Articles chronicled the lives of workers and patients at the abortion provider, All Women’s Health Center of Gainesville, and the psychological effects of abortions.

Campus NOW also takes issue with the Alligator’s coverage of women’s issue on campus and in the Gainesville area. The organization demanded the Alligator cover the feminist movement accurately, have a listing of events and remember its own motto “we inform, you decide.”

“We wanted to expose that the Alligator continually hides the feminist movement,” said Candi Churchill, president of the Gainesville area NOW.
Space station tourist creates concerns at NASA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Managers of the International Space Station agreed on Tuesday to allow an American millionaire to visit the orbiting laboratory as a tourist, despite concerns about the safety of having a lesser-trained nonprofessional on board.

Dennis Tito, an aerospace engineer-turned-financier who paid the Russians $20 million to fly into space, will be launched April 28 to the space station aboard a Russian craft and then spend six days aboard the orbiting laboratory, officials said.

NASA had strenuously objected to the Russians independently selling a space station trip to Tito but, in the end, agreed to allow the voyage as an exception to regulations still being formulated.

The international partners in the space station, the U.S., Japan, Canada, Russia and the European Space Agency, agreed to the Tito visit in an agreement signed Tuesday, officials said.

Tito, chief executive at Wilshire Associates in Santa Monica, Calif., will fly with two commoners to the station aboard a Soyuz spacecraft scheduled to deliver supplies to the International Space Station, called Alpha.

A NASA task force, headed by former astronaut Col. Thomas Stafford, issued a report Tuesday that said Tito's presence on the mission requires a significant modification of crew work on the space station because of safety concerns.

"There is no doubt that this will have an impact on the activity up there," Stafford said in a briefing.

A number of experiments will be shut down or not performed, Stafford said. The ISS crew will also halt work on the new mechanical arm installed on the space station this week. These changes were required, said Stafford, as "risk-mitigating actions" because of Tito's presence.

The task force recommended that Tito not be allowed aboard the American portion of the space station without an astronaut escort. The group also called for Tito to sleep in or near the Russian spacecraft, in the event of an emergency when he is asleep.

Stafford said that the Russian space agency also "must guarantee to all of the ISS partners that it is fully liable for the flying of Mr. Tito and that in the future this type of unilateral decision will never happen again."

Mike Hawes, a deputy associate administrator at NASA, said Tito has signed a U.S. agreement, called the Crew Code of Conduct, and a Russian flight rules statement that spell out his responsibilities and limitations as a crew member.

Hawes said Tito also has agreed to pay for anything he breaks during the mission and agreed to "hold harmless" the space station partners for anything that happens during the flight.

Tito is the first person to buy his way into space, but Hawes said he probably will not be the last.

"Tourists in space are inevitable," said Hawes, but the Russian agreement with Tito made it "earlier than we anticipated."

He noted that NASA is prohibited now from flying tourists by administrative regulations.

Michael A. Greenfield, a NASA member of the Stafford task force, said that the Russians had originally agreed not to have a nonprofessional fly on Alpha until the space station assembly was complete, still several years away.

Tito accompanied his Soyuz crewmates to the Johnson Space Center last month to undergo training, but NASA officials refused to let him participate unless he agreed to certain conditions.

Do your knees hurt?

A research study is underway at the VA Medical Center in Gainesville, Florida to determine whether the dietary supplements Glucosamine and Chondroitin Sulfate are effective in reducing symptoms caused by arthritis of the knee.

The study will last for 19 weeks and will require 4 visits. Subjects will receive at no charge a MRI of their knee on the first and last visits and will have a small sample of fluid drawn from their knee at each visit. Participating subjects will receive $25 for each visit they complete.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact: Butch Landsiedel at (352) 392-6166.

Glucosamine and Chondroitin Sulfate Study

Congratulations to the
All-Fraternity & All-Sorority Intramural President's Cup Winners:

Chi Omega - Sorority
Sigma Chi - Fraternity Orange
Fiji - Fraternity Blue
According to the Registrar's office, 6,445 students are candidates for degrees this semester. On Monday, the UF bookstore reported that 4,689 students had rented caps and gowns to participate in commencement ceremonies. Caps and gowns are available for rental from the UF bookstore as late as May 4. For information, call the bookstore at 392-0194.

May 5 Commencement

The morning ceremony, beginning at 9 a.m., will graduate members of the following colleges: fine arts; journalism and communications; natural and environmental sciences; business administration; and the Fisher School of Accounting. Candidates for the ceremony should assemble at 7:45 a.m. and the processional begins at 8:30 a.m.

The afternoon ceremony, beginning at 1:30 p.m., will graduate members of the following colleges: design, construction and planning; education; liberal arts and sciences; and the Rinker School of Building Construction. Candidates for the ceremony should assemble at 12:15 p.m. and the processional will begin at 1 p.m.

The evening ceremony, beginning at 6 p.m., will graduate members of the following colleges: agricultural and life sciences; engineering; health and human performance; health professions; and nursing. Doctorate and master's degree students from the College of Medicine graduate at this ceremony, as well as graduate students of veterinary medicine and students of the School of Forest Resources and Conservation. Candidates will assemble at 4:45 p.m. and the processional will begin at 5:30 p.m. The commencement ceremonies will take place in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. For information, visit www.reg.ufl.edu/commencement.html.

Commencement ceremonies for the College of Pharmacy are at 1 p.m. May 5 in University Auditorium.

The Levin College of Law holds its commencement ceremony on May 19. The College of Dentistry holds its commencement at 2:30 p.m. on May 25 in the Phillips Center for Performing Arts. The College of Medicine holds a commencement ceremony for its M.D. students on May 26. The College of Veterinary Medicine also holds a commencement ceremony on May 26.

UF Honors Distinguished Alumni

Each semester, the UF Alumni Association recognizes outstanding graduates with the Distinguished Alumni Award. Thomas Hunter is senior vice president for defense programs at Sandia National Laboratories, operating for the U.S. Department of Energy. In this role, he has the responsibility for Sandia's defense programs and management of Sandia's nuclear weapons programs, engineering sciences, computational/computer science and information infrastructure. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from UF and holds a doctorate degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Wisconsin.

From 1995-99, he served as the head of Sandia's California Laboratory and was responsible for the management of programs in nuclear weapons research and development, nonproliferation, advanced manufacturing technology, information systems, environmental technology and energy research. Prior to this assignment, he was Director of the Energy and Environmental Program Center where he coordinated Sandia's activities in energy development and environmental quality.

As one of the nation's leading nuclear engineers, he has been a panel member for the National Academy of Science's National Research Council and the Department of Nuclear and Radiological Engineering Visiting Committee. He also has served on the University of Florida Engineering Advisory Council. In addition to his work on the UF College of Engineering Advisory Board, he has fully funded the Thomas O. Hunter Scholarship endowment for the college.

Alfred Browning Parker earned his bachelor of science in architecture from the University of Florida in 1941 and served as a UF architecture student who was sandwiched around his wartime duties with the U.S. Naval Reserve. In 1946, Parker left UF to open his own business in Miami. His commercial designs include the Bal Harbour City Hall, the Baldwin Office Building, the General Capital Corp. building, the Bazaari International, the Reed Sanctuary of Beth El Synagogue and the St. Louis Church. He has served on the National Board of the U.S. Association for Housing and Redevelopment Officials; the Distinguished Services Award from the city of Miami and an honorary doctorate from the Florida State University of College of Miami. In 1991, Parker was honored as a distinguished professor in the UF College of Architecture.

William F. Powers' pioneering work on advancing systems control theories to solving the intricate mathematics involved with three-dimensional space trajectories helped make America's first steps into deep space possible. In 1960 through 1965, while also engaged in earning his bachelor of science in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan, Powers helped develop the Saturn Rocket booster guidance system and Apollo mission profiles. After receiving his doctorate degree in engineering mechanics in 1968, he consulted on the space shuttle program with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Powers received a fellowship at Ford Motor Company, where he consulted in controls research. He later became a key company spokesman on advanced technology. He retired as Ford's vice president for research in January 2001. Powers has served as president of the American Automatic Control Committee, chairman of the National Science Foundation Advisory Committee for Electrical, Communications and Systems Engineering. He currently chairs the Department of Energy Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Advisory Committee. He also serves as a member of the Department of Energy Peer Review Committee.

Powers accepted a position at Ford Motor Company, where he continued in Controls Research Department in 1980. His work helped usher in the total computerization of today's cleaner, safer automobiles. Powers was a major principal in establishing Ford's computer-based product development systems. He also worked to head up Ford's Research Center, serving as a key company spokesman on advanced technology.

Powers accepted a position at Ford Motor Company, where he continued in Controls Research Department in 1980. His work helped usher in the total computerization of today's cleaner, safer automobiles. Powers was a major principal in establishing Ford's computer-based product development systems. He also worked to head up Ford's Research Center, serving as a key company spokesman on advanced technology. He retired as Ford's vice president for research in January 2001.
University of Florida Alumni Association Honors UF Graduates

Each semester, the UF Alumni Association recognizes an elite group of outstanding graduating students for their performance on and off campus.

Four-Year Scholars

Virginia A. Braddock, a College of Agricultural and Life Sciences honor student, graduates with a 4.0 GPA. Braddock worked in the University Scholars Program and developed a Web-based education program that promotes folic acid consumption to reduce the risk of neural tube defects. She also served as the Web designer for the Dietetic Internship Program.

Braddock is a member of Alpha Xi Delta Honor Society, the American Dietetic Association, the Florida Dietetic Association, Phi Kappa Phi, and the Golden Key National Honor Society. Her awards include Outstanding Dietetic Student of the Year, the Samuel Applegate Memorial Scholarship, the Reitz Medal of Excellence, and the Anderson Scholar recognition.

Allison Landgraff, a finance major with a minor in economics, has blended a strong academic performance with direct experience in psychology research. Valenzuela earned both a perfect 4.0 bachelor of science in psychology, marriage to fiancé Laura Braleski on July 4. She was inducted into the College of Health Scholars and the Hispanic Student Association and the College of Health Scholars Association.

Braddock and Landgraff have received several awards and scholarships for their work in psychology. She has participated in the Southeastern Psychological Association, the National Honor Society, the Phi Kappa Phi, and the Golden Key National Honor Society. Her awards include Outstanding Distinguished Scholar, Outstanding Student, Outstanding Student, Outstanding Student, and Outstanding Student of the Year.

Amanda Folsom Holt, a public relations major, graduated from the University of Florida in 1999. She was selected as one of the Dr. Ruth McQueen Students, Collins is an English major with a technical writing emphasis and double minor in classics and teaching English as a second language.

Collins was chosen to be an Anderson Scholar majoring in zoology and minor in chemistry. Kristian Raymond graduates with a 4.0 GPA. She has matched her academic achievements with an impressive record of community service, volunteering with disabled children, providing food and preparation for the homeless at the St. Francis House and volunteering at the future Conservancy office.

She was chosen to be an Anderson Scholar majoring in psychology and minor in computer science, outstanding junior, was elected into Golden Key and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies, and earned the National Merit, Florida Bright Futures, Massey, UF valor, Raymond Sessions, and Sigma Zeta Walston County scholarships. After graduation, she plans to earn her master's degree in zoology specializing in the area of conservation biology.

From co-authoring a journal article on nerve growth factor by anti-inflammatory agents to serving as a research assistant for the UF softball team, Frisbee, Hampton Sessions participated in a wide range of activities at UF. He graduates from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with the outstanding achievement of a 4.0 overall GPA, completing his major studies in chemistry and minor in physics.

Sessions has been active with Alpha Phi Omega, the national co-educational service fraternity, performing more than 250 hours of service at the UF Auxiliary. He has earned numerous awards and scholarships including being named to Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. He is a two-time University Scholars Program Scholar and a University of Florida Anderson Scholar. He earned the National Merit and the Bright Futures scholarships. Future plans include marriage to fiancée Laura Braleski on July 4.

Jessica M. Valenzuela graduates with a bachelor of science in psychology. Valenzuela is an outstanding student of the year, the Anderson Scholar, and a member of the Cuban American Student Association, the Hispanic Student Association and the Golden Key National Honor Society. She has received several awards and scholarships, including selection to Phi Kappa Phi, the Chi National Honor Society's Outstanding Service Award, the OASIS Certificate of Recognition (Exemplary) and Honor Roll, and the University of Florida Anderson Scholar. She is a member of the Student Government, the College of Health Professionals University Scholar. She is a member of the Student Government, the College of Health Professionals University Scholar.

She was inducted into the Phi Lambda Chi Honors Society and the Hispanic Student Association and the College of Health Professionals University Scholar. She is a member of the Cuban American Student Association, the Hispanic Student Association and the Golden Key National Honor Society.

Valenzuela graduated with a 4.0 GPA and received the Outstanding Student of the Year award. She also received the Outstanding Student of the Year award.

Two-Year Scholars

Two-year scholar and three-time mother Lisa Ann Collins graduates with a 4.0 GPA for all work completed since joining UF in fall of 1999. Selected as one of the Dr. Ruth McQueen Students, Collins is an English major with a technical writing emphasis and double minor in classics and teaching English as a second language.

Collins was chosen to be a Phi Kappa Phi Scholar, the Phi Kappa Phi Scholar, and the ETA Sigma Phi National Classics Honor Society. Seeking to make a difference in the lives of children with whom she works, she plans to teach at a rural high school for a year to enhance her experience and then begin her law studies.

Outstanding Female Leaders

Teal Chiabotti graduates with a bachelor's degree in environmental science, earning a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is an outstanding student of the year, the Anderson Scholar, and a member of the Cuban American Student Association, the Hispanic Student Association and the Golden Key National Honor Society.

Chiabotti has received several awards and scholarships for her work with the Peace Corps. She was also selected as one of the Dr. Ruth McQueen Students, Collins is an English major with a technical writing emphasis and double minor in classics and teaching English as a second language.

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For Outstanding Academic, Campus Performance

resulted in one journal article and two abstracts for presentation in biomedical research.

Her honors include Phi Eta Sigma, Golden Key, National Society for Collegiate Scholars, Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Beta Kappa. Schwanke's awards include the Florida Bright Futures Scholar, Bank of America Scholar, William Haskins Scholar. Anderson Scholar with highest distinction, the Col. Metzer Scholarship, highest honors in French language studies at Le Institut de l'Odéole de Paris, the Reitz Scholar for Leadership and Community Service, the University Scholars recipient for summer research and the McLaughlin Scholar. Following graduation, she will attend Cornell Medical School.

Outstanding Male Leaders

Laurence Bolotin graduates with his bachelor of science in public relations. Bolotin was one of 25 student staff members of Preview, UF's freshman orientation program. He also served as student government director of Campus Involvement, organizing informational sessions and assisting students interested in joining any of the more than 500 student organizations. As co-director of public relations for Black History Month at UF, he organized promotions for the celebration.

Bolotin was active with the Savant UF, a member of the tapping committee for Florida Blue Key, and active with the Order of Omega, Mortar Board, Golden Key and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. He was the director of the Leader's Summit program as a member of Leading and Developing Emerging and Active Leaders. His honors include the Julie Sina Award as International Student of the Year, the Brotherhood Award of Excellence of Zeta Beta Tau, the fraternity's 1998, 1999 and 2000 Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, the Jim Scott Interfraternalism Award, the Interfraternity Council Director of the Year Award, and the "Beacon of Light" Award for outstanding student government director.

Ian Lane graduates with a joint bachelor/master degree in accounting with a minor in economics. Lane served as treasurer of the student government. In his position, he managed a budget of $8.7 million. He also served as senate president pro tempore and was chief of staff of the student honor court. He was founder and president of the non-profit, nonprofit community Leadership Foundation, providing programs, services and scholarships for children with disabilities and for low-income families. He was active with Boys and Girls Club of Alachua County, Gators Involved in Volunteering Endeavors, the Mentoring Program of Alachua County, Shands hospital, Habitat for Humanity, and the St. Francis House.

The 1997 World Champion and five-time National Champion in karate, he was committed to sharing his knowledge with others. As head coach, he guided his team to two gold medals at the 2000 national championships. He has been both the Florida Karate Association's male athlete and coach of the year.

His awards include UF President's Leadership and Honor Roll, Florida College Student of the Year finalist, SAVANT UF, Blue Key and Golden Key, Order of Omega, Beta Alpha Psi, UF Hall of Fame, Florida Academic Scholar and College Leadership Florida.

Brian Dassler graduates with a bachelor of English. Dassler was named the Florida Student of the Year for 2001 by Florida Leader magazine on April 13. While working with Preview, he designed a syllabus and curriculum that included extensive staff training in diversity, multiculturalism, and inclusion. He worked with the One Florida Task Force to explore means to enhance UF's diversity and was tapped to serve on the Campus Climate Committee, a group working to make specific recommendations for improving the student experience. He also helped develop and coordinate a course to ease the transition.

He was named to the USA Today All Aca-demic Team (Third Team, Spring 2001), the Matthews Society and Who's Who Among Students. Other UF awards include the John M. Kinter Award, the Bill Fleming Award and the President's Humanitarian Award. He has been inducted into UF's Hall of Fame.

Yohe, Palmer Receive Outstanding Athlete And Leader Awards

Tracy Caulkins Award

As captain of the UF Women's Soccer team, Sarah Yohe led her team to a series of successes. In her role of the field, she has been a leader by example, devoting her time and energy to community service and encouraging others to do the same. Her honors include a double major in finance and marketing. Yohe has been recognized both locally and nationally.

During her last season, she led the South-eastern Conference, and tied for third nationally, in scoring goals. Twice during the season, she was named to Soccer America's Team of the Week as well as earning player of the week honors. A season of highlights included her four-goal, single-game assault on Louisiana State University's soccer squad during SEC play. Yohe set the UF record in 1999 with a goal scored in nine consecutive matches. She finished her career with 60 goals and 33 assists for 153 points. Her team voted her the offensive Most Valuable Player during her sophomore and junior years (she was side-lined with an injury for part of her junior year). In 1999, Yohe was named Most Valuable Player and was the university's pick for the Ben Hill Griffin Award, recognizing that athlete who most exemplifies Florida. In 1999, she was named to the GTE Academic All-American first team, being one of only three soccer players selected to that all-sports list.

As a community volunteer, Yohe worked as a Goodwill Gator ambassador. Her awards include a three-time selection to the annual SEC Academic Honor Roll, selection to Mortar Board and Black Key, Alpha Sigma, and Omicron Delta Kappa honor societies and earning the 1999-2000 UF Goodwill Gator Achievement Award. After graduating from UF last December, Yohe was selected by the Philadelphia Phl 3.1 Professional soccer team of the Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA).

Doug Beldon Award

Jesse Palmer came to the University of Florida from Ontario, Canada, and earned two bachelors degrees in political science and marketing while garnering three varsity letters as a UF Gator Football quarterback. During his time on the team, he was named to numerous academic and athletic awards including a three-time selection to the All Southeastern Conference Honor Roll.

In 1997, he played in six games including the Citrus Bowl against Penn State. The following year, he started the first six games of the season, leading the Southeastern Conference in passing efficiency (and Blue Key, Alpha Sigma, and Omicron Delta Kappa honor societies and earning the 1999-2000 UF Goodwill Gator Achievement Award. After graduating from UF last December, Yohe was selected by the Philadelphia Charge professional soccer team of the Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA).

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Palmer's awards include the Bill Fleming Award, the President's Humanitarian Award, and the "Beacon of Light" Award for outstanding student government director.

Ian Lane graduates with a joint bachelor/master degree in accounting with a minor in economics. Lane served as treasurer of the student government. In his position, he managed a budget of $8.7 million. He also served as senate president pro tempore and was chief of staff of the student honor court. He was founder and president of the non-profit, nonprofit community Leadership Foundation, providing programs, services and scholarships for children with disabilities and for low-income families. He was active with Boys and Girls Club of Alachua County, Gators Involved in Volunteering Endeavors, the Mentoring Program of Alachua County, Shands hospital, Habitat for Humanity, and the St. Francis House.

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Parking Restrictions

Parking Restrictions Lifted Late April, May

Parking restriction enforcement will be lifted from May 7-11 in Red 1 & 3, commuter parking, and all decal parking zones will be enforced at all times.

All reserved spaces, service drives, handicapped, carpools and no parking zones will be enforced at all times.
Spotlight on Student Scholarships

Vice Provost Scholarships Applications Due May 15

The Office of the Vice Provost administers fellowships and scholarships for the university. Applications for the following scholarships are due on May 15.

The Delores A. Auzenne Minority Graduate Fellowship is a competitive program. The $5,000 fellowship is awarded on the basis of financial need, academic merit, underrepresentation of discipline and other select criteria.

The Minority Community College Transfer Scholarship in the amount of $1,600 is a competitive program for first-time transfer Florida residents. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of financial need and other select criteria.

The Minority Scholars Program is a competitive scholarship for undergraduate science, math and engineering majors. The $5,000 award is available to first-year, academically talented students.

The Theodore R. and Vivian M. Johnson Scholarship in the amount of $3,500 is a competitively awarded program available to undergraduate students with disabilities.

Interested students should submit an application to the Office of the Vice Provost, 145 Tigert Hall, by 5 p.m. May 15. For information, call the office at 392-6004.

Prudential Business Ethics Scholarship Deadline Extended

In 1997 the Florida Legislature, with the recommendation of the Insurance Commissioner, established an ethics scholarship challenge grant as part of the state of Florida’s settlement with the Prudential Insurance Corp. This grant allows UF to award undergraduate scholarships in the amount of $2,000 each for the Fall 2001 semester. The competition for these awards will be held in the Spring 2001 semester.

These need-based, non-renewable scholarships will be awarded to full-time undergraduate students beyond their first year of study at the University of Florida who have taken or are currently enrolled in one or more credit hours in a specified ethics course (see list below), have maintained at least a 2.75 GPA, and have demonstrated a commitment to serving the interests of their community, academic merit and other select criteria.

Because the scholarship is need-based, applicants should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Financial Aid, available at Criser Hall, Room 107. Financial need will be determined using the federal need analysis formula. Only those students whose financial needs are not met by scholarships and personal assets will be eligible.

Satisfactory completion of one of the following ethics courses is required: AEB 4126 Agriculture and Natural Resources Ethics, ADV 4931 Ethics and Problems in Advertising or BUL 4930 Ethics in Business. Students must already have taken the course or be in it this semester. Applications are available in 140 Tigert Hall and are due by May 4. Winners will be notified in late May. For information, call 392-1519.

UF Class Holds Robot Demo Today

Robots that play games, clean and serve as “interactive pet toys” will be among the robots demonstrated today at the culmination of a University of Florida engineering laboratory class in robotics.

Seventeen students will show off the robots they created this semester in the department of electrical and computer engineering, graduate-level class, said Eric Schwartz, assistant director of UF’s Machine Intelligence Laboratory.

“We have all different kinds of robots this year,” said Schwartz. “One called ‘Thief’ finds an object and looks for a dark place to hide it.”

Today’s demonstrations are set for 3 p.m. in Benton Hall, room 332. More information is available at http://mil.ufl.edu/mdl.

Thumbs Up

Albert, Perry McGriff, Ed Jennings and Alberta smile for the cameras on April 18 at Alachua County Legislative Day in Tallahassee. (Photo by Ray Carson)

Send Us Your News!

The 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.

UF: 1214 N. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32611-3075
Phone: (352) 392-1835
Fax: (352) 392-1837
E-mail: digest@ufl.edu

Marquee Sign
To post distribution of electronic signage at 34th Street and University Avenue, fax your the title, date, time and location of your event to UF headquarters at 392-3396 at least one week in advance of the event. Events sponsored in part through Student Government will be posted.

Guest Columns
Guest columns are written by persons from UF academic departments, administrative departments, or student groups funded in part through Student Government. To schedule a guest column with Digest, call 392-6186.
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8 "Anarchist" 9
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Lessons learned should help Gators in NCAAs

By Joel Kaiman
Alligator Writer

Two matches. One team. Two weeks.
That is what it took for the No. 5 UF women's tennis team to learn the difference between winning and losing.

As the only two undefeated teams in the Southeastern Conference, UF (20-2, 11-0 SEC) and Georgia met April 8 in what would be their first meeting of the season. UF defeated the defending national champions 4-3 at Scott Linder Stadium.

Two weeks later, the two teams faced each other in the SEC Tournament semifinal. This time the Bulldogs won 4-2 on their way to the tournament crown.

UF coach Andy Brandi said the matches taught his players what is needed to win - and what is needed to lose.

The Gators hope to take that lesson into the NCAA Tournament, where they will try to move deeper than last year's disappointing exit in the semifinals. The loss was the first time in five seasons the Gators failed to make the final.

With three top players returning and a strong recruiting class, the Gators entered this season with the goal of returning to the final.

However, when eligibility questions about one recruit, Aneta Soukup, arose, Brandi said the goals for the team changed. Without Soukup, UF had just the minimum number of players at six.

"At the beginning we had intended to do a lot of different things, but when you have six girls it makes it very difficult to really plan a lot because you're going to ad lib a lot depending on the health of the players," Brandi said.

The health of the Gators came into question when senior Stephanie Hazlett re-aggravated a knee injury midway through the season against Tennessee.

Hazlett did not miss any matches because of the injury, but was forced to wear a large knee brace the rest of the season.

With Hazlett's injury and without Soukup, the Gators managed to accomplish their goal of winning back the SEC regular-season title.

While the Gators were not able to repeat as SEC Tournament champions, Brandi said the Gators realize they still are in position to accomplish their ultimate goal of winning the NCAA Tournament.

As motivation, the Gators have looked at none other than rival Georgia.

Last season after Georgia won the regular-season SEC title and then lost in the SEC Tournament to UF, the Bulldogs went on to win the national championship.

Sophomore Julia Scaringe said UF's loss this year in the SEC Tournament is something that may help in the NCAAs.

"We all agreed we'd rather lose now and learn from it then lose later on," Scaringe said. "I think by the time we get to NCAAs we're going to be ready for anything."

That will be a difficult task as the Gators might have to face the only two teams that defeated them this season. Brandi said Duke and Georgia likely will be considered favorites in the Tournament along with No. 1 Stanford.

Despite what could be a tough road, Brandi said the Gators are capable of winning the Tournament but have to do several things.

"We have to be very strong emotionally," Brandi said. "We have to be very calm during difficult moments, and we have to be consistent in playing aggressive tennis from beginning to end in every match."

Joel Kaiman can be reached at jkaiman@alligator.org

With end in sight, senior trio focused on postseason

By Jason Pfund
Alligator Writer

For seniors Ashley Boone, Renise Landry and Emily Marino these next few weeks are not only the end of the season, but also the end of their UF careers.

The UF softball team concludes its regular season with a doubleheader today and a three-game series this weekend.

The Gators (23-23, 12-14 Southeastern Conference) travel to Tampa to play South Florida, and then return home to face Tennessee in the season-ending series.

UF defeated the Bulls (36-24) during the season-opening GRU Classic. Freshman Amanda Moore got the victory in the second game, which the Gators won 5-0.

Coach Karen Johns said the familiarity by having already played USF will help the Gators prepare.

"We know what we are expecting," Johns said. "They are a well-coached team with lots of speed. We need to come home with two wins."

Unlike South Florida, the Volunteers (22-31, 7-16 SEC) do not have a dominant strength, although they have a balanced team and do many things well, Johns said.

"They are a young team with a lot of young players," Johns said. "They beat Alabama, so we know that we have a challenge in front of us to win the series." The Gators need to win the series to solidify the No. 2 spot in the SEC Eastern Division. The SEC Tournament is May 11-14, and if the tournament were to start today the Gators would be the No. 6 seed. Tennessee, Auburn and Kentucky are chasing the Gators for that spot.

UF went 1-4 last week, dropping a home doubleheader to Florida State and losing two of three at No. 20 South Carolina.

Sophomore Prissie Walden led the Gators with a .333 average last week and had six RBI in the last 10 games.

With the Gamecocks already clinching the SEC East, UF can focus strictly for the SEC Tournament.

"Today starts that preparation," Johns said. "This weekend we need to win the series and that is our goal."

In these last few weeks of competition, Boone will have the opportunity to bolster some of her already record-breaking statistics.

Boone has the highest career batting average in UF history and also is the all-time leader in doubles.

"The focus is on ourselves as a team and trying to play the best we can play," Marino said. "If we do that, everything else will come and the next five games will be great."

Marino has the UF career home run and RBI records and is all-time first in walks.

Landry got her 50th career win against South Carolina last weekend and will finish in the top three in many all-time pitching categories.

"We accomplished a lot here and did a lot for the program," Boone said. "We had a lot of fun times in the dorms and have a lot of funny stories."

During the course of her career as a Gator, Emily Marino set UF records in career home runs and RBI.

By Adith Oum
The two brothers are six years apart, but have many similarities. Marc Wurtzman also played tennis growing up and received a scholarship to play for Ohio State. He now works as an assistant coach at Wisconsin. "I wouldn't have been in tennis without my brother," Wurtzman said. "(Marc) played when I was just 4 or 5, and I always liked to do whatever he did."

When Marc Wurtzman would play tournaments, Wurtzman would tag along and watch the players with anticipation. Marc Wurtzman said he thinks watching him play helped his brother's tennis, and studying the guys who were winning and what they did. Even Wurtzman's decision to leave home at age 15 to pursue a tennis career full time was something his brother had done as well. It was the influence of his brother that brought Wurtzman to Billy Stearns Tennis Academy in Sarasota, but it was determination that kept him there.

Behind this intense and determined player, however, there lies a sensitive, laid back kid. Although his success could have given him a bigger ego, Wurtzman lets his racket do the talking.

Wurtzman said he takes pride in knowing people think he is considerate toward others. "The way you treat someone is high up on my list of priorities," Wurtzman said. "My parents, my mom, my brother – they all taught me to be honest and respectful."

He is described by many as polite, honest, and sometimes even soft-spoken. This free-spirited Gator takes things as they come and doesn't have many enemies, Marc Wurtzman said.

Duvenhage agreed that it is difficult not to get along with Wurtzman. "Wurtzy's a piece of work," Duvenhage said. "He's easy to deal with and funny. He's just a good kid, and that kid in capital letters. He's a big teddy bear."

The fun-loving Wurtzman stayed away from controversy and always kept family his No. 1 priority. At home in the suburbs of Rochester, Friday and Saturday nights were reserved for family get-togethers, which included Wurtzman's grandparents and his first cousins. The family members all lived within five minutes of each other.

When Wurtzman turned 15, he had run out of people to hit with and made the difficult decision to leave his family behind and pursue his tennis career. After making the move to Sarasota, Wurtzman made friends and met his girlfriend. They made the move easier on him, he said.

"It was a lot of tough training and it was pretty strict," Wurtzman said. "Maybe twice a month and my friends would go to this ice cream shop at night and head to the beach afterward."

Ultimately, Wurtzman's hard work and dedication paid off, he said.

One of Wurtzman's coaches at the academy, Damon Henkel, recognized his drive and later played a large role in the position he now holds on the UF team. Henkel became the assistant coach at UF for three years under Duvenhage after he left Billy Stearns.

It was at Henkel's suggestion that Duvenhage went to watch Wurtzman play. Duvenhage saw for himself the freshman's persistence. Wurtzman said although he considered other schools – including Florida State and Illinois – talking to Duvenhage is what sealed the deal for him.

Wurtzman's addition to the UF roster has not changed his bold spirit. In his first semester as a Gator he posted an 11-4 singles record, and in the beginning of the spring season he was working on a 9-0 winning streak.

Although he isn't sure what the future holds for him, Wurtzman said he would like to become a professional tennis player or a coach at college. "He's pretty confident and he goes into everything thinking he can succeed," Marc Wurtzman said. "He's laid back but he shows maturity and dedication, and going to UF, one of the premier programs in the country, will help him succeed further."

Lindsey Irwin can be reached at loot16@aol.com
Stretch-run pushes UF track and field to its limits

Coach Doug Brown has called the Penn Relays a global event and said the competition UF will face is going to be comparable to what it will see at the NCAA Championship. The increased level of competition will not be the only thing different for UF.

The Penn Relays also offer an atmosphere in which the teams are not used to competing.

"You always have to be focused and ready way in advance because you can't warm up," distance runner Chris Duncan said. "Penn Relays is always go and go. It's so crowded — there's more people there than at an amusement park."

Competing in a regular season meet that has a championship-like feel gets his runners motivated to perform, Jones said.

"It's a carnival. Our kids get more fired up for this than any other meet, except for the NCAA Championship and [the Southeastern Conference Tournament]. How many times does a kid get a chance to run in front of 40,000 people, other than football?"

Along with the pressure to compete well and solidify their qualifying marks for the NCAA Tournament, the Gators are feeling the pressure of finals week and know they are not going home on summer vacation any time soon.

Duncan said the men's team will be going through multiple workouts every day, and the end of the semester means they will be able to focus on the NCAA Championships.

Brown said the next few weeks are the hardest on his athletes because of the magnitude of events left on the schedule and the pressure finals put on his student athletes.

"This is a tough week stress-wise because we got the Penn Relays coming up," he said. "It's the last week of classes and finals start. It's kind of burning the candle at both ends and you don't have much choice."

Junior Keyon Soley said that despite the added stress and workouts, the tools are in place to perform well at the Penn Relays and win an SEC and possibly an NCAA Championship.

"No one is really gonna touch us in [4x400-meter] that relay," Soley said. "The workouts sometimes will kill us but we're all very positive for the upcoming events."

Dan Rachal can be reached at d_rachal@yahoo.com
They entered this season with a purpose.

Five freshmen knew nothing about the Gators’ past, four sophomores knew nothing about the NCAA Championships and the remaining four upperclassmen knew too much about postseason defeat.

Still, each had one thing in common with the rest.

They all had a reason to win.

“I think we are going to surprise a lot of people this season,” Coach Judi Markell said at the start of the season. “There is good depth and good choice, and there’s a lot of young talent.”

As the season got underway, Markell’s prediction began to take shape. After their second meet, the Gators shot up three spots in the national rankings to No. 7.

Seven meets into the season, five of six losses were to teams ranked in the top five.

Eventually, the Gators would slow down. The team totals began to fall, as did the rankings. But with just a few weeks left in the season they turned the heat back up, concluding the year as the seventh-best team in the nation.

Regardless of the rest of the season – the highs and the lows – the Gators had accomplished the one thing that would make their season that much more successful than the year before.

They advanced to the NCAA Championships.

After a fourth-place finish in the preliminary round of the NCAA Championships, the Gators closed their season.

Fourteen meets after the start of the season, the group of gymnasts who were separated by memories of different pasts had become a unit.

By Jeff Darlington

Settling the standard

Freshman Kara Waterhouse finished her first collegiate season as a second-team All-American in the all-around and balance beam.

Now they all know what it feels like to compete in the NCAA Championships.

More importantly, they all know what it takes to get there.

Jeff Darlington can be reached at jdarlington@alligator.org

By season’s end, Thompson had broken every one of her collegiate-bests. She also was named an All-American on floor and was an event-finalist in the NCAA Championships.

Still, each had one thing in common with the rest.

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“I think we are going to surprise a lot of people this season,” Coach Judi Markell said at the start of the season. “There is good depth and good choice, and there’s a lot of young talent.”

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Fourteen meets after the start of the season, the group of gymnasts who were separated by memories of different pasts had become a unit.
Readers must endure summer without Truth

This column is best read while listening to Barbara Streisand's "Memories". Scattered pictures of the smiles we left behind...

Music fades and monologue begins:

What can I say? Things were going so well, but I just think we were moving too fast. I need some space.

You know, in life, all incredibly great things must come to an end.

So that's why I'm saying goodbye and giving you, my loyal and devout readers, the farewell installment of Objective Truth.

No, please, don't cry.

Many readers may wander this earth all summer in total confusion - somewhat like Liberals who try to explain their un-German philosophy.

I promise things will get better. Right now, I'm sure you're all picking up the broken pieces of a shattered life without me, the Oracle of University Avenue.

But the summer will be over sooner than you think and dogmatic proclamations and narcissistic diatribes will again grace these pages.

Well, my final dogmatic proclamation of the year regards basketball.

Go after what he wants and that makes him a better person overall."

UF coach Ian DuVigneau said he recognized this in Wurtzman. His ability to resist being intimidated and the way he relished the challenge of playing difficult opponents were what prompted DuVigneau to play the freshmen at the No. 1 position for 10 matches during this year's regular season.

Wurtzman exemplified these traits at a much younger age, however.

James Fletcher, N.Y., was Wurtzman's home from birth until age 15. The eight months of snowy winter caused eager tennis players to scurry to the indoor courts at Midtown Tennis Club during the day.

Determined to improve, the 8-year-old Wurtzman would go to the club's courts at 7 in the evening, when chances of getting a court were better. He would not come home until 9:30.

If he couldn't get to a tennis court, the garage door or a basement wall would do. At age 10, when Wurtzman began to play national tournaments, his goal was to be the best.

"When he was just getting started he would make up a 16 person draw and he would be every person," Marc Wurtzman said. "He would play out the tournament down in the basement for two to three hours."

Wurtzman said that while his parents encourage and continue to support his tennis, it was the early influence of his only sibling that laid the foundation for his persistence.
learning the hard way

Stories by Matthew Boedy  Photos and Photo Illustrations by Lee Ferinden and Justin Knapfel
For Clayton Peterson, a student at near 1300 students and was admitted to University, the well-reasoned argument was on cause. But what was on was gone, and arrested. smart for that, Peterson was a Germany who, when States, lived in D that city, home of found a home and study there as an student.

So after being a big hope of walk on the campus in the Fall of 1994.

But back in Germany, suspended after becoming school field trip. But admission and his spend his first sixth college at neighbor Carolina State Un University.

In the circle that Peterson's life, the one well.

After transferring for Spring 1994, he became frustrated, because at home drinking age was 21. He school and did not enjoyed what he atmosphere school. But being 18, parties and bars were reach.

"I'd pretty much have we said.

As many students, Peterson set out to 

"If I had a fake the dandy," Peterson phone conversations. But as fate would work to gain a fake

that semester. He was craving but no what I woke on a Sa what I felt was a person said.

He devised a university's lam and use it to create

"I thought this was idea because if I ID stolen again I other one," he said. "I thought it was idea to break into.

But it went beyond idea. To get the machine, Peterson scheme - he needed whoever might have catching him.

First, he did about his plan. He knew he had lost fake ID. But if he in the market for it came up as stole just put two and

"If I break into that city, home of would be little in said. "My friends would say it and would say looking for that and have figured out concerned I would.

Peterson has always cautious. He was
Rayton Peterson, a student who scored 1300 on his SAT and admitted to Duke in 1993, the plan was cut short and for a good reason. What he didn't figure out was getting caught. He was too young to think about the consequences.

His plan put him under suspicion, or at least diverted it. While rummaging through his father's attic in Durham for a flash light, he found a pipe bomb he had made just two years before in Germany. Peterson used them out and blow up stumps. "Big fireworks are what they are," he recalled, and a light that went off in Peterson's head. Underneath the shadow of this light, the break-in would never be noticed.

He would plant one of those pipe bombs in the university's Allen Building to distract investigators from his taking of the office supplies.

"My first reaction when I got arrested ... I felt like I died inside. I knew it my life was over. I lost a lot. It hit me. I felt like I was going to throw up."

"It is all about distraction. The idea of distractions is just ancient I guess. Sure there are the movies and TV and playing them off the trial. But I can't say I was influenced at all," he said.

The bomb - a Gatorade bottle filled with gasoline - was discovered in a closet by an administrator the day after. It failed to detonate because the fuse burned out inches before igniting.

At Peterson's sentencing he pleaded guilty to possessing a bomb, manufacturing it, and possessing six smaller devices that were found in his father's home - 49 months in a federal prison.

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"My first reaction when I got arrested ... I felt like I died inside. I knew it my life was over. I lost a lot. It hit me. I felt like I was going to throw up," Peterson said. "I'm not going to send you anything and not going to talk to you. That's not dissonant but ... I had to realize what I was doing to my family and Becky."

Becky was and is his girlfriend he lives with now. Peterson is close to finishing his computer engineering degree, back again at NC State. He said he has softened over the past three years, after what he said was a hardening that he could not escape.

But if things were different - if there had been no Estill Federal Prison - Peterson said the man with his name might be different now.

"I would be interested to see how I would be now had I not gone to prison," he said. "I know I am a better person for having gone to prison. Some of the best experiences I have had had been in prison. I really like who I am and I really like who I have become and I know I would have not become the person that I am without having gone to prison."
After a night of drugs, drinking and video games, a murder for money didn't seem like a stretch for former North Carolina State University student Neal Henderson.

He found himself in the middle of a heinous crime, part of a trio that also included James Upchurch III and the group's leader Christopher Pritchard, who all played roles in the brutal murder of Pritchard's stepfather in 1998.

The idea was to kill Pritchard's parents to gain his inheritance. Pritchard was set to inherit $2 million upon their death. Henderson said by phone in November, Pritchard was sentenced to death. He and his mother barely alive. They stopped and were spotted by a farmer.

In December he was paroled after a decade to not keep his role in the crime a secret. Henderson said by phone in November, "Never, never in 10 years."

"I was not thinking about getting out, but do the best you can where you are," Henderson said. "I was not thinking about getting out, but do the best you can where you are," Henderson said. He was always a good student. In prison, Henderson found himself in a state penal system that had not erased its inmate education programs.

"That has been my goal from the beginning. I have wanted to finish my education," he said.

Inmates as students

At first, Henderson was housed at a facility that did not offer college courses. But when he was moved to Orange Correctional Facility in Raleigh, he was just miles from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

UNC has offered correspondence courses to inmates for more than 25 years. Each year, several hundred inmates can enroll in Introduction to Psychology, English, and any of the other 150 liberal arts courses through the respected state university. The superintendent of Orange Correctional Facility, Michael Thumm, said Henderson was a model prisoner and student.

"He's been an outstanding student. He made the honor roll during the summer," Thumm said.

Henderson's degree, when he finishes in 2002, will be in computer science. It is that degree, partially earned in prison, which could be his ticket to remaining on the outside.

Inmates with at least two years of college education have a 10 percent re-arrest rate, according to a 1997 report in The Christian Science Monitor. The return rate for degree holders leaving the Texas Department of Criminal Justice between September 1990 and August 1991 was 15 percent. Those numbers compare to an overall return rate of 60 percent nationwide.

"At Orange, Thumm says the return rate is about 7 percent. The education system there not only aims to stop the revolving door, it has found supporters outside the prison system because it is practical. Thumm estimates it takes $30,000 a year to incarcerate an inmate and with inmates averaging two years a stay, inmates can force a hefty bill if they continue to come back. It not only helped large number of individuals, but the reason we've got more money every year is the state agrees it saves the taxpayers money every year," he said.

Survival of the mind

Thumm used to get calls on a regular basis from other states and prisons wanting to try to implement educational programs. But now he admits, the calls have slowed. It has been tough not only for the state, but any inmate in any prison nationwide to find the means to pay for college courses after Pell Grants were denied by Congress to prisoners in 1994.

After that, most educational reforms in prisons evaporated. At its peak in 1982, the number of programs was more than 350, which were available in 45 states. The arguments against educating inmates focuses on the idea that the benefits should be gained from prison. Crime and then punishment.

But prison officials and inmate advocates say that the data and daily observations prove that inmates who are educated in the system often behave better and when they are released, do not come back as often.

More surprisingly, there is a sense that inmates can achieve just as much as the modern college student.

"Initially I thought they thought it was an opportunity to get out of their cell," said Mark Gupton, educational specialist for the divisions of prisons in North Carolina. "But once they get involved they become real college students. It is amazing to listen in and watch the interaction between the students and the professor. You would think you were in a college classroom.

At first, in the prisoner education program at Spring Arbor College in Spring Arbor, Mich., any inmate was allowed to take classes. But this past summer, the college closed its doors to inmates. During the course of the program, which started in 1979, 3,800 inmates enrolled and 400 graduated.

Natalie Gianetti, dean for the School of Adult Studies and off-campus programs at Spring Arbor, said when the program ended there were 80 inmates enrolled and they were able to finish nine inmates through with diplomas before the doors closed.

She adds that one of the more disappointing aspects of the closure is that at the end inmates who life sentences could not enroll in classes. For those who are set never to see the outside of a prison, education not only strengthens the mind but softens the heart.

"We really feel one of the good things is their own personal growth," Gianetti said. "I think they are not only educating themselves but there in a college classroom and a whole demeanor. Does it happen to everyone? No probably not. But neither does it happen for everyone in college. I think it is one of the outcomes you don't expect going in."
They have moved from the campus to the cellblock. The quad they now see is enclosed by fence. And the dreams they once had are now expressed through regretful what-might-have-beens.

They are a group of former chemistry and international finance majors from campuses such as North Carolina State, Duke and UF. They are now inmates, incarcerated because of crimes of murder and irrationality.

Their stories share common threads—drugs, alcohol and violence. Now, years after their crimes, the inmates responded to interview requests because they wanted students to know how it could happen to them. The former college students turned prisoners want those who are fickle with the law to know life changes fast and furious, resonating for a lifetime.

The when and where of the crimes seem easy enough.


Why is the question that remains. Some talk about the past. Some say they will not mention to their children. But the past will not remain just the past anymore.

Some have become celebrities. Henderson and Upchurch's story was made into two television movies, based on two books. Some have become subjects of law school exams. At the University of Texas, the pretrial procedure class was asked on its final exam how Brown could have overturned a judge's decision to deny him bail upon his arrest.

These inmates have become one of the nearly two million Americans in prison with only their name, number and thoughts about their crime. They share the label criminal, but not all have shed the label of their former lives. Some have met Gatson in prison and felt compassion. Some continue to defy the law that has locked them up.

The big picture

It is hard to know how many young people have been thrown from institutions of higher learning into institutions of punishment. Nationwide, more than 70 percent of all people entering state prisons have not completed high school.

But while crimes by college students often are the same as the general public, most student criminals are first offenders, who are often given probation and/or suspended sentences because of first offender laws. Those same laws help expunge criminal pasts if the student carries out their sentence without problems.

Former UF student Binh Lam, who refused requests to be interviewed for this story, pleaded guilty last year to statutory rape and child molestation after having sex with a 13-year-old girl he met online. He received seven years in prison but was sentenced under Georgia's First Offender Act that allows his conviction to be voided if he completes his sentence without problems.

Former University of Texas-Austin student Jamal Brown knows he can't dodge his robbery conviction. While he is appealing his 20-year sentence, still the years in prison are unexplainable except to tell the truth. Arrested at 21, he has spent the last four years in a Middleton, Texas, prison.

"I had an internship lined up for that summer. Who is going to give me the same opportunity again," he wrote. "I was young then (not that I am old now). I gotta explain to an employer why my resume has a big gap in it. I have even considered telling a lie about where I have been (but letting them know I have a felony conviction) if my cell faces east, the sunset if it faces west," Upchurch wrote.

Most inmates spend their time inside their small cell. Some take classes. Some have jobs. Many have televisions. Others play softball or basketball. But the entertainment can differ. Peterson played in a band. Upchurch listens to Howard Stern before his job starts at 8 a.m.

Bird plays Risk almost daily. Brown reads USA Today and watches "The Young & The Restless," but admits he doesn't watch that much. He is a fan of CBS.

"Thursdays is my television night — Survivor, CSI and 48 Hours," Brown wrote.

It is the same routine most days.

"Sometimes there'll be a stabbing or a rape to liven things up in the block, but most of the time it's the same old thing every day. Prison hardens you so much that, over the years, you end up looking forward to things just for the change of pace," Upchurch writes.
Ingham County, home to Michigan State, had 18.6 percent of the total population. Stuart Dunnings III, head prosecutor, said those inmates were students at the time of their crimes. Whatever the exact number, he admits, many of the inmates interviewed said that those who commit crimes will end up in prison, no matter their age.

The numbers, though, do not reveal if those inmates were students at the time of their crimes. Whatever the exact number of students in prison may be, it is not large. The chances for the young to serve time is minute. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, by age 20 one in every 100 people will go to prison for the first time.

For whites, the chance is a quarter of one percent. For Hispanics, it is 1.5 in a 100. For blacks, it is more than 4 in a 100. For men it is 2 percent. For women, the chance is negligible at one tenth of one percent.

Nearly all those numbers double by age 25.

How they got there

On campus and around the nation, crime rates are on the decline. But the prison population continues to grow, giving rise to the question of what those who commit crimes will end up in prison, no matter their age.

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For Derek Phillips, the words that describe the path of his life do not come easily. More than two years ago, he and another college football player got drunk one night and killed a home-less man.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey called the crime a "murder by torture." The man — Lloyd Brown — had 27 separate injuries, 13 alone that would have been fatal.

Phillips declares from prison that he did not kill anyone. He says his only crime was not trying to stop the beating. For now, though, the former college athlete must wait 15 years for his first parole hearing.

On November 1998, Phillips went into an alley off Chico, Calif.'s West Fifth Street to urinate after a night of drinking.

He returned to the alley with fellow Butte red-shirt freshman Trevor Bird a little later and hit Brown repeatedly with a spare tire, a fence board and a 40-gallon jug. Brown died seven hours later at a nearby hospital.

Phillips was not the more violent of the pair. Family and friends from his hometown of Spokane, Wash., described him as a "gentle giant" in letters to the trial judge.

Phillips rarely drank, and had never been in trouble with the law before. That night for Phillips often slows his thinking. For Phillips and Bird it was a fight — a fight to death.

"I think alcohol was the main contrib-utor to my crime because it inhibited my judgment and also made the police not believe our statement," Phillips wrote in a letter.

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Now 22, Phillips says prison has not changed him. He does not want to fall into the crowd of criminals that are repeat visitors in California prisons.

Waiting on that parole hearing, Phillips reads the three or four letters he receives each week from his family. They make him think. The crime. The man he killed. The time he has left to ponder it all.

"I seem to think about it all the time. It is one of those things," he said. "It's hard to describe. It is the hardest part, to not think about it."

Derek has never been in trouble. He will tell you that. He's never had a parking ticket," Goldkind said. "It's ruined a good portion of his life by 15 minutes preceded by several hours of drinking."

It's ruined a good portion of his life by 15 minutes preceded by several hours of drinking."
STUDENTS

25. My life plan was to have something very stable by this time.*

But his words also reveal something innate about the prison system. He says he will never forget the "ignorance" of prison and he wishes the place where rehabilitation is a watchword would do more to help him get the life he desires.

"I am more driven than I have ever been. I am determined to turn this thing around," he wrote. "I never thought I would be a statistic. The real question is what am I going to do about it when I get out. The $100 they give you when you get out sure as hell does not help getting your life started. Fortunately I have family, but what about those that do not?"

Words of wisdom

Brown is not the only one concerned about the other former college students who are now in prison.

The letters and phone calls have allowed the former students now inmates to tell their stories. It is their stories that they said could force students to think most.

The inmates responded because they wanted to know students like they were once could be taught their lessons of life. If you think just because you have a college education you can't go to prison, Peterson said, think again. "Anybody can go to prison," he said. Brown learned that lesson as well.

"As far as some of the decisions I made that dreadful night, I can say I regretted quite a bit," he wrote. "Being thrown into a scene straight out of (a) movie is quite questionable as far as what one would do when faced with the situation. Student council and the vice-chairman of the NAACP made no difference that evening. Decisions are made good and bad. I made some bad ones that night."

Brown adds his situation has no value as an example to others because his partner in crime was someone he had just met on a Friday. By Sunday they were in jail, Brown never to see the outside again for 20 years. He wonders though what it all means.

"Watch the company you keep? I barely even knew him so I can't say watch your friends. My friends (real close) are all college graduates now so it wasn't them - maybe devine (sic) intervention? I don't have all the answers and never will."

For Trevor Bird, he wanted to know what his friend Dereck Phillips had to say. And he wanted to explain, if only, to be futile.

"When I think of other people trying to raise their kids I wish there was some advice I could give to make them see how dangerous our world can be. And have teenagers know how important it is to stick with the right priorities. I know life is a struggle for everyone but trust, honesty, and common sense make it a whole lot easier. I think my example of what happened to me could help a lot of kids if I can find the right way to express myself, hopefully, someday I'll find a way," he wrote.