



Andy Landers' Lady Bulldogs struggle with Ole Miss, 10A

The Brunswick News



QUICK HITS



Urban Meyer

### Meyer may not take leave from Gators

Florida coach **Urban Meyer** is working out, eating better and has gained 20 pounds since the end of the season — all good news for the Gators.

As for that leave of absence? It might not even happen.

Meyer, speaking publicly for the first time since Florida beat Cincinnati 51-24 in the Sugar Bowl, said Saturday night that his workload has been about the same as it has been during other recruiting seasons, except he is traveling less. He said he plans to coach the Gators during spring practice.

Meyer announced his resignation last month, citing health concerns, then changed his mind the following day and instead said he planned to take an indefinite leave following the bowl game. He has since returned to the office, hired four assistant coaches and has assembled what is shaping up to be the nation's No. 1 recruiting class.

### No. 19 Jackets fall on road to Seminoles

Chris Singleton scored a career-high 23 points and Solomon Alabi made two go-ahead free throws with 22.8 seconds left, giving Florida State a 68-66 victory over **No. 19 Georgia Tech** on Sunday.

Alabi finished with 14 points and was perfect in six trips to the foul line for Florida State, (15-4, 3-2 ACC), which has won its last five against Georgia Tech. Deividus Dulky added 11 points for the Seminoles.

Alabi's free throws made it 67-66, and Brian Oliver missed a 3-point try and Gani Lawal and Iman Shumpert both missed opportunities to tie the game for Georgia Tech. Jordan DeMercy added a free throw in the closing seconds for the final margin.

Freshman Brian Oliver hit six 3-pointers and scored a career-best 20 points for the Yellow Jackets (14-5, 3-3 ACC), while Derrick Favors added 10 points and a game-high 10 rebounds.

### Ohio golfer honored for sportsmanship

A scorecard confession that cost an Ohio high school golfer the state championship five years ago has earned him a national sportsmanship of the decade award.

**Adam Van Houten** of Mount Gilead High School in north-central Ohio had finished the 2005 state golf championship with a seven-stroke lead when he noticed a mistake on his card. A playing partner had written down a 5 for the 10th hole instead of 6. Van Houten pointed out the mistake to officials and was disqualified because he'd already signed the card.

Five years later, Van Houten's act has won him a spot on Sports Illustrated's sportsmanship of the decade list.

Van Houten is now a sophomore on the golf team at George Mason University.

Visit **The Sports Lounge** at [thebrunswicknews.com](http://thebrunswicknews.com) for a beyond-the-scores podcast of sports opinions and comments.

## Living up to great potential

### Former GA standout Valencia Kelly shining brightly at next level

By **DAVE JORDAN**  
The Brunswick News

Ask most anyone about former Glynn Academy standout Valencia Kelly, and you will hear any number of flattering adjectives: witty, intelligent, worthy of respect, a leader.



Kelly

Now a sophomore at Fort Scott Community College in Kansas, Kelly is living up to those adjectives and more. She leads her college basketball team in scoring and in just her second season at Fort Scott, has grown into one of the Lady Greyhounds' team leaders.

"She is an amazing person," said first-year Fort Scott girls coach Diana Couch. "She gets the job done on the floor and off. I was lucky enough to inherit her from (the previous) program. The first time I talked to her, she was so polite and respectful and had a good head on her shoulders. She is always striving to please and get better."

A former News Coastal Georgia All-Area Player of the Year and two-time Region 2-AAAA South player of the year for long-time GA girls coach Theresa Adams, Kelly now runs the Lady Greyhound attack as smoothly as she did the Lady Terrors. She averages better than 17 points per game for Fort Scott — including a team best 28-point outburst in a winning effort in early November — and leads her team in three-point field goal percentage at a tick over 41 percent.

As a freshman last season, 5-foot-6 guard finished second in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference with a 16.9-point average in 28 games.

"I knew coming in she was the second leading scorer last year, and I worried about how she would accept the change in systems after the previous year," said Couch, whose Lady Greyhounds are 9-9 overall this season and 1-5 in conference. "We are more of a team-style of play, and last year was quite centralized. In the beginning, there was a trust issue, and I believe that she has come to understand that we want her to score, and we will get her the ball and still allow her to do her thing. She



Kenny Felt/Fort Scott Tribune

Former Glynn Academy standout Valencia Kelly goes up for a basket for Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College during the 2008-2009 season. Kelly, a sophomore guard, leads her team this season in scoring and three-point field goal percentage.

struggles at times taking the whole team on her shoulders and we have to remind her to let her game come to her — let us help her."

Couch said Kelly leads by example and, although only a sophomore, is a good role model for the teammates.

"Her silent leadership ability is (impressive)," said the coach. "I think the players respect her athletic ability and her competitiveness, which makes others want to follow in

her footsteps. I admire her ability to get things done on the court and in the classroom."

Kelly's success comes as no surprise to Adams, whose Lady Terrors went 22-6 and advanced to the second round of the Class AAAA state playoffs in Kelly's senior season. "She is a winner," Adams said. "She loves the game. She can score at will and she thinks

Please see **KELLY, 9A**

## Prugh, Watson tied at Hope

### Weather-delayed final round today at La Quinta

The Associated Press

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Bubba Watson, Alex Prugh and Joe Ogilvie all had late chances to create a little separation atop the Bob Hope Classic field Sunday. All three made mistakes better suited to their amateur playing partners.

And that left a leaderboard crowded with low-profile pros seeking their first career victories in the Monday finale.

Watson, who led Georgia to the 2000 Southeastern Conference title, double-bogeyed the final hole in the fourth round, dropping him back into a tie with PGA Tour rookie Prugh at 23-under 265. Prugh missed a 3-foot putt to bogey his own final hole, while Ogilvie sat two strokes back after a double bogey on his 17th.

"You can't have double bogeys and win the Hope," Ogilvie said.

Actually, you probably can this year. The famed tournament features none of the PGA Tour's top 35 players, creating golden opportunities for the top four players heading into the final round at the Arnold Palmer Private course at PGA West.

After knocking his second shot into the water and then missing a 6-foot putt on the par-4 18th, Watson finished with 3-under 69 to match Prugh (70) at 23-under 265. Bill Haas and Tim Clark were a stroke back after 66s, Ogilvie (68) followed at 21 under, and Mike Weir was in a group another stroke behind after his fourth straight 67.

Watson, Prugh, Haas and South Africa's Clark have never won on the PGA Tour, while Ogilvie has just one win.

"The emotions, they're flowing, they're going up and down out there," said Haas, whose father, Jay, won the Hope Classic

Please see **HOPE, 9A**



Mark Duncan/AP

Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning, back, passes over his proection against the New York Jets during Sunday's AFC Championship in Indianapolis. The Colts defeated the Jets 30-17 and will represent the AFC against New Orleans in Super Bowl XLIV on Feb. 7 in Miami.

## Manning, Colts hold off Jets, head to Super Bowl

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Perfection doesn't matter when you're already the best and heading for the Super Bowl.

Four-time MVP Peyton Manning threw three touchdown passes and the Indianapolis Colts rallied from an 11-point, first-half deficit to beat the New York Jets 30-17 Sunday in the AFC championship game.

The Colts (16-2) are now headed back to Miami for the second

time in four years and their fourth Super Bowl in franchise history.

"We talked about being patient against these guys," Manning said. "We knew it would be a four-quarter game. They have an excellent defense."

For the Colts, it was a measure of redemption.

A month ago when the Jets were last in town, Indianapolis coach Jim Caldwell pulled his starters in the third quarter and gave up a chance at a perfect season to focus on a Super Bowl run.

This time, they got it right against big-talking Rex Ryan and his Jets. Manning was on the field for the final play.

"I thought we just kept our mouths shut and went to work this week," Manning said.

The Colts will face either New Orleans or Minnesota in two weeks.

"It's very special," said Manning, MVP when the Colts beat Chicago in the Super Bowl three

Please see **AFC, 9A**

## Saints win NFC in OT

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Unheralded Garrett Hartley lifted the New Orleans Saints into their first Super Bowl with a 40-yard field goal in overtime for a 31-28 victory over the Minnesota Vikings for the NFC championship Sunday.

After a battered Brett Favre threw away the game with an interception deep in Saints territory at the end of regulation, Drew Brees guided New Orleans to the Minnesota 22. Hartley, suspended at the start of the season for using a banned stimulant, split the uprights.

Forget the Aints and the paper bag masks. The Saints will meet Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts in the Super Bowl in two weeks in Miami.

It's the first time the top seeds in each conference made the big game since the 1993 season.

Favre's ill-advised throw across his body with the Vikings in Saints territory was intercepted by Tracy Porter, and the Saints ran out the clock to send the NFC title game into overtime tied at 28 on Sunday.

The Vikings trailed 28-21 with 8 minutes to play, and the 40-year-old Favre was still hurting from a crunching hit by Bobby McCray in the third quarter. But he still drove the Vikings for the tying score, which came on a 2-yard run by Adrian Peterson.

Favre was 28 for 46 for 310 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions in regulation. Drew Brees threw a 5-yard TD to Reggie Bush after Percy Harvin fumbled to give the Saints a 28-21 lead earlier in the quarter.

Favre was shaken up in the third on a hit by

Please see **NFC, 9A**



Minnesota running back Adrian Peterson, left, runs for a touchdown during the first quarter of Sunday's NFC Championship against Minnesota in New Orleans.

Dave Martin/AP