Fraternity actions spark UF charges

By Jessica Orr
Alligator Writer

The Dean of Students Office is investigating charges that Sigma Chi Fraternity members blindfolded sorority members and dumped flour, milk, bourbon and maggots on some of the women's heads, according to a charge letter released Friday.

The fraternity has been charged with three violations of the Student Conduct Code stemming from an event which took place in October.

The charges claim fraternity members invited members of Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority to a date function and allegedly displayed disorderly conduct, created an offensive educational environment and violated regulations set by the Dean of Students Office staff.

A witness said in a statement that at least one man called the women offensive words and described the incident as "uncomfortable" and "threatening."

The witness also said in the statement that members of the sorority said fraternity members "toned it down" this year by not using cow dung, dropping live mice down the women's shirts or draping dead animals across the women's shoulders.

Cyrus Williams, assistant dean for Student Judicial Affairs, sent a letter to Sigma Chi on Friday outlining the charges.

During the October incident announcing the date function called Biker Bash, fraternity members allegedly used profanity to call women out of the sorority house, surrounded and blindfolded them and then dumped flour, milk, a fifth of bourbon and maggots over the heads of some of the women, according to the letter. 

see CHARGE, page 11

George P. Bush supports father in law school speech

By Cameron Ackroyd
Alligator Staff Writer

Countless balloons, political signs and, of course, exclamation marks welcomed Gov. Jeb Bush's son, George P. Bush, to the Levin College of Law auditorium Saturday.

About 100 people showed up to hear Bush speak about his father's record as governor.

He said his father was "motivated not in the typical quest for political power, but in his dedication to Florida's people."

"He intends to run on his record."

He defended his father's moves to abolish Affirmative Action with the One Florida plan, and increase accountability in public schools with Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. He said his father's reforms have proven successful.

Saturday's visit was part of a weekend trip to different Florida universities before heading back to Texas, where Bush currently attends law school.

"[George P. Bush] came out to support his father and to get the youth involved in the campaign," said Anne Pizzato, College Republicans chairwoman.

Bush's campaign hopes George P. Bush would appeal to other college-aged people, who do not generally vote in large numbers.

After his speech, Bush took time to talk with everyone who came out to see him.

He also answered some questions concerning his family that have made the news during the campaign.

He addressed recent events involving his sister Noelle Bush - who recently finished serving a 10-day jail sentence for violating her probation stemming from a drug case.

Bush said every family has issues, and he said his father respects Bill McBride and is glad the Democrat hasn't tried to make an issue out of his sister's recent troubles.

Finally he talked about his choice to go out of Florida for college and law school.

He said he considered the UF law school, but said he had worked in Texas and got to know some of the teachers and students at the school there, and decided it was just a "better fit" than UF.

"Plus, you can't beat the Tex-Mex food," he said.

New numbers will replace social security number at UF

By Julia Crouse
Alligator Writer

Students worried about identity theft have one less thing to fret about next semester when Social Security numbers, the official identification number beginning Jan. 21.

"It just isn't necessary to see Social Security numbers just to enroll in a class," said Diane Craig, the communication and training leader for the project. "It is uncalled for, there is no reason for [the number] to be there."

The eight-digit number will be used for nearly all university transactions, including picking up tickets for sporting events, checking out books in the library or looking up test scores.

Integrated Student Information System also will change its identification system from using Social Security numbers to Gatorlink IDs sometime next semester.

Social Security numbers still will be used for items reported to the local, state or federal government, such as payroll, taxes and financial aid.

Access to Social Security numbers will be very limited, Craig said.

The numbers will not appear on any public records for the university, and department administrators should not need to use them.

In conjunction with the new ID system, Craig said a new Web-based directory will be put into place.

The directory will be easier to use and more comprehensive than the one currently in place.

For example, in addition to the name and contact information, the new directory would include his or her position, relationship with the university in addition to the regular information, Craig said.

Administrators and Student Government officials began looking into changing the ID numbers in Fall 2000 and formed a committee to research the problem.

UF began the development of the new system last January and picked up speed at the beginning of this semester, Craig said.
In Brief

ACROSS THE STATE

Noelle Bush released from 10-day jail stint

ORLANDO (AP) - Gov. Jeb Bush's daughter was released from jail early Saturday, 10 days after a judge ordered her locked up for violating terms of her court-ordered drug treatment program.

Noelle Bush left the Orange County jail around 4 a.m., said Allen Moore, spokesman for the county corrections department. She was picked up in a sports utility vehicle in a closed garage to the side of the jail, away from media cameras, instead of departing through the facility’s entrance as most inmates do.

She returned to the Center for Drug-Free Living in Orlando, her brother, George P. Bush, a law student in Texas.

The president’s 25-year-old niece has been asked to attend drug treatment after she was arrested in January for allegedly trying to use a fraudulent prescription to buy the anti-anxiety drug Xanax at a pharmacy drive-through window. Under the diversion program, the charges could be dropped if she completes treatment.

Juliann Bush Whitehead since has sent her to jail twice for violating the terms of that agreement.

In July, she was jailed for three days after a treatment worker caught her with prescription pills. The 10-day stint that ended Saturday followed allegations that she was found, with crack cocaine in her shoe at the center. The state attorney’s office had sought to interview workers at the treatment center, but a judge ruled that doing so would violate federal privacy laws.

AROUND THE NATION

Third man arrested in connection to attacks

FLINT, Mich. (AP) - The man who co-owned the blue Chevrolet Caprice believed to have been used in the Washington-area sniper attacks appeared in court Sunday and is fully cooperating with federal authorities, his attorney said.

Federal defender Kenneth R. Sasse said investigators already had questioned his client, Nathaniel O’Osbourne, at length.

Osbourne, 26, waived his right to a detention hearing in Michigan, where he was arrested Saturday, and agreed to be moved to federal custody in Maryland. Sasse said he expected U.S. marshals to take Osbourne to Maryland in the next three days.

The Jamaican citizen, described as a friend of sniper suspect John Allen Muhammad, is wanted for questioning as a material witness in the attacks that left 10 people dead and three critically wounded during three weeks in Maryland, Virginia and Washington. Officials said he is not suspected of carrying out any of the attacks.

Why Osbourne was in Michigan, how long he had been there and how authorities tracked him to the Flint area where he was arrested is unclear. The affidavit for Osbourne’s arrest, which would give authorities’ reasons for holding him, was sealed.

Ben Folds performs to a sold-out crowd at the Palace on Friday night.

BEN FOLDS CONCERT

CARA BOWERS-GOLDBERG / ALLIGATOR STAFF

To Alei Adair,
Good luck in the Homecoming Pageant!

Love,
Alpha Chi Omega

ΦΜ

Supports our sisters

Dana Walczak
Amy Vu
Sarah Morgan
Meagan Hinchliffe

Homecoming Pageant 2002

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ΦΜ

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East Gainesville receives four new playgrounds

By Jessica Orr  
Alligator Staff Writer

About 300 people spent a hot, humid Saturday digging holes, planting flowers and bushes, burying tires and making final preparations to install four new playground facilities at Kennedy Homes in east Gainesville.

The project, which was part of the national day of service called Make a Difference Day, was an effort coordinated by UF's Office of Community Service to design and construct new playgrounds for children living in this area.

More than 30 different organizations were involved in the project, which began Oct. 17 and will conclude Nov. 8 with a ceremony and a speech from UF President Charles Young, said Amber Curtis, who works with AmeriCorps, a program helping disadvantaged communities.

"I noticed that the playground was practically non-existent," said Curtis, who proposed the project in the Spring. "The kids were getting hurt and had nothing to do."

Curtis said she didn't expect the project to attract so many organizations and sponsors. Organizations that participated included members of UF fraternities and sororities, architectural students and other service organizations.

"It's so rewarding to see an idea turn into something like this," she said.

Teams of volunteers worked together under the direction of architectural students, who were responsible for the overall design of each of the four different playgrounds.

The playground equipment will be installed by Nov. 1.

Frankie Sepcic, an architecture senior, who designed one of the playgrounds, said designers wanted to take an educational approach to the playgrounds.

Spcic said he spent at least a month designing the playground and three days of manual labor preparing for the project, hauling tires and other materials.

"This is my first time implementing something at full scale compared to the design models we do in class," he said.

Spcic said the volunteers hauled about 7,000 pounds of donated tires to the site.

Volunteers took breaks to cool off and ate pizza donated by Dominos, Papa John's and Sano's Healthy Pizza, while music blasted from speakers set up by Magic 101.3 radio station.

Some children had a head start playing around the areas, while others watched the progress or helped the volunteers plant gardens.

"The best part is having little kids come up and talk to you while you're working," said Mara Baker, a freshman and member of Phi Mu Sorority.

Eight sororities and two fraternities participated in the project, which is the Panhellenic Council's largest service project of the year, said Megan Hoot, Make a Difference Day director.

"UF has really come together as a team for this project," she said. "It's the first time something like this has been done in east Gainesville."

Locals remember sniper victim as 'tender-hearted'

By Tracy Swartz  
Alligator Staff Writer

They knew her as the woman who constantly asked the difficult questions, who relentlessly sought after God, who always persevered – through school, through breast cancer, through life.

To those who knew Linda Franklin, the ninth victim of the Washington-area sniper, she was tender-hearted, honest and courageous.

Nearly 200 mourners gathered Friday at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church to remember Franklin, the 47-year-old FBI analyst from Arlington, Va., who spent most of her childhood in Gainesville.

"Every summer she would come home for vacation and bring a list of questions," her father, Charles Moore, told the tearful audience in the church where Franklin was married. "She would always seek the truth."

Franklin was killed by a single shot in the head Oct. 14 as she and her husband, Ted, were loading their red convertible in the parking lot outside a Home Depot in Falls Church, Va.

During the service, Moore painfully recalled how as a child, Franklin questioned everything from religion to dress and how her constant pursuit of the truth helped her earn a bachelor's degree in education from UF.

At the time of her death, Franklin was still undergoing physical therapy for her double mastectomy to rid her body of breast cancer. Two months earlier, the Moores also lost their 18-year-old granddaughter in a car accident.

"I've seldom seen people be brutalized by two such remarkable occurrences together," said the Rev. Gordon H. Tremaine, who counseled the Moores through both tragedies. "They have had their whole world explode."

Tremaine said the family was relieved police captured two men suspected in the sniper attacks. He said the family was comforted to know that no one else would fall victim to the sniper's random shot.

"[Moore is] glad they caught him," Tremaine said, referring to Thursday's arrest of suspects John Allen Muhammad and John Lee Malvo. "But I didn't hear any desire for vengeance."

Franklin is survived by her husband, Ted; two grown children, Thomas Belvin and Katrina Hannum; her parents, Charles and Maryann Moore; her brother, Steven Moore; and her sister, Susan Kundrat.

She was buried in National Memorial Park in Alexandria, Va.

Mourners gathered last Monday in Virginia to remember the energetic woman who loved her family.

"She called every week," said Moore, fighting back tears. "She hasn't called for a few weeks and it hurts."

"I didn't hear."

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Ballot provision seeks pig protection

Editor's note: This is the first day of election coverage outlining the amendments and issues of the 2002 general election.

By Jon Custer
Alligator Writer

In a move that the Florida Farm Bureau complains will "lard up" the state's constitution, animal rights activists are giving Florida voters a chance to make life easier for pigs by banning farmers from placing them in gestation crates.

If passed, Amendment 10 -- which will appear on the Nov. 5 ballot -- would add a new section to the state's constitution banning gestation crates, which some farmers use to store pregnant pigs.

Melinda Fox, a UF forest resources and conservation senior who co-founded Animal Activists of Alachua to promote the amendment, said she saw her first gestation crate at UF's Swine unit.

"I just thought, 'This can not be right,'" she said.

While the measure would affect only two farmers in the state's tiny pork industry, according to amendment sponsors, proponents say it will keep out corporate "mega farms" in the future and provide a precedent for similar initiatives in more hog-heavy regions.

"It's a pre-emptive strike, we want to stop corporate hog farms from moving into the state before they get here," said Rebecca Frye of Ban Cruel Farms, the statewide group behind the amendment.

She also pointed out the amendment would not apply to farrowing crates, which are used to protect piglets from being crushed to death.

But Steve Basford, one of the two farmers in Florida who uses gestation crates, sees a more sinister, ulterior motive.

"Anybody that likes to eat meat need not pay attention because this is a bunch of vegetarians whose goal is to do away with animal agriculture," said Basford, who estimated it would cost him $600,000 to comply with the amendment. "They're trying to appeal to the people who just don't know what it takes to produce pork to feed this country."

But Frye said the initiative only seeks to give pregnant pigs more room to turn around.

Basford also said the amendment would add unnecessary pork to the state's cluttered constitution.

"This is bigger than a pig issue. This is an issue that needs looking at because we don't need to clutter up our constitution with these kinds of frivolous things," Basford said.

He also accused activists of trying to circumvent the legislative process.

"They tried for several years to get someone in the Legislature to sponsor their bill and they couldn't get it done," Basford said.

"I thought that was a pretty good litmus test -- if you can't get the Legislature of Florida to sponsor it, it must be pretty outrageous."

Activists originally tried to persuade legislators to pass the measure as law, however, Fox said the "process was so arduous."

She said activists then decided to take the idea directly to voters.

But while agricultural interests and political purists decry the amendment, Fox and Frye were optimistic voters would be more concerned about pigs' welfare than about a sloppy constitution.

"What we have found out is that voters across the state believe that cruelty to animals is morally wrong, whether you're talking about pets or farm animals," Frye said.

Amendment revamps exemptions threshold

By Julia Crouse
Alligator Writer

It may become more difficult to deny access to public records if an amendment on the Nov. 5 ballot passes.

Amendment 4 would require the Florida Legislature to have a two-thirds vote in order to create an exemption to access public records. The public is denied access to certain areas of public records through exemptions.

Amendment 4 would tighten the standard for creating new exemptions, said Barbara Petersen, president of the First Amendment Foundation.

It would not change the law, merely modify the requirement of a majority for the Legislature to pass exemptions from a majority -- 50 percent plus one -- to a two-thirds majority. All exemptions must pass through both the Florida Senate and House and be signed by the governor.

"What we have to remember is every time the Legislature creates an exemption to the Sunshine law because many of the exemptions are passed with more than two-thirds of votes," Petersen said.

She said that the Legislature passed 16 exemptions in the past year -- four during special sessions after Sept. 11, 10 in the regular spring session and two in post-season sessions.

"While many of the exemptions were not controversial and would have passed without the amendment, such as making personal finances non-public information, others would not have," Petersen said.

Student Body President Nikki Basford said she doesn't think the amendment will create a dramatic change to the Sunshine law because many of the exemptions are passed with more than the two-thirds vote.

She said that the Legislature passed 16 exemptions in the past year -- four during special sessions after Sept. 11, 10 in the regular spring session and two in post-season sessions.

While many of the exemptions were not controversial and would have passed without the amendment, such as making personal finances non-public information, others would not have been.

"We need a visionary leader who can pull all the components of health education together," Barkley said.

"I know that nationally health care services are rising, but I think it's a good idea to make sure we have healthy students on campus," chairwoman Amelie Romelus said. "The increase will be in health education services without worrying about other departments. A search for the person has not yet begun."

"We want one person who has specialty in health education who will be able to take us to the next notch," said Tavis Glassman, coordinator of the Campus Alcohol and Drug Resource Center.

"I have worked in other health care centers at several Big 10 schools and none are as diverse as UF."

Health fee likely to increase 39 cents

By Cherise James
Alligator Contributing Writer

UF students could pay 39 cents more a credit hour for services from the Student Health Care Services next year and create a new health care position if a proposed increase receives final approval.

SHCC director Phillip Barkley asked for the increase to keep up with the rising costs of supplying health care.

The increase would raise the fee to $7.71 for each credit hour students take.

The committee approved the fee increase and now awaits approval from the UF Board of Trustees.

"I know that nationally health care services are rising, but I think it's a good idea to make sure we have healthy students on campus," chairwoman Amelie Romelus said. "The increase will be well-spent considering the numerous services the center provides to UF students."

Barkley said the new assistant director of health education position was necessary to have someone who could focus on health education services without worrying about other departments. A search for the person has not yet begun.

"We need a visionary leader who can pull all the components of health education together," Barkley said.

Other SHCC employees also stressed the need for the new position.

"We want one person who has specialty in health education who will be able to take us to the next notch," said Tavis Glassman, coordinator of the Campus Alcohol and Drug Resource Center.

"I have worked in other health care centers at several Big 10 schools and none are as diverse as UF."

Redneck Fiddlin' Man

The Charlie Daniels Band performs songs from their newest album "Redneck Fiddlin' Man" on Friday night at the Phillips Center for Performing Arts. Daniels, who celebrates his 66th birthday today, has been entertaining audiences since the 1950s.
Friends of the Library book sale
UF education senior Jessie Eisenzimmer checks out the children’s books section Saturday at the twice-yearly Friends of the Library sale. Hundreds of people lined up to get first dibs on the pre-owned books.

Trustees oppose two amendments
The UF Board of Trustees has taken a stance against two of the more prominent proposed education amendments to the state constitution that will appear on the ballot Nov. 5 during a conference call Friday.

Board chairman Marshall Criser long has been an outspoken opponent of Amendment 11— which would take the Board of Trustees out from under the governor and Legislature and place them under a central Board of Governors.

The Trustees would retain the power to appropriate money within UF.

"I'm very much opposed to it," TrusteeCarlos Alfonso said of the amendment in a press release. "It certainly would be a destabilizing force on the work that has been done over the last 18 months."

The amendment, which is championed by Sen. Bob Graham—is a challenge to Gov. Jeb Bush, who helped establish the current trustee system.

"I think the [current] system should be given an opportunity to work," Trustee Diana Morgan said in the release.

The Trustees' position was "self-serving."

"I think we should look at what's best for the system as a whole," said Reiskind, a UF zoology professor.

UF President Charles Young also has taken a stance against Amendment 9, saying the cost of smaller class sizes might result in a smaller state budget for higher education.

Supporters of the amendment said it would eliminate what has become a very political system, which allows pork-barrel politics to determine which universities get state funding.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.
Simple lessons

Memories on the 34th Street Wall are as fleeting as the institutional recollection of the students who paint there. Each day birthday wishes and messages of thanks are covered with new ones. Few testimonials are expected to remain much longer than it takes the paint to dry. But, one simple painted panel stood largely untouched for 10 years. With a large heart and the names of the five 1990 victims of Danny Harold Rolling's gruesome and disturbing blade, the memorial largely remained in tact as an opportunity to remember not just the names but the emotions of the time.

Yet, in preparation for this year's Homecoming, Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity members covered that meaningful section of the Wall. Members claim it had been washed over when they began their callous brushstrokes.

After realizing their disgusting error, fraternity members took the opportunity this weekend to recreate the memorial. While it was backwards and looks like a timeless innocuous mural that once stood there, at least it shows they recognized the importance of what had been etched there long before they came to campus.

These students learned a difficult history lesson, one that other students need to take in themselves. The Wall's simple message stood as a way to remember the worst of times in the area and the students - Christa Hoyt, Sonja Larson, Tracy Paules, Christina Powell and Manuel Taboada - who needlessly were killed by a madman on a rampage.

It stood as a chance to show students that anything could happen to them, even as they slept in their own home. And how a community can come together in their grief and desperation.

The memorial, even its new incarnation, will stand as a testament to all of this and much more. Well, at least for however long people can keep apathetic and careless brushes off the poignant message.

Vote NO on Amendment 1

Florida's death penalty law prohibits "cruel or unusual punishment" in executions, meaning an effective death sentence appeal requires only one of those conditions be met for it to be shot down.

For example, Utah's firing squad execution method is unusual but not necessarily cruel - so it would fail the legal test.

Amendment 1 proposes to change state law to mirror the U.S. Constitution's Eighth Amendment by changing the threshold to "cruel and unusual punishment" - a less stringent legal standard.

The firing squad potentially would be legal if it was not found cruel, even with the obviously unusual merits.

Effectively, adoption of the amendment would give death row inmates one less ground for appeal. It also would lower the minimum execution age from 17 to 14, the federal minimum after the U.S. Supreme Court failed to weigh in on the issue.

The proposed amendment is a step in the wrong direction as states across the nation are re-examining the constitutionality of the death penalty. While it is unlikely 16-year-olds would be executed, the gesture is not one Floridians ought to make.

The amendment makes no dramatic improvement to our justice system, but it could set a dangerous precedent in Florida and limit the rights of minors and the accused.

For justice and due process, the Alligator votes NO on Amendment 1.
Fetal photo meant to find commonality

Editor: I would first of all like to commend the Alligator and its reporter Katherine McFarland for the fair and balanced Thursday article entitled “Graphic fetal mailing sparks student conflict.”

As part of a movement so often misrepresented, I appreciate the professional integrity shown by the accurate quotes and factual details.

The Human Rights Foundation Inc. is so named because our purpose is precisely that of defending basic human rights to all people, regardless of age. In a community that claims to be so open-minded, it is sad to think many would have closed their minds to our message if the return address had been “Pro-life Foundation.”

We acknowledge the abortion depicted in the brochure is relatively rare.

However, because most people agree that at least late-term abortions of this nature are wrong, our intention is to find common ground on which to begin a civil dialogue. In other words, let’s start with what we agree on and then proceed to better understand our differences.

Many have indicated to us that they believe such procedures are already illegal. We deeply wish that were the case. Unfortunately, our Supreme Court, past president and numerous senators continue to ensure that no child is protected by law before birth.

The recent attempts to ban partial birth abortion would have been the first restrictions of any late-term abortions since 1973. Section XI, 1c of Roe v. Wade declared that after first trimester the state may restrict abortion “except where necessary, in appropriate medical judgment, for the preservation of the life or health of the mother.”

In Roe’s companion case, Doe v. Bolton, the Court defined the scope of the “health” exception as follows: “The medical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors – physical, emotional, psychological, familial and the woman’s age – relevant to the well-being of the patient. All these factors may relate to health.” (Doe, 410 U.S. at 192).

Therefore a physician can perform an abortion on any woman at any time before birth if she judges the pregnancy to be emotionally harmful. The hormonal changes of pregnancy affect the emotions of all women.

The bottom line is that a woman legally can obtain an abortion in the first trimester for no reason and until complete birth for any reason.

I know of no late term abortion since 1973 that has been deemed illegal.

Damon Cudihy
4MD

Paleontologist Paul Sereno has encountered some of the weirdest creatures that ever walked the earth. Yet some of the scariest things he’s discovered aren’t likely to become extinct anytime soon. Sad to say, mutual fund management fees will probably outlast us all. That’s why Dr. Sereno was afraid of getting eaten alive. So he turned to a company famous for keeping the costs down. That meant more money for him and less for the monsters.

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Paul Sereno became a participant in 1987. TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. and Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc., distribute securities products. © 2002 Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF), New York, N.Y. For more complete information on TIAA-CREF Mutual Funds, please visit www.tiaa-cref.org or for a prospectus, read it carefully before you invest. A portion of the management fee is currently waived. A charitable contribution was made to Project Exploration (www.projectexploration.org) on behalf of Paul Sereno.

Advanced tickets available at Ticketmaster Outlets and the UF box office.

Tickets available the day of the show at the Palace.

To request special assistance or accommodations, please contact 392-2677, or e-mail accommodations@ufl.edu. Requests should be made 72 hours in advance. All other questions may be directed to 392-1655 ext. 307.
Carve-off lets architects compete using pumpkins

By Julie Page
Alligator Contributing Writer

Children gathered around a 3-foot pumpkin at Shands at UF on Friday afternoon, and after several adjustments from local engineers, the children finally received their anticipated prizes—gumballs from the jack-o-lantern’s mouth.

The gumball machine pumpkin was just one of more than 20 entries in the 20th annual Flad & Associates pumpkin carve-off. The contest paired pumpkins with architects and engineers to give patients, families and employees award-winning pumpkins that will decorate the hospital floors and give them the opportunity to enjoy Halloween.

“When people are motivated by the right thing it works out well,” said John Blassick, founder of architecture firm Flad & Associates.

Blassick said he was proud to take the firm’s creative talents and see them with everyone at the hospital.

He especially was excited to see the pediatric patients watching the event, Blassick said.

Engineers David Campbell and Wayne Bauman, from Affiliated Engineers, designed the 3-foot gumball machine pumpkin awarded “pumpkin of the year.”

Kim Rose, assistant director of marketing and public relations at Shands, said the carve-off always has been a fun tradition.

“The pumpkins are nothing like what you would put at home on your doorstep,” Rose said.

Pumpkin designs varied from pumpkin dancers to the one-eyed character in Monsters, Inc. The contestants were given an hour and a half to complete their project.

Police advise caution as car burglaries increase in area

By Jesse Jamieson
Alligator Writer

Note to criminals: Never come back to the scene of the crime.

Gainesville Police said an area man’s failure to abide by that rule is what led them to arrest him on burglary charges. Police said Gainesville resident Jimmy Gladden broke into a UF student’s car at 17SW 24th St. on Thursday night at 8:30 and then returned to the scene where he was identified.

But the crime also highlighted an increase in the number of car break-ins at student apartment complexes during the past few months.

Thomas Smith, 32, said he caught Gladden while breaking into his vehicle and confronted him.

Gladden then fled the scene.

But when Smith went to call Gainesville Police, he saw Gladden come back to the scene of the break-in to retrieve his bicycle, giving Smith an even better look at him, GPD spokesman Keith Kameg said.

“We’re on the phone, and the guy forgets his bike,” Kameg said. “He leaves and comes back to get his bike and in the meantime GPD is closing in.”

Gladden was charged with car burglary after he was eventually caught with the help of a police dog near the 2300 block of West University Avenue. Police recovered four stolen car stereos when they arrested Gladden, who could face more charges.

Reports of car burglaries rose from zero in July to 19 in August and 17 in September in student areas bordered by University Avenue, Northwest 13th Street, Southwest Second Avenue and Northwest 16th Avenue, Kameg said.

Many of the burglaries take place when car doors or windows are left open or valuable items, such as CDs, phones and stereos are left in plain sight, Kameg said.

“We’re getting a lot of smashed windows and it only takes a second for the burglar to be gone,” Kameg said. “If your door’s unlocked it takes no time.”

The increase in break-ins should be a reminder to keep valuables in their house and make sure to lock their cars.

“We really need citizens and students to step up because they’re being targeted,” Kameg said.

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Key West's annual festival ends with typical revelry

The Associated Press

KEY WEST - A children's day event at a local park ended Key West's annual costume festival Sunday, but the revelry a day earlier on Duval Street featured a parade that was a bit more risque - ranging from elaborate feathered robes to little more than body paint, festival officials said.

One Fort Lauderdale woman showed off her recent breast implants with the words "Brand New" airbrushed across her chest. Police allowed thongs and painted breasts in the area around Duval and Whitehead streets during this year's 10-day Fantasy Fest.

Ditto for the consumption of alcoholic beverages supplied by vendors in the zone.

The parade's 70 motorized floats, island bands and costumed Caribbean dance groups included a 24-man troupe of "alien killer" Elvis clones.

Clive James and David Stott traveled from Brighton, England, for the eighth consecutive year to promenade down Duval Street with 22 other men, all in drag, wearing feather-trimmed pink dresses.

Sheila Tabone, of Key West, draped her vintage Volkswagen in glittery camouflage fabric to lead the "113th Squadron of the Fierce Fighting Fairies."

"Actually, the car is just a rolling drink holder," Tabone said.

Her fairies were escorted by five members of the New York City Fire Department dressed as firefighting fireflies.

The men marched in last year's parade in honor of two colleagues killed during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, but this year's mood was much lighter.

"We came down for the great hospitality and to have a good time and not worry about anything," said Joe Miccio.

Fantasy Fest began Oct. 18.
SoulFest brings diverse dancing

By April Simpson
Alligator Writer

Homecoming 2002’s presentation of SoulFest transformed the set on Turlington Plaza into a “multicultural extravaganza.” The event Sunday night combined a diverse mixture of multicultural music and dance.

“The theme for SoulFest this year is celebrating the growth and progression toward creating a multicultural Homecoming,” said Homecoming SoulFest director Stephanie Ducheine in a press release. “We chose this theme because we’re excited that we can plan such a diverse Homecoming event that reflects all of the different cultures and talents found on the University of Florida campus that can be enjoyed by everyone.”

SoulFest opened with music group, “Revival.” The band, which formed one year ago, suffered through minor technical difficulties, but overcame them by singing louder and stronger.

“[Our sound is] a lot of different styles all in one—reggae, soul a little rock combination,” drummer Steve Douglas said. “We’re trying to still establish our sound because we come from many different backgrounds.”

When the dance group Capoeira Brasil performed, audience members formed a tight-knit semi-circle. Capoeira, a Brazilian martial art with African roots, combines fighting with music, dance, philosophy and self-expression.

“I came here because I wanted to see the different styles of dancing that UF groups can do,” sophomore Sarah Bartlett said.

In black pants and white T-shirts with individual’s names spray painted on the back, almost 25 Club Creole members performed on the SoulFest stage.

Each member waved the Haitian flag throughout their dance, twisting their bodies with each beat of the drum.

“I was studying and I heard [the music],” said environmental engineering junior Enrique Vadiveloo. “I like a diverse group of people because I like to watch them interact.”

All-male dance troupe, ApocalypREA, earned the attention of the audience dancing to Fabulous’ “Holla Back” and Justin Timberlake’s “Like I Love You”.

“[ApocalypREA] was awesome,” journalism senior Sherika Murray said. “I was here last year and I was waiting to see them this year.”

Other highlights included the RSA dancers, Kappa Alpha Psi step show, ISU dancers.

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Fraternities vie for affection

By Jessica Ott
Alligator Writer

This past week fraternity members have been hard at work in preparation for one of the biggest events of the year — Homecoming.

Evidence of their work could be found at almost every UF sorority house. Brightly painted banners, huge wooden Greek letters and other decorations strategically were placed on the house lawns to mark the Greek tradition.

Each year before Homecoming, fraternity members pick a sorority they would like to be paired with for Homecoming events, and fraternities compete against each other when more than one picks the same sorority.

"It can elevate to madness," said Dayna Gaff, president of Delta Gamma Sorority. "The boys take it to the extreme. They have to convince the sororities they'll have more fun with their fraternity."

Fraternity and sorority houses could feel the excitement from a week full of social events and activities.

"It's a good way for fraternity members to get to know sorority members," Gaff said.

Gaff said a few years ago more than one fraternity was competing to court Delta Gamma and the members were treated to all kinds of pampering, such as professional massages and desserts.

"It was insane," she said. "It was hard to pick because they both deserved to win."

This year, Delta Gamma will be paired with Theta Chi Fraternity, and the two groups will spend the week before Homecoming participating in social events together and building a float for the Homecoming parade, Gaff said.

Most sorority house members will vote on what fraternity they will spend the week of Homecoming with by Monday night.

This year Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority will have to choose between three fraternities, and fraternity members will try their hardest to make sure their fraternity is picked, Gaff said.

"I don't know how they'll pick," she said. "This weekend fraternity members put in their final attempts to get the attention of the sororities.

Professional massage therapists, serenades, chocolate, roses, car rides to class — or anything of a royal nature.

One of the less conventional courting rituals included Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity dropping rose petals on the Chi Omega house by helicopter.

"We were nervous that it wouldn't work because of this wind," said David Mathis, fraternity president. "The girls loved it and the guys were really pleased."

Profanity, maggots allegedly used to announce function

from page 1

CHARGE

Witnesses also observed members of the fraternity drinking, chanting and jeering, according to the charges.

Sorority members voiced complaints last year about methods fraternity members used to announce for the event, said Brian Blank, executive vice president of the Interfraternity Council.

"They were brought in and talked to about what was offensive and what to change," he said.

"It still resulted in the same actions."

Blank said charges were brought against the fraternity because of a violation of the mandate given to them after last year's event.

According to the charge letter, members of Sigma Chi met with Dean of Students Gene Zdziarski on Nov. 15, 2001, to discuss the announcing event, and Zdziarski expressed his concerns and expectations.

Sigma Chi was further informed of appropriate actions earlier this month in a meeting with the director of Greek life. The meeting took place on Oct. 16 — one day prior to the announcing event.

Sigma Chi representatives now must participate in a meeting to review charge information, Williams said.

Fraternity representatives will then claim responsible or not responsible as an organization for the actions at the event, which will determine further hearings.

"We're trying to do all we can to cooperate with the university," he said.

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the independent Florida alligator
Speaker addresses body image issues

By Myhое Polk
Alligator Contributing Writer

During a time where the media controls the images young women create for themselves, women must be more confident and control their own futures, motivational speaker Jessica Weiner said Saturday and Sunday.

Weiner, an eating disorder survivor who tours the world giving confidence-boosting presentations, spoke twice this past weekend—first about the media and how women feel about themselves and second about women empowering themselves.

"Disorders are more than just food," Weiner said. "They are about emotions and people and personalities."

The events were part of the 25th anniversary of UF's Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, sponsored by the Panhellenic Council.

Weiner currently is working on her first book, "A Very Hungry Girl," as well as preparing for a new talk show to air next year. Her motivational presentations have been featured on CNN, "MTV News," in Teen People magazine and the Washington Post.

Saturday's discussion, "Do I Look Fat in This?" revolved around how women feel about images, confidence and the media influence on them. Women of all ages and a few men were among the more than 75 people in attendance.

"The media kinda tells you what we can tuck, suck and pluck away," Weiner said.

A short film about the quest for women being able to stand in front of the mirror and be satisfied was featured during her presentation.

Weiner's open forum on Sunday, called "Girl Talk," attracted about 100 female college students. The open forum gave women the chance to talk about issues on their minds they would not normally discuss in public.

In "Girl Talk," Weiner directed her audience to come to grips with the reality of being women, what they do and combating negative energy in their lives.

"Talk about and admit your needs," Weiner said. "Analyze how you interact on a human level, and be as critical of yourself as you are with others."

Advertising junior Yasbel Cruz said she was glad Weiner was so opinionated.

"It's a good thing, it's something that we need to address, it would come back again," Cruz said.

Ethnic issues focus of biracial club

By Jason Nelles
Alligator Contributing Writer

A new student organization centered around people of more than one racial background will start today.

The first meeting of the Biracial and Multiracial Student Association will take place at the Institute of Hispanic/Latino Cultures, "La Casita," tonight at 8.

UF sophomore and BAMSA President Alexius Otto said he wants to focus on biracial and multiracial students that "feel they might not fit in" with existing ethnic UF organizations.

"Some students feel lost because they are not just black, or just Asian for example, so they don't join those organizations," Korbek said.

Otto said approximately 85 people have expressed interest in joining the club, and they subscribe to the BAMSA weekly update on the organization's Web site.

BAMSA's faculty sponsor, Assistant Dean of Students Mary Kay Schneider, said the group is an organization that prepares students for life after studying at UF.

"Whatever kind of jobs people go into, they are going to be working with a multicultural staff and society is going to continue to evolve and become more diverse, Schneider said.

Featured at the first meeting will be guest speaker Guillermo Rebollo-Gil, a sociology graduate student and poet who will perform poetry about the minority experience.

Schneider, Korbek and the Interfraternity Council President Jared Hernandez are among other figures Otto will introduce at the meeting.

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The Alachua County Council for the Blind had motorists turning their heads on University Avenue last Saturday when they held their Sixth Annual White Cane Safety Awareness Walk.

Hundreds of blind, visually impaired and fully sighted citizens walked wielding white canes, guide dogs and signs in recognition of White Cane Safety Month.

"Whenever a white cane or guide dog is crossing the street, the driver has to stop. Several of the people walking with us today have been hit by cars," said participant Joan DeNicola.

Various sighted participants were blindfolded to simulate what a blind person would experience while crossing the street.

Several blind and visually impaired walkers with white canes and guide dogs were speeding past their blindfolded peers.

"This walk was awesome - and I speak for Goldie also," said Maria Petas, referring to her guide dog.

"I would have loved to see the responses of motorists at the sight of a hundred blind people walking down the street," Petas, who began losing her sight when she was ten years old, raised and supported her two sons by herself.

The message the walkers hoped to send was for people to be more aware.

Motorists will not recognize that the person crossing a street is not able to see perfectly, and as a result, motorists can be reckless and rude.

People with white canes and guide dogs cannot recognize where a pedestrian crosswalk is exactly located, making them the target of verbal abuse from motorists.

"We must come to recognize that a segment of Alachua County has to live with this," ACCB President Maxine Stallings said.

"These people have to make a decision to take a risk every morning when they get up to do their everyday living activities," Stallings said.

"Things like going out and walking - most people don't give it a second thought." Another problem is when someone approaches a person with a guide dog from behind without warning, which can frighten the dog and handler.

A person should say, "I'm coming up behind you," when approaching.

Other times, people will pet or feed a guide dog, which can undo precious training. Guide dogs are being trained to obey commands or more from their handlers.

"People often try to pet her when she's on harness," Petas said.

"I pet the dog," Petas said.

"Would you have loved to see the responses of motorists turning their heads on University Avenue last Saturday when they held their Sixth Annual White Cane Safety Awareness Walk."

"This is real important because everyone has a heart that beats in their chest," WKTK's Storm Roberts said. "Everyone has been touched by heart disease."

After the 2.5-mile walk, Subway provided sandwiches and refreshments.

"It was very cool, once we realized who he was," fraternity member Elisabeth Ollila said.

Also at the event was the Student Health Outreach Team promoting health among the student body, health professionals senior Corsette Tamargo said.

Another walker, Brad Olive of the SFCC baseball team, said he was happy with the turnout.

"[The event] still shows there are some decent people in the world," Olive said. "People who actually care about other people other than themselves."
It's the Where's Albert Contest!

Albert is taking a photojournalism tour of the University of Florida campus starting today, October 28th and ending Friday, November 1st. He's collecting pictures for his photo album. See how well you know the UF campus by figuring out where each photo was taken.

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DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add ports of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50 points. Both words used as any port get 40 points. "Beauty and the Beast" used in both rows have no port value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 3rd Edition.

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Smith passes Payton as NFL's career rushing leader

The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Emmitt Smith cut left, saw a hole and plunged ahead. When an arm snatched his legs and sent him tumbling, Smith put down his right hand to keep his balance and rumbled for an 11-yard gain.

And the NFL career-rushing record.

With that fourth quarter run Sunday, the Dallas Cowboys running back reached 16,728 yards, passing the late Walter Payton to become No. 1 on the all-time list and accomplishing a goal he'd set before his rookie season.

"Once I broke the line of scrimmage, I knew that had to be the one," Smith said.

He capped the drive with a game-tying 1-yard touchdown run, then stood grim-faced minutes later when Seattle's Rian Lindell kicked a 20-yard field goal with 25 seconds left to give the Seahawks a 17-14 victory.

While the loss put a damper on the day, it couldn't overshadow what Smith had done — in the game and over his prolific career.

Smith, who played for UF from 1984 to 1989, finished with 109 yards on 24 carries, both season highs. He had six runs of at least 10 yards — with a long of 14 — and finished with his NFL record for rushing touchdowns to 150.

Midway through his 13th season, Smith has 16,743 career yards. Payton finished his 13-year career in 1987 with 16,726. Smith broke Payton's record for career carries earlier this season and topped his yardage record in his 193rd game; Payton played 190.

"Today is a special day for me, my family and the Payton family," the 33-year-old Smith said during a postgame ceremony on the field. "Because without Payton doing what he did in the National Football League and representing all he represented, he wouldn't have given a young man like myself a dream, something to shoot after and a person to look up to and try to emulate in every way possible."

Payton's mother and brother watched Sunday from a box at Texas Stadium. Smith had about 30 relatives on the sideline, and he sought out his mother and wife for hugs and kisses during a five-minute stoppage following the record run.

Payton, who played his entire career for the Chicago Bears and earned the nickname "Sweetness" for his beautiful playing style, died in November 1999 from cancer. He was 45.

Payton once said he wanted "to set the record so high that the next person who tries for it, it's going to bust their heart." Smith has displayed so much heart that Payton's widow, Connie, said she would've been happy to see No. 22 take the title.

"I am so proud of you, Emmitt," Connie Payton said in a videotaped message. "Your hard work and determination, your being true to the game, are a part of your success. I feel we're truly blessed having you as a friend and part of our life."

Payton and Smith became friends in the late 1990s, and this summer the Payton Foundation honored Smith with the second Spirit of Sweetness Award. Smith and Jarrett Payton, the late star's son, have developed a tight relationship since Payton urged in his dying days.

"There's only one NFL rushing champion, and there's only one Emmitt Smith," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said.

Title hopes gone after UF loss

Staff Report

The UF soccer team is in unfamiliar territory — third place.

After grabbing six consecutive Southeastern Conference titles, the Gators fell short this year.

The Gators (8-8-2, 5-3-1 SEC) lost their final conference match of the regular season against Auburn 1-0 on a rainy Sunday at the Auburn Soccer Field.

UF started the season 1-2-1 in SEC play before a four-game win streak put the league title in its grasp, going into the weekend.

Like the rest of the season, the Gators had a sluggish start against Auburn, and the late push for a win did not materialize.

It was really disappointing because it was right there in our hands," UF coach Becky Burleigh said. "It took us a half to wake up — it took us a half to play. And in the second half, we play hard, and Auburn hard. But it was half. But it took us a half to get going. When you are playing for a SEC Championship, why does it take you a half to get going?"

Auburn's win assures that the Tigers (14-3-1, 6-1-1 SEC) will claim at least a share of the 2002 SEC regular-season title. Auburn will meet Alabama next Friday in Auburn, Ala.

The Gators are second in the East behind Tennessee and third in the conference overall.

UF needed to win both games during the weekend to clinch the SEC title. The Gators were halfway there after defeating Alabama 2-0 on Friday.

"It is very disappointing, because just as quick as it was in our hands was as quick as it left our hands," forward Robin Fulton said. "We were the only ones that could control it [a share of the SEC regular-season title] being in our hands, and that required us winning it. We should have come in here ready to go — we knew how important this game was. We picked it up in the second half, but we needed to have that intensity at the beginning of the game."

Auburn scored the only goal of the match at 17 minutes, 34 seconds. The play started when UF thought the ball was going to roll out on the sideline, but Sarah Steinmann was able to keep the ball in bounds. The Tigers had a numbers advantage, and Steinmann was able to capitalize on the moment, serving the ball into the box. Christina Culver was able to one-touch the ball into the goal from 10 yards.

The Gators had trouble getting the ball past the Tigers' backline in the opening 45 minutes. Fulton took the Gators' only shot of the opening half. She gained possession of the ball at the midpoint line and then drove down the middle of the field, curling right in the box. Her shot missed wide of the far post from 10 yards.

UF came back from halftime with a new level of intensity, but couldn't get one across the goal. For the match, Auburn outshot UF 6-4. Both goalkeepers — UF's Jordan Kellgren and Auburn's Megan Rivera — turned in two saves each Sunday.

"You have to give credit to Auburn," Burleigh said. "They subdued a lot of pressure in the second half. We created a lot of opportunities but just couldn't finish them. There was a lot of pressure on their goal in the second half — too bad we didn't have that same intensity in the first half. We are not good enough to not have effort in every game that we play. For the most part, I think we did it to ourselves. We had the opportunity in the first half to get things done, but we didn't."

Gators sweep Penn State

Staff Report

The UF men's and women's swimming and diving teams remained perfect in the 2002-03 season with a sweep of Penn State on Saturday in Pennsylvania.

The women won by a score of 141-87, while the men won 131-96.

The women's team won all 10 events they scored in as they improved and earned the NCAA provisional qualifying times.

The men's team improved to 4-0. They also finished with top times in the three events they scored in as they improved.

The Gators opened up a commanding 131-57 lead with three events left, as Coach Gregg Troy exhibited the remaining three events. The men won every event that they did not exhibition.

The women's 400-yard medley relay team consisting of sophomore Maureen Farrell, freshman Vip Bernhardt; senior Cara Teague and junior Chantal Gibney began the meet setting a new McCoy Natatorium pool record and five swim NCAA provisional qualifying times.

The men's team improved to 3-0 on the season.

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Auburn ups LSU in just another way to the Gators in overtime when Cadillac Williams goes down for the season. The Gators in the nation and wallops the SEC East hopes that are on the Ohio State-Penn State game.

Coach Ron Zook, however, stayed close in Gainesville, although an extended trip might have been beneficial for the ever-vigilant coach. "I did try to step away, but I went to my daughter's soccer game, and it got me all nervous again," Zook said. "I'd have been better off probably being in the office."

In the 10 years since the SEC split into two divisions, it has been either UF or Tennessee that has represented the East in the conference championship game. This year, the East title will go through Georgia (8-0, 5-0 SEC).

The Bulldogs are two games ahead of everybody in the East. To make it to Atlanta, UF would need to win out while Georgia would need to lose Saturday and to one other conference foe. After playing UF, a trip to Auburn and a home game against Mississippi are its only remaining SEC games.

A long shot, for sure, but the Gators are clinging to that goal. "We have to win the game – that's the bottom line," Zook said. "It's as simple as that."

In their last three games, the Gators have been sluggish on offense and defensively haven't created turnovers, two aspects of the game Zook said his team will focus on this week. Georgia coach Mark Richt, whose team has its highest ranking heading into the UF-Georgia game in 10 years, said his team won't have a problem staying focused for this game.

This week's games help educate couch potato

With no UF game Saturday, I did what most of you would expect — sit in a recliner, eat chips and watch football. So what did we learn on this sedentary weekend?

Everyone is better than we thought they were.

Notre Dame? Pretty good.

Ken Dorsey? Still leading for the Heisman.

The Southeastern Conference? Crazy as all hell.

Sure, Notre Dame has a one-dimensional offense, and even that dimension at times has been less productive offensively than the defense. If this was supposed to be the game where the Fighting Irish showed they're for real, they did it — even if Chris Rix did his best to pass it to them and drop it on their doorstep.

Notre Dame is defeated, fourth in the nation and probably the best-coached team around. While they don't always have the talent to match up, they've found a way to scrape eight wins out of nine.

Still, good coaching and scrambling for wins doesn't add up to a national championship for Notre Dame.

Which brings us to Miami.

Say what you want about quarterback Ken Dorsey.

Bad arm and accuracy. Not even the best player on Miami. Overrated. Overrated.

Grand draft pick. Whatever.

Now here comes the Zookism of the week:

"Let me tell you something about Ken Dorsey. Ken Dorsey is a winner. Ken Dorsey is a competitor. Ken Dorsey has won a lot of football games around Miami."

Back to reality: Ken Dorsey is my pick for the Heisman. Barring a Hurricanes collapse in their last five games, he'll probably win even though he doesn't have the most talent, the strongest arm or the best draft status.

With FSU leading 27-14 on Oct. 12, Dorsey fired up his offense on the sidelines to a comeback win.

With Miami tied with West Virginia on Saturday, Dorsey came back from a poor start to throw for 422 yards.

Oh yeah, Miami has won 29 consecutive games and a national championship with Dorsey at the helm.

Switching gears to the SEC: I just don't get it.

Louisiana State has the best defense in the nation and wallops UF. The next week, Auburn loses by a touchdown to the Gators in overtime when Cadillac Williams goes down for the season.

Now, LSU at Auburn. Easy pick, right? 31-7 is a reasonable score.

Sure, the other way around.

Auburn ups LSU in just another way to prove that the SEC is harder and harder to figure out.

The UF volleyball team won the battle of the Southeastern Conference's two undefeated teams Sunday, defeating the Gamecocks 3-0 (30-24, 30-23, 32-30) in front of 1,276 in Columbia, SC.

The match was the Gators' (20-1, 10-0 SEC) toughest in the conference this year, even though they won it in three games.

UF had to come from behind in all three games, and its eight-point lead at the end of game two was its largest of the match.

"Both teams will benefit from having played this match," UF coach Mary Wise said. "It was a battle between two heavyweights that really went after it. We've had a lot of teams in the past that couldn't win in this environment. We needed great performances out of everybody and we got that."

Once again, captain Nicole McCray and Aury Cruz showed why they are the team leaders.

McCray, a senior middle blocker, had a match-high 16 kills with a .727 hitting percentage to go along with a service ace and solo block. Cruz, an outside hitter, had 15 kills, 10 digs and three service aces.

"Nicole played like a fifth-year senior," Wise said. "She dominated the middle. Benavia [Jenkins] did too. Quickness in the middle is key. We were able to take advantage of that through Lauren [Mosovic] and the great job our passers did.""McCray, UF's other middle blocker, hit .422 with eight kills and two solo blocks. Junior Jacobe Robinson also reached double-digit kills with 10 and a solo block. Mosovic, a sophomore, had 44 assists on UF's 57 kills.

"We had great setting distribution," Wise said.

However, the most important performances have come from sophomore Michelle Chatman.

With game two tied at 21, the Gators scored seven unanswered points behind Chatman's serves. That gave UF its biggest lead of the match and a 2-0 lead overall.

"Michelle's serving run in game two was critical to our winning," Wise said. "She had her best offensive match of the year."

As a server, the Gators hit .412 compared to just .248 for the Gamecocks.

Defensively, the Gators were outstanding. McCray had just four blocks, two less than South Carolina, and all of them were solo. The second line of defense was able to compensate, though. UF had 46 double-digs and cruised each of its last five games.

This time, though, the Bulldogs can clinch the East with a win, but, Richt said, with Georgia coming off a 52-24 win against Kentucky this weekend, the Gators have at least one thing in their favor.

"They are a little more rested than we are right now," Richt said. "Fresher legs is a big advantage. Last year they made us look pretty slow. They were quicker and more athletic. We had a very difficult time tackling those guys in the open field. If they have fresh legs, that's the biggest advantage they could have right now.

The Gators take time to rest up for Georgia

The UF tennis player Lindsay Dawt faces teammate Alexis Gordon in a semifinal today at the Omni Hotels South Region Championships in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The Bulldogs entered the 1992 contest at No. 7 and lost to the 20th-ranked Gators 26-24. Georgia has lost 11 of the last 12 meetings.

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Solid play gives UF two SEC victories

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