



Meg Gilbert Crofton

Courtesy Walt Disney World Resort

By Jeffery Seay  
Editor in Chief

At Disney theme parks around the world, this is the “Year of a Million Dreams.” For one longtime Disney executive, the idea has taken on meaning beyond that of a catchy marketing slogan. It aptly describes her feelings about a change in job titles that is a dream come true.

This past August, Florida State

University alumna Meg Gilbert Crofton was named president of Walt Disney World Resort. She is the fourth person and the first woman to hold the job, which makes her responsible for keeping the popular, 35-year-old central Florida resort profitable, its 59,000 employees productive and its millions of guests happy.

“I was thinking one day right after we launched the ‘Year of a Million Dreams’ guest initiative that I really do have my dream job,”

## FSU biologists uncover mechanisms that shape cells

By Libby Fairhurst  
FSU News and Public Affairs

In a landmark study, biologists at Florida State University have uncovered a specific genetic and molecular mechanism that regulates cell polarity — the asymmetric shape or composition critical to a cell’s proper functioning. The researchers’ findings in fruit-fly eggs may help to clarify how muscular dystrophy and some cancers develop in humans.

That’s because many of the genes involved in the cell-to-cell communication that trigger the development of cell polarity in *Drosophila* oocytes (unfertilized fruit-fly eggs) also are known players in the pathogenesis of those diseases.

The research performed by FSU Assistant Professor Wu-Min Deng and doctoral student John S. Poulton in the department of biological science could foster a better overall understanding of polarity and how it develops — and why it doesn’t, sometimes with dire consequences — in other types of cells and organisms.

Results from the FSU study were described in the Aug. 22, 2006,

edition of the journal *PNAS* (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences).

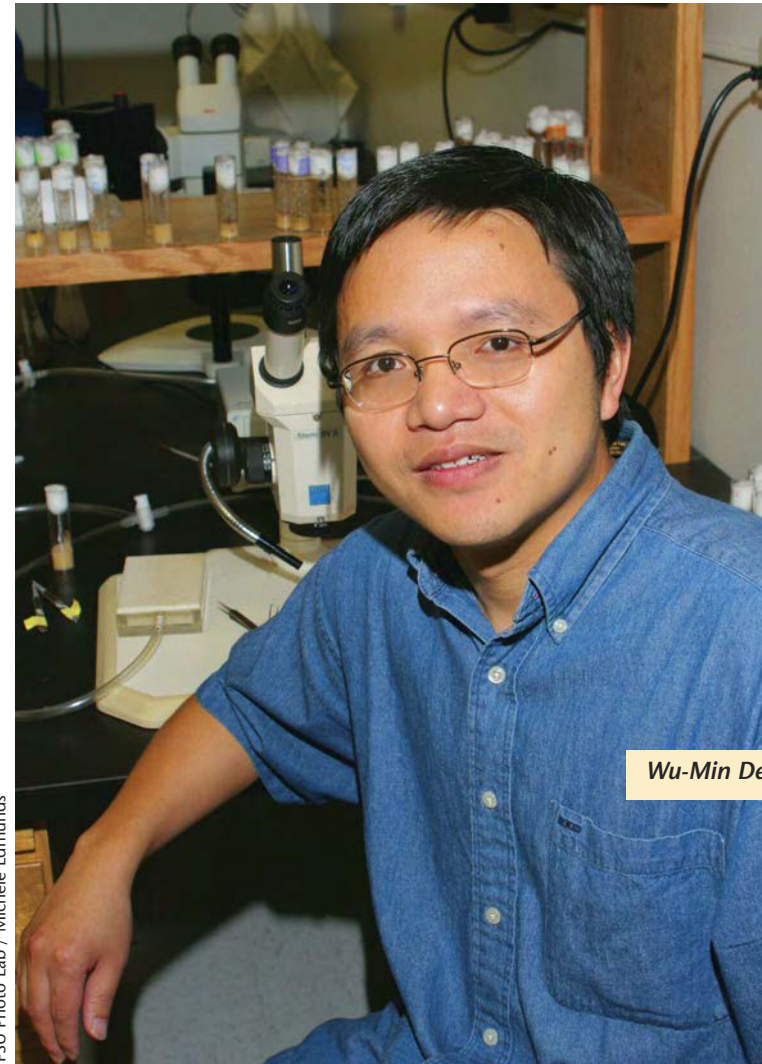
“We have identified a novel component in the polarization of the fruit-fly egg and the signals that determine the anterior-posterior positioning of its head and abdomen,” Deng said.

“Such a discovery in the biological model provided by *Drosophila* oocytes has broad implications in humans, where, for example, neurons in the brain are designed, or polarized, to interpret information from the sense organs, and intestinal cells are polarized to take up nutrients and move them into the bloodstream,” he said.

Poulton explained that in order to ensure cell polarity in the *Drosophila* oocyte, the cells surrounding it activate a classic signaling pathway known as the Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR) in a process that also is essential to development in humans and a wide range of other organisms.

“Our study shows that EGFR activation in the cells surrounding the fruit-fly oocyte acts to turn off a gene known as Dystroglycan, halt-

(Continued on page 15)



Wu-Min Deng

FSU Photo Lab / Michele Edmunds

## The keeper of the kingdom Crofton named president of Walt Disney World

said Crofton, who earned her bachelor’s degree in marketing in 1974 and a Master of Business Administration degree in 1975, both from FSU. “I honestly wake up every day and think, ‘This is going to be a great day.’”

Since Crofton’s beginning with the Disney organization in 1977, the corporate climb has been a steady one because of her willingness to turn learning into a lifelong endeavor. In 27 years with Disney, she seems to have done it all. From hotel operations to convention sales and account services, she has approached the challenges of each new position as fresh opportunities to further the Disney mission — to provide the finest in family entertainment and create magical memories.

“It didn’t really matter whether I was in a staff role or a direct operating role, I always felt very connected to the mission and vision, and always could easily see how my role, no matter what I did, aligned with that purpose,” Crofton said.

Early in life, Crofton was intro-

duced to the concept of marketing when her father, the late Charles “Chuck” Gilbert — a former serviceman, test pilot and aerospace executive — would take her to his office on the occasional weekend to watch him work. Later, as a student at FSU, she took her first marketing course and was captivated by the subject.

“It just hooked me,” she said. “Marketing is a great way to look at the world. Whether you’re talking about selling products and services or you’re talking about shaping minds and hearts as a leader, there are a lot of marketing principles that you can translate, almost literally, from marketing products and services into leading people.”

While earning her M.B.A. at FSU, Crofton accepted a graduate assistantship with marketing Professor Emeritus Persis Rockwood, who specialized in market research. Crofton also served as president of the FSU Marketing Club, which worked to give students real-world experience.

(Continued on page 15)



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## West Point gains FSU alumnus as superintendent

By Bayard Stern  
Managing Editor

Lt. Gen. Franklin G. Hagenbeck's military career started when he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. After steadily moving up the chain of command for more than 30 years, the Florida State University alumnus has been asked to come back as the academy's 57th superintendent.

“It's a real honor,” said Hagenbeck, who assumed the post in June 2006 after being nominated by President Bush the previous February. “It's such a prestigious institution, it took me back a little bit when they offered me the position.”

Over his distinguished career, Hagenbeck has commanded at every level, from company through division. His service includes a stint as the commanding general of the Army's 10th Mountain Division, which fought with coalition forces in Afghanistan in 2002. He has been highly decorated, with honors in-

cluding the Distinguished Service Medal and the Defense Superior Service Medal. Prior to starting his post at West Point, he worked at the Pentagon and was the deputy chief of staff G-1, of the U.S. Army.

“Being deputy chief of staff was a big job,” he said. “I had oversight of 1.1 million soldiers and a budget of about \$50 billion-plus. I was still a staff person who had quite a bit of autonomy under our chief, but nonetheless had a very direct reporting chain right there in the Pentagon. I have a little more freedom as superintendent.” Hagenbeck said his new position gives him pause to reflect, and he faces different kinds of responsibilities than he did in his previous assignments.

“I never aspired to do this because it seemed so far-reaching,” he said. “Some of the men who have sat here include (Generals) Douglas MacArthur and Maxwell Taylor. I never thought I would ever be superintendent of West Point. That's why it was a little overwhelming

and humbling when they offered me the job. The challenges I face are probably similar to (FSU President) T.K. Wetherell in that we need to constantly be working to ensure that we have a steady, predictable stream of resources, and that means talented people and dollars that come from a variety of sources.”

College students all over the country may be similar in some respects, but many West Point students already know what they will do after they graduate, according to Hagenbeck.

“The students here face the same challenges that any other university students face,” he said. “But in addition to that, they know at the conclusion of their four years here at the academy that they will be commissioned as second lieutenants. The probability of them being personally involved in the global war on terrorism is a reality.”

Hagenbeck graduated from West Point in 1971. While in the Army, he attended FSU and earned



Franklin Hagenbeck

a Master of Science degree in exercise physiology in 1978. He went on to teach at West Point in the department of physical education until 1981; during that time, he also earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Long Island University. His military education includes the Army War College, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Infantry Advanced Course.

While at FSU, Hagenbeck was a graduate assistant football coach under Bobby Bowden, with whom he still keeps in touch. He assisted defensive-ends coach Jim Gladden during the 1977 season.

“Being at FSU was one of the best times I ever had,” Hagenbeck said. “It was a great change to go from five years where I had been out in the fields with Army units to come back to Florida and to live in Tallahassee.

Having the opportunity to be a graduate assistant with Bobby Bowden allowed me to see pieces of the university that a lot of folks don't get to, and I developed some lifelong friends there.”

Hagenbeck's connection to FSU now extends to his children. His son graduated in 1991 and his daughter graduated in 1993. He added that he tries to attend FSU football games at least once a year.

Hagenbeck is scheduled to give FSU's spring commencement address on Saturday, April 27.

## Association expanding outreach through Seminole Clubs, special events, programs

Picture yourself at a spectacular choir performance. Then imagine hearing the light tapping of a dancer moving across a stage.



Barry Adams  
President  
Alumni Association

Think about an impassioned appeal by a lecturer who is discussing the Middle East crisis. Indulge your creative thoughts after viewing the colors and the subjects illuminated on a painting. Imagine the expectations of the young people assembled for a candid preview of what college life is like. Listen to the sounds of an orchestra, the richness of a quartet or the harmony of a stu-

dent a cappella group. The list of ways to immerse yourself in Florida State University via speakers, programs and performances can be endless, and the FSU Alumni Association has begun planning ways to make such cultural opportunities available to our alumni all over the United States.

For instance, Feb. 7 found the dean of the FSU College of Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts as a guest speaker at a Southern California Seminole Club event. The FSU College of Music is working together with the association to sponsor a springtime evening for alumni and friends in South Florida that features the spectacular FSU Choir. New York graduates and friends of FSU are likely to find the opportu-

nity to speak with the deans of some of the university's finest fine-arts programs, as well as faculty and students, when the Alumni Association hosts an opening reception for the annual “FSU in NYC” event on May 4-7. (See the related article on page 6.)

Other programs already have been tested. Last year, three Seminole Clubs were instrumental in coordinating regional orientation programs for incoming FSU students and their parents. Not long after she arrived, the new dean of the FSU College of Business visited with club leaders in California, as well as the East Coast.

On the drawing boards are weekend programs for families on the Ringling campus in Sarasota and special receptions for alumni and friends for opening exhibits, as well as traveling art shows devel-

oped by what is referred to as FSU's “cultural campus.” Program opportunities also are numerous at the FSU Panama City Campus. The highly competent faculty there and the diversity of their specialties means that campus guests, classroom speakers and open forums for alumni are possible to consider. For all alumni who are seeking to change careers, begin a new vocation or identify their areas of job interest and strength, open invitations to attend association-sponsored career-assessment programs — with the expert staff of the university's Career Center — will be available.

In a recent poll for our monthly e-newsletter, “Torch Light,” a number of Alumni Association members indicated their desire to have a broader menu of programs through clubs and through the support and sponsorship of the Alum-

ni Association.

“It has been frustrating to read so many accolades about FSU academic achievements yet not to be able to learn more in depth through programming,” noted one volunteer. Another club member added that his family wanted to attend events “with more lofty appeal, as well as programs that open a way to give back toward the success of FSU.”

We are listening and working to identify the resources, volunteer leaders and clubs that can help sponsor a broad base of alumni programs. Please write or e-mail me ([badams@alumni.fsu.edu](mailto:badams@alumni.fsu.edu)) if you have particular program speakers or performers in mind. Above all, when the music begins playing (or the film, the speaker or the program) in an area near your home, please plan on attending.

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McMahon’s book makes Top 100 lists

For Florida State University history Associate Professor Darrin McMahon, happiness is writing a book that makes The New York Times’ 2006 “100 Notable Books of the Year” listing.



McMahon

McMahon’s book, “Happiness: A History,” is a look back at 2,000 years of Western politics, culture and thought in an effort to understand that sought-after yet most elusive of states. It is one of 50 of the listing’s non fiction titles.

In addition, the book also appeared on the Top 100 best book lists for 2006 of The Washington Post and Slate magazine.

Zollar wins second Bessie Award

Florida State University alumna Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, who is the founder and director of Urban Bush Women and is the FSU Nancy Smith Fichter Professor of Dance, won her second New York Dance and Performance Award — also known as a “Bessie Award” — this past September.



Zollar

The Bessie, established in 1983, honors outstanding and innovative achievements in dance and related performance in New York City. Zollar won in the “Choreographer/Creator” category for her work “Walking with Pearl ... Southern Diaries,” which was developed at the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography, housed in the FSU department of dance.

Karl elected to National Academy of Sciences

Florida State University alumnus David M. Karl, who earned a doctorate in biological oceanography in 1974, was elected in fall 2006 to the National Academy of Sciences. He and Mark Thiemens (Ph.D. ‘77) are the only two FSU oceanography alumni to be so honored.

Karl, an oceanography professor at the University of Hawaii, has received numerous awards throughout his career for his work in microbial oceanography. In 2006, he also was elected to a fellowship



Karl

SHORT TAKES

in the American Academy of Microbiology in recognition of his “outstanding contributions to the science and profession of microbiology.”

Soto takes national insurance spotlight

Florida State University alumnus Alex Soto (B.A. ‘71, international affairs), who is president of the Miami-based insurance agency InSource, is currently serving a 12-month term as president of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America. His term ends in September.

The Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America is a national alliance of 300,000 business owners and their employees who offer all types of insurance and financial-services products.

McGee named top community college CEO

Florida State University trustee and alumna E. Ann McGee (B.A. ‘70, M.A. ‘71, communication; M.S. ‘71, education), who has served as the president of Seminole Community College since 1996, was given the distinction of America’s best community college chief executive officer for 2006.



McGee

This past October, the Association of Community College Trustees honored McGee with the Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Officer Award, which recognizes the tremendous contributions made by a community college president from among the 1,200 chief executives of the nation’s community colleges.

Three elected into Circle of Gold

The Florida State University Alumni Association recently has recognized three alumni with Circle of Gold awards: Kevin W. “Ken” Cashin, Paula Peters Smith and Larry O. Strom.

In September 2006, Cashin was given the award for his exceptional leadership and support in advancing the institution and the athletic program. Cashin, a Tallahassee resident who attended FSU in the early 1970s, is the president and co-owner of Florida Mobile Home Supply Inc. of Tallahassee. He was cited as an alumnus who is dedicated, successful and always there when FSU needed his support and advice.

In November 2006 during the university’s Homecoming festivi-

ties, Smith, a 1976 graduate, and Strom, a 1959 graduate, were inducted into the Circle of Gold.

A former member of the FSU Alumni Association’s board of directors, Smith is the vice chairwoman of the College of Human Sciences’ Development Board. She was cited for personifying the university’s tradition of excellence and for her determined leadership and extraordinary ability to get things done.

Strom, the owner and president of Champion Chevrolet of Tallahassee, was cited for providing the Seminole Boosters with quiet leadership and for inspiring confidence and resolve.

Winegardner pens ‘Godfather’s Revenge’

FSU creative writing Professor Mark Winegardner is drawing top reviews for “The Godfather’s Revenge,” his second sequel to Mario Puzo’s “The Godfather.”

The highly anticipated “The Godfather’s Revenge,” published Nov. 7, 2006, moves the Corleone family onto the biggest stage of all: the intersection of organized crime and national politics. It follows Winegardner’s “The Godfather Returns,” which became an instant bestseller after its release in fall 2004.

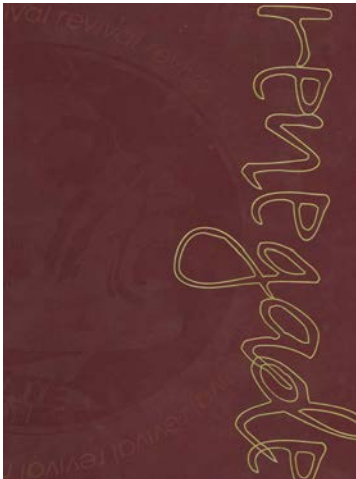
Winegardner is the Janet Burroway Professor of English at FSU. To learn more, visit [www.markwinegardner.com](http://www.markwinegardner.com).

‘Renegade’ yearbook returns

After more than a decade-long hiatus, Florida State University’s annual student yearbook, “Renegade,” arrived during the fall semester. With a theme of “Revival,” the 2005-2006 edition is the first since FSU stopped producing the yearbook in the 1990s.

While many colleges and universities across the country are eliminating their yearbooks because of a lack of interest, FSU is bucking the trend by resurrecting the time-honored tradition.

To learn more, visit [yearbook.fsu.edu](http://yearbook.fsu.edu).



Frank Mazi

Linden

FSU grad pens screenplay

Florida State University alumnus Jamie Linden has written the screenplay for the motion picture “We Are Marshall,” which was released in December.

Linden, a 2001 graduate of FSU’s College of Communication, already had a two-movie contract with Warner Bros. before deciding on the topic for the project. It has two important FSU connections: Red Dawson, a former FSU All-American wide receiver who played alongside the legendary Fred Biletnikoff and graduated in 1965; and Bobby Bowden, FSU’s head football coach.

The movie tells the story of a tragic plane crash that killed most of the 1970 Marshall University football team, which was flying back to West Virginia after playing East Carolina University. Linden’s screenplay focuses on Marshall’s subsequent football season and its struggle to recover and rebuild. The movie stars Matthew McConaughey as Marshall’s new coach, Jack

Lengyel, and, from the ABC television show “Lost,” Matthew Fox, who plays Red Dawson.

The best-known FSU-Marshall connection is Dawson, who was an assistant coach at Marshall and recruited many of the players who died in the plane crash. Dawson usually drove to the games because he was wary of flying. Following the tragedy, he stayed on at Marshall for one more season.

A lesser-known connection involves Bowden.

“People should know that Bobby Bowden is featured in ‘We Are Marshall,’” Linden said. “Bowden was the coach at West Virginia University in 1970 when the crash happened. West Virginia and Marshall were recruiting rivals, although they didn’t play each other all that much, and Bowden did something pretty amazing for the ‘71 Marshall coaching staff, which we depict in the movie. As soon as I found out about that part of the story during my research, I knew I had to put it into the script.

“Both Red Dawson and Jack Lengyel are friendly with Bobby, and we sent him the script pages he was featured in for his approval. The actor who played Bobby did a great job, although he’s 6 feet tall or so, so he’s way too big. It’s basically a cameo, but Bowden’s scenes were some of the highest-scoring ones in our test screenings. I’ve even had UF fans come up to me and tell me how much they like that section of the movie.”

‘Seminole Family’ statue unveiled

A life-size, cast-bronze statue honoring Florida State University’s namesake tribe, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, made its debut this past October during a special ceremony that was attended by tribal representatives. The statue, “Seminole Family in Bronze,” was designed and created by the father-and-son artist team of Bradley Cooley and Bradley Cooley Jr. of Lamont, Fla. It depicts a typical Seminole family as it might have appeared around the time of the Seminole Wars of the 19th century. Under constant threat from the U.S. military, family members in the statue appear concerned and watchful. As they make their way along their path, the father, carrying a rifle, guards his wife, young son and infant child. It stands in front of the T.K. Wetherell Building.



FSU Photo Lab/Bill Lux

FSU Alumni Association to host ‘family camp’ this summer

If the idea of spending quality time with the family at a tropical resort this summer sounds like a dream vacation, then the Florida State University Alumni Association has the perfect offer.

In partnership with Alumni Family Getaways, the FSU Alumni Association has arranged for FSU alumni to take over the entire Divi Carina Bay Resort on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, June 23-30, 2007. Prices start at \$2,850 (plus airfare) for a family of three, and reservations can be made through the FSU Alumni Association Web site at [www.alumni.fsu.edu](http://www.alumni.fsu.edu). Just click on the “Alumni Family Camp” icon for details ([www.alumni.fsu.edu/afg.html](http://www.alumni.fsu.edu/afg.html)).

“Family camps sponsored by alumni associations have become increasingly popular,” said Barry Adams, president of the FSU Alumni Association. “There are some associations that have hosted families at camps in secluded park-like settings, where programs are sometimes akin to the old summer camps that many of us experienced. There are other family camps that have tak-

en participants to an international destination and have focused on cross-cultural experiences and awareness.

“There are others that have developed around campuses that are nearly vacated in the summer months, and those camps, sometimes called alumni colleges, have often had a strong bias toward academic lectures and the arts. The FSU camp being held on St. Croix combines a little of all three and offers parents and grandparents an exceptional value with a good variety of options — from tours to recreational activities and from classroom-type presentations to purely rest and relaxation. The program opens an opportunity that many of our alumni and friends might not find attractive if offered by another organization.”

At this first-rate resort in the “unspoiled paradise” of St. Croix, FSU alumni can participate in just about any activity imaginable — either with or without the children. On the water, there is scuba diving, snorkeling, windsurfing, kitesurfing and sailing. On land, there is tennis, miniature golf, eco-hiking and



Divi Carina Bay Resort on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

horseback riding.

Golfers even can practice their swing at the driving range. The resort offers group and private instruction for activities such as tennis and scuba diving.

Specially for youngsters, Carina Bay has a five-day camp with activities tailored for children ages 6 to 8 (“Pirates”), 9 to 11 (“Beachcombers”) and 12 and above (“Adventurers”).

The fully supervised camp features many activities, from on-site

water sports and crafts to off-site excursions. Children even can play soccer with island teams and learn island dance. Finally, for adults and children alike, Carina Bay offers unlimited loafing and unstructured relaxing on its beautiful beaches.

St. Croix is the home of Buck Island National Park and the Cruzan Rum Distillery in Frederiksted. Apart from the resort, the island boasts two 18-hole golf courses, off-road Jeep excursions and deep-sea

fishing. In addition, sightseers and historical buffs can explore sugarcane plantations and landmark buildings that date back to the 1700s, and can visit tropical rain forests. To learn more, contact Paula Moyer of the FSU Alumni Association at [familycamp@alumni.fsu.edu](mailto:familycamp@alumni.fsu.edu) or (850) 644-2767. For a Family Camp packet, send a postcard to Family Camp, FSU Alumni Association, 1030 W. Tennessee St., Tallahassee, FL 32304-7719.

Marshall, Brinson and Woodyard receive honors at Homecoming

By Browning Brooks  
Director, FSU News and Public Affairs

During Florida State University’s 2006 Homecoming celebration this past November, three people received awards in recognition of their exceptional service to FSU.

Former FSU President J. Stanley Marshall received the Bernard F. Sliger Award and Flying High Circus Director Richard W. “Dickie” Brinson received the Grand Marshal Award, both given by the FSU Alumni Association. In addition, College of Business Associate in Business Law and Real Estate William M. Woodyard received the Ross Oglesby Award, given by the student-run Garnet and Gold Key honorary society. All three honors were presented during the FSU Alumni Association’s 2006 Annual Homecoming Awards Banquet.

FSU Alumni Association President Barry Adams described the awards banquet as an embodiment of what Homecoming at FSU is all about: love of alma mater, fondness for a special place, exceptional professional and personal achievement, and often-untold service and commitment offered in support of a remarkable university.

J. Stanley Marshall

The Bernard F. Sliger Award recognizes a member of the univer-



J. Stanley Marshall

sity community who has, through his or her efforts, made a major contribution to the fulfillment of the institution’s mission. Marshall served from 1969 to 1976 at the university’s helm during a period that was tumultuous on many American campuses.

“Dr. Marshall is the third FSU president to be accorded this highest Alumni Association honor,” Adams said. “It recognizes the service, wisdom and fortitude that propelled him through his presidential tenure. He is highly regarded among both faculty and former students and has been an outspoken supporter and fan of FSU for many years.”

As head of FSU’s department of science education, Marshall became a leading figure both nationally and internationally in science education. He is a fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, served for five years on the AAAS Commission on Science Ed-



Richard W. Brinson

ucation, and was founding editor of the *Journal of Research in Science Teaching*. Active in civic affairs, Marshall received the Lifetime Leadership Award from Leadership Tallahassee. He was appointed by Gov. Jeb Bush to FSU’s first Board of Trustees and, in 2004, was confirmed to the State University System’s Board of Governors.

Richard W. “Dickie” Brinson

The Grand Marshal Award honors an individual for his or her leadership and service to the state of Florida and to FSU, and it designates the honoree as the standard-bearer of the spirit of Homecoming. Brinson, who has been the director of the FSU Flying High Circus since 1972, joined “The Greatest Collegiate Show on Earth” as a performer in 1965 and became assistant director in 1969. His association with the circus spans 41 of its nearly 60 years.

“Richard ‘Dickie’ Brinson not



William M. Woodyard

only has been an outstanding representative, mentor and instructor for FSU and its students, particularly those who participate in the FSU Flying High Circus,” Adams said. “He also has been greatly admired by thousands of alumni and friends of the university, who have recognized his commitment and dedication as an adviser, director and staff member. In the 60th year of the Flying High Circus, this award is easy to appreciate; he stands out not just as a symbol of Homecoming spirit but as one of the true instigators of spirit, determination and the ‘can do’ attitude found so commonly among our students and alumni.”

William M. Woodyard

The Ross Oglesby Award originated in 1973 and each year goes to an FSU faculty or staff member who has, for 10 years or more, exemplified the highest order of integrity, service and commitment to students

and the university. Woodyard is an FSU College of Business associate in business law and real estate.

“Faced with a distinguished pool of applicants, Garnet and Gold Key wanted to award the Ross Oglesby Award to someone who strongly encourages and aids students in all endeavors here at FSU,” said Garnet and Gold Key Vice President Sarah Rodriguez. “Dr. Woodyard serves our university by teaching both in the College of Business and the College of Law. He is an adviser to a number of organizations and that number grows every year, including the Business School Allocations Committee and Garnet and Gold Key. He brings an inspiring sense of dedication to each of these organizations and is always there to lend a helping hand or offer a token of wisdom. Dr. Woodyard also is largely responsible for the cultivation and success of many students on this campus.”

Recognized as a “Favorite Professor” by the *Florida State Times* in 2001, Woodyard has been a nominee for the FSU Undergraduate Teaching Award (2005 and 2006); has served as an instructor for FSU International Programs; and has been a member of the selection committee for the FSU WebStars and a scholarship-committee member of the FSU Center for Civic Education and Service (2004-2005).





Ward

Bowden

Martin

## Three from FSU inducted into national halls of fame

Their names are legendary. Their years of achievement stand tall. And for three Florida State University icons, recent honors are richly deserved.

Coaches Mike Martin and Bobby Bowden, and alumnus Charlie Ward each have been recently inducted into national halls of fame to ensure that future generations can appreciate their tremendous contributions to sports.

**Mike Martin**

In early January, Martin was inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association/Louisville Slugger Hall of Fame.

“It was a very humbling experience,” Martin said. “I was overwhelmed with joy. It makes you reflect on so many things. This job has been an unbelievable blessing for me and my family. It has to do with the relationships I have accumulated over the years and it seems all are in the area of baseball.”

Martin, who is the winningest coach in the history of the FSU baseball program, became FSU’s head baseball coach in 1980. Now with more than 1,400 career wins, he has led the Seminoles to 12 College World Series appearances and 27 consecutive NCAA regional appearances.

**Bobby Bowden and Charlie Ward**

Bowden and Ward were inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in December 2006.

After relatively short stints at Samford and West Virginia, Bowden came to FSU in 1976 and has since become a one-man institution. With 359 career wins in 41 seasons, he has won the most games in the history of Division I-A college football.

Bowden was pleased to have been inducted with Ward, who is thought of as being the greatest football player in FSU history.

“I think anytime a person is inducted into any kind of hall of fame, the people that are going in with him, surrounding him, is kind of a personal thing,” Bowden said. “To be going in with Charlie is very good, I love that.”

Today, Ward is an assistant coach for the National Basketball Association’s Houston Rockets.

While at FSU, he set 19 school records, including 27 single-season touchdowns and a career-total offense of 6,636 yards. One of the 1993 team co-captains, he passed for more than 5,700 career-total yards and ran for better than 850.

After graduating from FSU in 1993 with a Bachelor of Science degree in education, Ward opted to enter the NBA rather than the National Football League, despite his remarkable football success. He played for 11 seasons in the NBA, nine of which were with the New York Knicks.

“After listening to what it takes to get in, I’m very honored,” Ward said.

## Altmire wins Pennsylvania’s 4th Congressional District

By Jeffery Seay  
Editor in Chief

On the last day of his final class as a student at Florida State University, Jason Altmire (B.S. ’90, political science) received a tip that would effectively help to set the stage for his election to the U.S. House of Representatives more than 16 years later. Altmire, who is a Democrat, was elected this past November to represent the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

As he was walking out of the classroom that day with plans only to graduate and return home to Pittsburgh, political science Associate Professor Kathleen Kemp pulled him aside.

“Professor Kemp said, ‘Hey Jason, there’s a Democrat named Pete Peterson who’s running against the Republican incumbent for Congress. A lot of people think Peterson doesn’t have a chance to win, but I think it would be a good experience for you to work on his campaign,’” Altmire said. “So I was interviewed and got hired to work for the Peterson campaign, which lasted from April 1990 until the election. Peterson won, and he brought me up to (Washington) D.C. If all of this hadn’t happened, my entire life would be different.”

Altmire’s plans upon leaving FSU were quite different from the ones he began with. As a freshman in the fall of 1986, he was a walk-on wide receiver for the Seminoles and, like many freshmen, was unsure of which academic path to follow.

“I played football for a couple of years. It was a big part of my early time at FSU, but I had a knee injury that finished me off,” he said. “Once the football side was gone, I focused on political science, which was something that I was always interested in.”

After he graduated from FSU, Altmire would spend the next eight years working for

Peterson and gaining valuable political experience. He was an active participant in the congressional debate on health-care reform, and he drafted and helped bring to the House floor the first constitutional amendment regarding congressional term limits ever to receive a vote in the House.

During that time, Altmire also met his future wife — FSU alumna Kelly Fagen (B.S. ’91, political science). She, like Altmire, had worked on the Peterson campaign and had joined his Washington staff upon her graduation from FSU.

The Altmires were married in 1996 and today have two girls, 7-year-old Natalie and 5-year-old Grace.

“I would not be here were it not for the experience I had at FSU,” he said. “I really want the people in Tallahassee and especially the people at Florida State to consider me to be their second congressman. I really feel like I owe them because of what they’ve done for me.”



Jason Altmire

*U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire (D-Pa.) isn't the only newly elected Seminole in Congress these days. Florida State University alumna Katherine “Kathy” Castor, a Democrat from Tampa, Fla., has won Florida's 11th Congressional District. Castor earned her Juris Doctor degree from the FSU College of Law in 1991. Her congressional district covers a large portion of Hillsborough County and slivers of Pinellas and Manatee counties. Castor and Altmire will join two other FSU alumni in Washington. Rep. Allen Boyd of Florida's 2nd Congressional District earned his bachelor's degree in business in 1969. Sen. Mel Martinez of Florida earned his bachelor's degree in social science in 1969 and a law degree in 1973.*

new talent who will become tomorrow’s blockbuster-makers and professionals.”

In addition to the music-theater students’ performance at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the College of Music will showcase its percussion faculty and top students in a Carnegie Hall recital.

“The program at Carnegie Hall will feature music inspired by Japanese tradition, Indian music and dance, and the epic poem ‘Merlin’ by Edward Arlington Robinson,” said Don Gibson, dean of the College of Music. The group also will play two commissioned works by young American composers Blake Tyson and David Skidmore.

For more information about “FSU in NYC” performances and events, visit [www.fsu.com/fsuinny](http://www.fsu.com/fsuinny) or the FSU Alumni Association’s Web site at [www.fsu.edu/alumni](http://www.fsu.edu/alumni).



Rosanne Cash

By Fran Conaway  
FSU University Communications

A breathtaking journey through the arts awaits audiences for the ninth season of Seven Days of Opening Nights, Feb. 12-27.

Topping the itinerary of Florida State University’s annual festival of the fine and performing arts are a Rosanne Cash/Kris Kristofferson combo, Rita Coolidge with the John Pizzarelli Quartet, the dance company of Paul Taylor — known as the world’s greatest choreographer — and renowned cellist Lynn Harrell with the University Symphony Orchestra.

The whirlwind Seven Days cultural tour includes Ireland, with The Irish Rovers; South Africa’s Ladysmith Black Mambazo; “Flags of Our Fathers” author James Bradley; and actor Joshua Kane’s “Gothic at Midnight.” All-American stops include crossover jazz from The Manhattan Transfer, young piano prodigies The 5 Browns and jazz piano veteran Marian McPartland.

Also on the jam-packed schedule: a special Prism concert; the premiere of a film by FSU professors, “The Trees Have a Mother: Stories of the Amazon”; art exhibits (“Afro-Provocations” at the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science, as well as “More Is More — Maximalist Tendencies in Recent American Painting” and “Ray Burggraf: Retrospective”); the annual “Healing and the Arts” symposium; and the ever-popular free Saturday Matinee of the Arts. That Seven Days fringe festival includes a wealth of additional cultural offerings.

FSU, in cooperation with dozens of generous sponsors and members, presents Seven Days of Opening Nights each year to bring world-class artists to the region not only for the enjoyment of general audiences, but also to work with students. Artists and performers each year provide unique opportunities for student interaction through master classes, lectures, readings, exhibits and other discipline-specific experiences.

Tickets are available through the FSU Fine Arts Ticket Office, (850) 644-6500, or online at [www.tickets.fsu.edu](http://www.tickets.fsu.edu).

FSU introduced Seven Days of Opening Nights in 1999. Since its inception, the festival has brought world-renowned artists and performers to Tallahassee, including Pulitzer Prize and Academy Award winners, dance companies and musical ensembles, musical theater and films premiering in Tallahassee. Now in its ninth year, the festival has showcased world-class performers and artists such as the Boston Pops, Garth Fagan Dance, violinist Joshua Bell, mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves, international musicians, Pulitzer Prize-winning writers, and respected stage and screen actors.

Corporate sponsors include Florida State University, Altria and Tallahassee Com-

munity College. Other sponsors: **Gold Circle:** Capital City Bank, Champion Chevrolet and Legacy Toyota. **Benefactor:** Meridian Healthcare Group, Publix and the Florida Lottery. **Guarantor:** BB&T, Carlton Fields, Collier Interiors Inc., Datamaxx, Florida Retail Federation, The Gem Collection, New Leaf Mark, Peter Brown Construction, St. Joe and other fine businesses and organizations. **Media sponsors:** The *Tallahassee Democrat*, Comcast, WCTV, Cumulus, *Tallahassee Magazine*/Rowland Publishing, *Florida Trend* and FSU University Communications. For more information, call (850) 644-7670 or visit [www.sevendaysfestival.org](http://www.sevendaysfestival.org).



Clockwise from top: Ladysmith Black Mambazo, John Pizzarelli, Lynn Harrell, Kris Kristofferson, The 5 Browns and Joshua Kane.



Paul Taylor Dance Company

# Seven Days of Opening Nights



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## 'Big -time' sports engenders alumni loyalty, financial support

Let's assume Goliath was not a nimble fellow. Calibrating ancient measurements to modern scale is tricky, but scholars place Goliath at about nine and a half feet tall. Neither Yao Ming nor Manute Bol stands within two feet of that mark.



**Charlie Barnes**  
Executive Director  
Seminole Boosters

What David knew, and what every successful David knows, is that you must never allow the upper dog to make the rules. David volunteered for the fight because he thought he could win and he wanted the honor of defeating Goliath.

Imagine how the course of history might have changed had David asked to borrow a heavy shield and sword from one of the Israelite soldiers. Instead, David reasoned correctly that for all his noise and bluster and size, Goliath was a more or less stationary target. David simply stood off at a distance and slung rocks until the giant fell.

David vs. Goliath illustrates that there's more than one way to do a thing, especially if you are willing to seek an alternate path to your goal.

Florida State University is a first-class, major research university. We are one of

many, and most of us are members of established athletic conferences. All of these academic institutions work hard to grow stronger, to yield better results, to seek more effective ways of advancing the human condition.

We use intercollegiate athletics to underwrite those efforts. The enormous popularity of college sports, coupled with the scale of money expended and received, attracts critical attention from a range of political and social leaders. Some of these people wish us well but also voice sincere concerns about the business of college athletics. Fair enough.

Other critics, however, are not so pure of heart.

It has become tradition among a certain self-impressed elite who really hate football to pour their unhappiness into that narrow span between season's end and the start of bowl games. Like grouchy, Scroogian, finger-wagging Christmas ghosts, they appear in the late fall to vex us and tell us that we're unworthy to call ourselves scholars.

Notable among these is essayist George Will, whose column "High on the Hog: Big Time College Sports" appeared in November. At about the same time, *USA Today* published a long piece that was critical of the compensation of college coaches. There was a snippy editorial in *The New York Times* and similar clucking by various other bandwagon columnists and pundits piling on.

Will is a brilliant writer with a wonderful command of language who once derided

football for embracing "the two worst elements of American culture: violence and committee meetings."

One of America's intellectual giants, Will—along with his companions—rolls his eyes at "big-time college sports," by which they nearly always mean football and basketball. Those two sports, or course, are the most wildly popular and actually pay their own way.

The critics miss the point. They don't see things from our point of view, probably in the same way Goliath wondered why David wouldn't face him toe-to-toe and fight like a man. Like David, FSU has created a different path to success.

Our university has only one mission: to coax mankind away from the darkness and toward the light. It is the same mission for all colleges and universities, and for all elements of civilization dedicated to the advancement of humanity. The world is dangerous. Every scholar knows that whatever horrors have visited mankind in the past wait patiently, too eager to come again. It is the business of FSU to defend civilization by offering the broadest, most enlightened education in all disciplines.

Our university has no "athletic mission." There are legitimate academic values inherent in recreation studies and physical education, but important scholastic research is not advanced directly through intercollegiate athletics.

And yet, successful intercollegiate ath-

letic programs are of enormous value to "David" institutions such as FSU and to others in the major Division I conferences. Intercollegiate sports create a powerful emotional infrastructure for tens of thousands of Seminole alumni, and tens of millions of Americans are regularly exposed to the good work of FSU through nationally televised games.

The big money that successful intercollegiate athletics generates for FSU arrives through the personal generosity of alumni who cherish their relationship with the school. It flows from the strength of our influence in the Florida Legislature. And money comes through the ingenuity and creative energies of our distinguished faculty, some of whom were recruited by the university's high visibility, good national reputation and ability to pay.

Donors to the Seminole Boosters very often are donors of academic gifts as well. We know that a great deal of money walks into our university through the locker-room door. The same is true of the universities of Miami, Florida, North Carolina, Notre Dame and every other major institution with nationally prominent, winning programs.

Athletics provides the most pervasive image of our university on the national stage, and we use that recognition to advance our good work as an institution. We would not be the great university we are today if not for the broad financial and promotional impact of collegiate athletics.

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# NEWS NOTES ALUMNI

Compiled by Kathy Harvey and Mariann Grantham

## Got News?

To submit items for Alumni News Notes, e-mail [kharvey@mailers.fsu.edu](mailto:kharvey@mailers.fsu.edu). Please write "Alumni News Notes" in the subject heading of the e-mail.

1956

**Sue Herndon McCullom** (B.S., M.S. '57) has been honored with the renaming of the Lafayette Park Community Center, now the Sue Herndon McCollum Recreation Center, Tallahassee, Fla.

1957

**Ted Rybicki Sr.** (B.S.), former head of corporate public relations for the SunTrust Banks in Florida, received an award from the Daughters of the American Revolution for his efforts in abating pesticides and preserving natural areas on Florida golf courses.

1960

**Harold D. Parkman** (B.A.) is listed in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America.

1962

**Jean Mundy** (B.S. '62, M.N.S. '64) has been named a Legend in the Field of Parks and Recreation by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

1965

**Nancy Dale** (B.A.) has written the book "Would Do, Could Do and Made Do: The Florida Cow Hunters Who Tamed the Last Frontier."

1966

**Marcia Blumenthal Fine** (B.S.) won first prize for her novel "The Blind Eye" from the Arizona Authors Association in the unpublished novel category.

1967

**Henry Polic II** (B.A.) is currently playing three roles — "Monsignor Howard," "Willard" and "biker" — in "Sister Act: The Musical," a live stage version of the movie hit. The play was performed over an extended run at the Pasadena, Calif., Playhouse in fall 2006, and it has opened at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta.

1968

**Judge Paul E. Danielson** (B.A.) now is an associate justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

1969

**Curtis E. Falany** (B.S.) has been appointed to a three-year term on the Florida Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board. He is a professional engineer and master electrician.

1972

**Miranda Franks Fitzgerald** (B.A., J.D. '78) served as a panel member for a graduate level course on real estate development at Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla.

**David Fonvielle** (J.D.) is now a partner in the law firm of Fonvielle Lewis Foote & Messer, Tallahassee, Fla.

**Alice Kershaw Luckhardt** (B.S.) has written the book "Legends — Family Stories and Myths" and has written several feature articles.

1973

**Janet Moulton Clement** (B.S.) has written the children's book "Jewish Alphabet," published by Pelican Publishing Company.

1974

**Jayne Varn Bates** (B.S.), director of marketing at Carter, Belcourt & Atkinson, is listed among the "Top Most Influential People in Accounting" in *Accounting Today*.

**Barry D. Beck** (M.B.A.) is the president of the Massachusetts Certified Public Accountants. He also serves as vice president of the Jewish Federation of the North Shore.

**Thomas M. Burke** (J.D.) has retired from Holland & Knight LLP, Orlando, Fla., after 31 years as a product-liability defense lawyer.

**Mary Jane Little** (B.A.), library systems director for St. Johns County, is a 2006 Florida State Distinguished Alumna.

1976

**Bill K. Haggard** (B.M.E., S.P.E. '90) has been named vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of North Carolina-Asheville.

**William R. Neubauer** (B.S., M.B.A. '77) was selected by *Worth* magazine as one of the Top 100 Wealth Advisors in America for 2006.

1977

Cdr. **P. Kem Siddons** (B.S.) has been selected for the Leadership Jacksonville Class of 2007. Kem also serves on the boards of VyStar Credit Union and Lutheran Social Services.

1978

**Richard Gerson** (Ph.D.) and **Robbie Goodson Gerson** (B.S.) have written their first book, "Positive Performance Improvement — A New Paradigm for Optimizing Your Workforce," published by Davies-Black publishing.

**Keith N. Herist** (B.S.) is a clinical assistant professor at the College of Pharmacy at the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. Herist was named the college's Teacher of the Year and received the Georgia Pharmacy Association's Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year award.

**Dean LeBoeuf** (B.S., J.D. '81), managing partner of the law firm Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartzney, was named to the "Florida Legal Elite" list by *Florida Trend* magazine and a "Florida Super Lawyer" by *Law and Politics* magazine.

1980

**Thomas V. Hynes** (B.S.) now is managing director of flight for American Airlines at Miami International Airport, Miami.

1981

**Robert S. Stephens** (M.S., Ph.D. '85) has been named chairman of the psychology department at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

1982

**Tom Wolfe III** (B.S. '82/'84) has accepted the position of treasurer with Travel Holdings Inc., Orlando, Fla.

1984

**Neal Jenkins** (B.S.) has been named an account manager at MTV Networks/Spike TV, Santa Monica, Calif.

1986

**Patrick R. Kinney** (B.S.) is the Miami-Dade County's Department of Human Services Employee of the Year. Kinney also has received the C.A. Padgett Award and the Carol Sheridan Award for his work with victims of domestic violence.

1987

**John Foote** (B.S., J.D. '90), partner with Fonvielle Lewis Foote & Messer, has been re-certified as an expert in civil trial law.

1988

**Andrew Chapin** (B.S.) now is a board-certified attorney in construction law.

**Bruce A. Christensen** (B.S.) now is the senior vice president of commercial banking for Valley Bank Florida, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

**Walter E. Forehand** (J.D.), senior attorney at Lewis, Longman & Walker, has been selected for the Second Judicial Circuit's Pro Bono Service award.

1989

**Jon Stratis Pridgeon** (B.A.) is vice president, legal, of Wyndham Vacation Ownership Inc., Orlando, Fla., and now is a certified information-privacy professional.

**Anne M. Wansboro** (B.A.) has been elected county judge for Pasco County, Florida.

1990

**Lisa Begue Carey** (B.S.) has joined Armor Realty and has received the President's Award from the Junior League, Tallahassee, Fla.

**Rafael E. Gonzalez Jr.** (J.D.) has been awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Cmd. **Jay A. Seligman** (B.S.) earned his doctorate in health science from Nova Southeastern University and is part of the National Health Service Corps Ready Responders, Alvin, Texas.

1991

**Katherine "Kathy" Castor** (J.D.), a Democrat from Hillsborough County, Fla., was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, 11th District. She was sworn in as a member of the 110th Congress on Jan. 3.

**Scott E. Gwartzney** (J.D.), a partner with the law firm of Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartzney, is listed as a "Super Lawyer" by *Law and Politics* magazine.

**Peter "Gage" Hartung** (B.S.) had one of his interior design projects featured over an eight-page, eight-picture spread in the December 2006 issue of *Florida International* magazine. He works for Shuster Design Associates of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

**Tommy McDonald Jr.** (B.S.) was elected as a city councilman, Chipley, Fla.

**Michael J. Minerva** (J.D.) has been promoted to vice president, legal, for U.S. Airways.

**Guy E. Quattlebaum** (B.A.), a partner at Arnstein & Lehr LLP, has been named to the Advisory Board of Directors of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

**Todd P. Resavage** (B.S., J.D. '98) has joined the law firm of Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartzney as associate attorney. He will handle personal injury and criminal defense cases for the firm.

**Meredith Trammell Roop** (B.S., J.D. '95) has been elected president of the Tallahassee Bar Association by its membership; she was named Attorney Speaker of the Month by the Florida Bar Association's Statewide Speakers' Bureau in September 2006; and she received an Effective City Leader award for 2006.

1992

**Darren Bagert** (B.F.A.), a producer who has won a Tony Award, a Drama Desk award and an Outer Critics Circle award, currently is producing the musical "Company" by Stephen Sondheim, New York. In addition, he is putting together the first Broadway revival of Robert Bolt's Academy Award- and Tony Award-winning masterwork "A Man For All Seasons." Darren Bagert Productions has launched a Web site, InvestBROADWAY.com, to allow individuals and corporations to be involved in the Broadway community.

**Trey Traviesa** (B.S.), a fourth-generation Hillsborough County, Fla., native and Republican, has been re-elected to the Florida Legislature, District 56.

1993

**Carlos A. Kelly** (B.A.) has completed a six-year term on the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors. He will continue to practice commercial litigation at Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, Fort Myers, Fla.

**Anthony "Tony" Ramirez** (B.S.) has been promoted to field supervisor of investigations for S.K.I. Investigations, Miami.

**Aimee Legore Talbot** (B.S., M.A. '96) and her husband, Greg Talbot, recently moved their business, EuroLux Antiques, to a new location in Newberry, S.C.

1994

**Spencer M. Klein** (B.S., M.S.W. '98), who has managed the Longhorn Steakhouse in Tallahassee, Fla., for the past six years, recently helped oversee a one-month, million-dollar renovation of the restaurant. Klein and his wife, Lori, live in Tallahassee with their children, 6-year-old Taylor and 3-year-old Matthew.

**Daniel R. Read** (B.S.) has joined the firm of Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP as an associate in its tax group, Chestnut Hill, Mass.

1995

**Amanda T. Host** (B.S.) has been appointed as the press director of the Peace Corps, Washington, D.C. She has worked for the Peace Corps since May 2002.

**Darrell Jones** (M.F.A.) has won the Choreographic/Creator Award as part of the creative team for Bebe Miller's work "Landing Place."

1997

**Bobby J. Pittman Jr.** (B.S.) has been named by President Bush to be special assistant to the President for African Affairs on the National Security Council.

1998

**William F. Lawler** (B.S.) is president of Pepperfish Inc., a development company that is building condominiums in Horseshoe Beach, Fla.

**Kirk Reams** (B.S., M.B.A. '02, J.D. '05) has been elected clerk of courts in Jefferson County, Fla.

**Vincent E. Thomas** (M.F.A.) has won the 2006 Metro DC Dance Award in the "Outstanding New Work" and "Emerging Choreographer" categories for "Grandmother Project," performed by VTDance in January 2006.

**Joseph Ullo Jr.** (M.S., J.D. '06) has joined the office of Lewis, Longman & Walker, Jacksonville, Fla. His areas of practice are environmental law, governmental law and litigation.

1999

**Jared M. Ross** (B.A., J.D. '06) has been named director of Public Policy for the American Cancer Society, Florida Division.

2000

**Edward T. Bauer** (J.D.) has been named partner in the law firm of Brooks, LeBoeuf, Bennett, Foster & Gwartzney. He has been with

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the firm since 2000 and specializes in criminal defense.

**2001**  
**Miriam Carballo** (B.S.) opened Treasures of the World, a boutique in Tallahassee, Fla., that specializes in “fair trade” items bought from economically disadvantaged artisans in distressed countries.

**Daniel Wehking** (B.S.) has been named an assistant state attorney for the 10th Judicial Circuit, Bartow, Fla.

**2002**  
**Fred Karlinsky** (J.D.) a shareholder with Colodny, Fass, Talenfeld, Karlinsky & Abate, spoke at the U.S. and U.K. Property and Casualty Insurance School in Cambridge, England, 2006.

**Jillian Wiese** (B.A.) has written the poetry collection “The Amputee’s Guide to Sex,” which received a starred review in *Publishers Weekly*. Soft Skull Press published the book, which is Wiese’s debut poetry collection.

**2003**  
**Perry S. Agbuya Jr.** (B.S.) has entered first-year studies at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, W.Va.  
**Alain Coutu** (M.S.) has retired from the Canadian military and now is a research and development project leader for Nortel Networks.

## FREDRICK W. BELL



Fredrick W. Bell, 71, a Florida State University professor emeritus of economics, died Sept. 3, 2006. Bell taught at FSU from 1973 until his retirement in 2001.

Bell earned his doctorate in economics from Wayne State University. A widely renowned environmental economist, Bell was an expert on the economics of waterways and fisheries. He wrote or co-wrote numerous papers and contributed to various research projects, such as the economic and environmental impact of tourism in areas of Florida. He held numerous governmental and private posts before teaching at FSU.

## JOHN D. BRIDGERS

John D. Bridgers, 84, died Nov. 24, 2006. As Florida State University’s athletics director from 1973 to 1979, he was a leader during the period of FSU’s greatest growth in stature among collegiate athletics programs. While he was the FSU athletics director, he was named to the prestigious NCAA Division IA Steering Committee and was primarily responsible for FSU’s admission into the Metro Conference.

During Bridgers’ tenure, Bobby Bowden was brought in as head football coach and the Seminole football team went to the Orange Bowl in 1979. In the 1977-78 season, the foot-

**Michele Hernandez** (M.B.A.) has joined the firm of James Moore & Co., CPAs and Consultants as senior accountant, Tallahassee, Fla.

**2004**  
**Lovensky “Vince” Jean-Baptiste** (B.A.) appeared on the Fox television show “Standoff” playing a police officer who specializes in hostage rescue. He graduated in December 2006 with his master’s degree in acting from the University of California, Los Angeles.

**2005**  
**Chris Capellini** (B.S.) now is a civil engineer for LandDesign, Charlotte, N.C.  
**Michael A. Rodriguez** (Ph.D.) earned a master’s degree in theological studies from Harvard University, June 2006. He is a professor at Boston University, Boston, Mass.  
**Liza E. Smoker** (B.A., B.S.) has completed a law internship with the legal staff of President Bush.

**2006**  
**Robert Severiano Gomez** (B.A.) accepted a one-year teaching position to teach English at the University of Taipei, Taiwan.  
**Joyce Soler** (B.S.) has entered first-year studies at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, W.Va.



ball, basketball and baseball teams all received post-season invitations, a feat claimed by few in college athletics history.

Bridgers led a varied career, serving as head coach for the First Cavalry Division Artillery Team in Japan in 1952, as defensive-line coach for the Baltimore Colts in 1957, and as offensive-back coach for the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1969. He also was head coach and athletic director at Baylor University from 1959 to 1968, and led the University of New Mexico’s athletics program.

Bridgers is in the FSU Varsity Seminoles Letterman Hall of Fame.

## GRACE I. FOX

Grace I. Fox, 99, professor emeritus of physical health and recreation at Florida State University, died Dec. 3, 2006.

Fox served FSU as an instructor from 1933 to 1971. As a member of the Florida State Athletics Committee, she was the first woman in the United States to serve on an athletics committee that governed male intercollegiate sports. She served the Faculty Senate, was a longtime chairwoman of the Convocation Committee, and was acting head of her department.

Fox published many articles in professional journals such as *The Research Quarterly*. She was a member of such professional organizations as Delta Kappa Gamma, Phi



Lambda Theta, Kappa Delta Pi and the National Education Association.

Some of the many awards and recognitions given to her include FSU Alumni Association Life Member, the FSU Emeritus Alumni Society Commitment to Excellence award, the FSU Athletic Moore-Stone Award for Outstanding Service, membership in the Athletics Hall of Fame, the FSU Alumni Association Circle of Gold award and the FSU College of Education Distinguished Alumni award.

A native of Lakeland, Fla., Fox earned her A.B. from the Florida State College for Women in 1928, where she was a distinguished volleyball player. She received her master’s degree from Columbia University in 1938 and her doctorate of physical education from Indiana University in 1951.

## OWEN F. GAEDE



Owen F. Gaede, 61, a professor of science education in the Florida State University College of Education, died Oct. 28, 2006.

Gaede was a devoted mentor, teacher and an accomplished administrator and faculty member. During his 14-year tenure at FSU, which began in 1992, he served as acting director of the Learning Systems Institute and director of the Office of Interactive Distance Learning. He founded the Science Education Majors Club and was active in many professional organizations.

Gaede held a passionate interest in furthering educational equality. He spent much time in South Africa, where he served as an adviser to former South African President Fredrik Willem DeKlerk.

Gaede was the former assistant dean of the College of Education at Georgia Southern College and held leadership positions at the University of Maine.

A native of Chicago, Gaede earned his

undergraduate degree at Monmouth College, Ill. He earned a master’s degree at Middle Tennessee State University and earned a doctorate in science education at the University of Illinois.

## EMMA H. KITTLES



Emma H. Kittles, 77, a professor emeritus of clothing, textiles and merchandising at Florida State University, died Oct. 12, 2006. Kittles taught from 1979 until her retirement in 1996.

During her distinguished career at FSU, Kittles was named Teacher of the Year by the College of Human Sciences in 1983, 1984 and 1986. She was publicity director and newsletter editor for the college from 1983 to 1986. A devoted teacher, she earned the University Teaching Award in 1993.

She and her husband, former Florida A&M University baseball coach Costa Kittles, endowed the Emma and Costa Kittles Scholarship in Human Sciences. Kittles taught for 24 years at FAMU, during which time she served briefly as associate dean of consumer science and technology, and was named the Home Economics Teacher of the Year in 1972.

A native of Jacksonville, Fla., Kittles earned her Bachelor of Science degree from FAMU in 1952. She earned her master’s degree and doctorate from Ohio State University.

## J. KENNETH OSMOND



J. Kenneth Osmond, 78, professor emeritus of geology, died Oct. 24, 2006.

A distinguished researcher and teacher, Osmond began his tenure at Florida State University in 1959 and continued until his retirement in 2000. He taught a variety of subjects within the field of geology and received the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in 1994.

Osmond wrote numerous articles that were published in national journals and he

## I N M E M O R I A M

**1920-1929**  
*Mary L. Singeltary* (B.S. ‘23), *Myra Chauncey Mercer* (B.S. ‘29)

**1930-1939**  
*Josephine King Chase* (B.A. ‘36), *Jeannette Annin Johnson* (B.S. ‘37)

**1940-1949**  
*Sophie Draughton Murphy* (A.B. ‘40), *Cleo Lochas Clark* (B.A. ‘43), *Janie Natalie Redfearn Whitfield* (B.A. ‘46, M.S.W. ‘72), *Barbara Owen Cole* (B.A. ‘47), *Isham Lafayette “Ike” Anderson* (B.S. ‘49), *Margaret Counts Poitras* (A.B. ‘49)

**1950-1959**  
*Vernon Leroy Allen* (B.S. ‘50, M.S. ‘54), *Lizzie V. Moore Davidson* (B.S. ‘51), *Julian W. Swisher* (‘51), *Virginia Guthrie Battle* (B.S. ‘52), *Ralph D. Oleson* (B.S. ‘52, M.S. ‘55), *Rev. James C. Coulliette* (B.S. ‘53), *Hayward L. Levy* (M.S. ‘53), *Charles Edward Porch Sr.* (B.S. ‘53), *Don T. Turner* (B.S. ‘53), *Velma E. Miller* (B.A. ‘54, M.A. ‘59), *Bob C. Jones* (B.S. ‘56), *Darrell K. Authier* (B.S. ‘57), *Dr. David L. Salmon* (B.S. ‘57), *Herman C. Barwick* (B.S. ‘58)

**1960-1969**  
*Ralph E. Black* (M.A. ‘60), *Billy D. Register* (B.S. ‘61), *Iven S. Lamb* (B.S. ‘61), *Eleanor Frouwe Moore* (M.S.W. ‘62), *Anthony “Gerry” Penna* (B.S. ‘63), *Anna Young Pineda Scarlet* (B.S.N. ‘64), *Rev. William W. Willoughby* (B.S. ‘65), *Mary Vail Erdley* (B.S. ‘67), *James E. Palmer* (M.S. ‘68), *Carol Anne Blaylock Towne* (B.S. ‘68), *Neil R. Covington Sr.* (Ph.D. ‘68), *Chester J. Carpenter* (Ph.D. ‘69)

**1970-1979**  
*Philip L. Abraira* (B.S. ‘70), *Cherie A. Goyette* (M.S. ‘71), *Mary Herring Wood* (B.S. ‘71), *Doyle E. Young* (B.S. ‘71), *John G. Bradford* (M.S. ‘72), *William J. Free* (B.S. ‘76), *Ann L. Hooper* (M.S.W. ‘76), *Joseph W. Peddrick* (M.B.A. ‘76), *Jane Ferguson “Nannie” Foes* (B.S. ‘77), *Penna Lee Hull* (B.A. ‘78), *Gregory A. Hyer* (B.S. ‘78), *David W. Davidson* (B.S. ‘79)

**1980-1989**  
*Stephanie “Shadidi Amma” Bryant* (B.A. ‘80), *Jesse Perez Jr.* (A.A. ‘82), *Douglas R. Martin* (B.S. ‘83), *Elizabeth Sherer Succar* (B.S. ‘84, M.S. ‘87), *Katherine Cooley Blaney* (B.S. ‘86), *Maryanne Braidwood Ward* (Ph.D. ‘88), *Everett Gladstone Beckman* (‘89)

**1990-1999**  
*Dorothy E. Bressi* (M.S. ‘92), *Paul C. Dombrowsky* (‘92), *Jacquelyn Ann Davis* (B.S. ‘93)

**2001-2006**  
*Charmane C. Walker* (B.S. ‘01), *Cindy-Alisa Taylor* (B.S. ‘02), *Katherine Point Smith* (‘04), *Jason A. Age* (‘06), *Christopher G. Aguirre* (B.S. ‘06), *William M. Riesbame* (‘06), *Betsy B. Sheffield* (M.B.A. ‘06)

**FACULTY STAFF**  
*James P. Grosvenor*, *Barbara N. Harrell*, *Wyomia Horne Harris*, *Harvey Stanley “Pete” Klein*, *Ruby Lee McQueen*, *Agnes Studt Unger*, *Dr. David C. White*

mentored many students, often supervising hands-on research. He was the recipient of various fellowships, including the Senior Fulbright Fellowship.

Originally from Janesville, Wis., Osmond earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserves from 1954 to 1957.

## DON VELLER



Don Veller, 94, Florida State University professor emeritus and the university’s first

head football coach, died Nov. 10, 2006. Under his leadership from 1948 to 1952, the football team had its first undefeated season in 1950, played in its first bowl game (the 1949 Cigar Bowl) and won 24 of 26 games in his first three seasons alone.

Over 18 years, Veller served as coach of the FSU golf team three separate times. He also wrote a popular newspaper column on golf for the *Tallahassee Democrat* from 1960 to 2004 and wrote a book of golf poems.

In 2004, the Seminole Golf Course was renamed the Don Veller Seminole Golf Course.

Veller was an FSU icon who oversaw the formation of the football team and the creation of a minor in coaching.

Veller was a star athlete at Indiana University, where he received his bachelor’s degree in education and his master’s degree and doctorate in physical education. He served in the Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945 and the Air Force Reserve from 1945 to 1978. He is a member of the Florida State Hall of Fame, the Florida Sports Hall of Fame and the National Golf Coaches Hall of Fame.

He and his wife, the late Fran Veller, who passed away in October 2006, were an integral part of FSU.

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One of the most important responsibilities all university alumni have is to provide the method through which their alma mater continues to increase in quality and stature.



A college degree is an effective investment and, like all investments, it must be nurtured. There are a variety of ways Florida State University alumni can choose to protect their investment, including joining the Seminole Boosters, serving as mentors or guest speakers in the classroom, joining the FSU Alumni Association, participating in local Seminole Club activities, or supporting FSU's superlative fine arts programs by attending concerts, plays and exhibits.

One of the most effective ways to invest in FSU is to make an annual gift to the college from which you graduated or the organization in which you were most active as a student. The power of making an annual gift to FSU is greater than you might think.

For example, alumni who make an annual gift of \$1,000 are providing as much monetary support to the university each year as a donor who makes a \$25,000 endowed gift. Endowment dollars are vital to the univer-

sity as they provide scholarships and professorships that allow FSU to recruit the best and the brightest students and faculty, both nationally and internationally. At the same time, the annual gifts received provide FSU with unrestricted support that can be used toward the university's immediate needs.

Beyond the monetary power of annual gifts, it's important to keep in mind that the percentage of alumni who give annually to FSU can have a major effect on our rankings in publications such as *U.S. News and World Report*. Consider, if you will, the following reasons why an investment in your alma mater is the right decision:

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•Giving is important — By giving, you are protecting the investment you made as an active college student, and you are furthering your investment as a proud alumnus or alumna by sustaining the tradition of excellence at FSU.

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Crofton's experience and people skills shine in her new role

(Continued from page 1)

"There were always field trips that we were organizing and experiential events with businesses," she said of the club. "That made the coursework ever more relevant, and I thought that was pretty powerful.

"I'm grateful for the experience I had at FSU. I have very warm, fond memories of my time there, and I know that the students there are getting a great education."

In 1977, Crofton's first job with the Disney organization was to start a marketing department for Vista-United Telecommunications, a partnership between Disney and United Telephone. After a brief stint with AT&T, Crofton returned to Disney as Vista-United's operations manager. In 1984, she became the general manager of The Disney Inn at Walt Disney World.

From 1987 to 1994, Crofton served in various executive capacities within Walt Disney World's Resort Operations department. During that time, she led 10 separate task forces that were charged with resort-hotel openings.

"We have very talented people working in every division of our company, so when we have an opening, a new business or a new endeavor, we approach it by taking a multidisciplinary task force from around the company that has functional expertise and that also has the leadership that we want to role-model," she said. "Once this company decides to do something and we get a team enrolled in the mission and they understand what it is that we have committed to do, I'm convinced that there really isn't a company or a culture anywhere that can do it better."

Crofton's 10th and what would be her last task force assignment involved the 1992 opening of the six hotels and campground at Disneyland Paris.

"I can honestly say it was the biggest

task force that I've ever led," she said. "Of course, when we do openings, they're usually happening with big press events. So we strive to get the opening right and, operationally, execute it perfectly and do all that in front of the world, who we've invited to be our guest."

In 1995, Crofton — with an impressive record of domestic and international experience and leadership to her credit — was promoted to vice president of human resources. There, she focused on guest satisfaction and "cast member" (employee) excellence. Next, she was promoted to senior vice president of human resources and organizational improvement at Walt Disney World, where she was in charge of all human-resources services and strategies.

In 2002, Crofton was made executive vice president of human resources for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. The position not only put her in charge of the human resources-related services for Disney's 99,000 worldwide employees but also complemented her ever-growing understanding of Disney's dynamic enterprise, which encompasses 50 different types of businesses.

"I've seen the business from a lot of different angles and I've had the opportunity to work with and work for a lot of different leaders and teams. Over the years I've learned a great deal about being a leader for a variety of different types of individuals," Crofton said.

While serving as executive vice president, one of Crofton's biggest team efforts was to help map the global strategy and growth for the company's business segment with its Worldwide Parks Leadership Team, which reports directly to Walt Disney Parks and Resorts Chairman Jay Rasulo.

"That was really great for me because I not only got to see our company through the



Meg Gilbert Crofton, left, with a Disney "cast member" at Epcot's Innoventions.

lens of Walt Disney World, but also through the lens of our worldwide presence," she said. "It helped me build on an understanding of international business, working with a great diversity of cultures and teams."

Beyond learning the ins and outs of the business and the art of leadership, Crofton's admiration of Disney's diverse work force has continued to grow throughout her career. Now, as president of the resort, she is quick to praise the army of people who put the magic into the "Disney experience." Her style of leadership is straightforward: build trusting relationships, keep the lines of communication open and provide the necessary tools to achieve the company's mission.

"I feel very fortunate because Disney cast members are a pretty self-motivated group," Crofton said. "They are very passionate about the Disney brand and they are all about delivering unique and immersive

experiences for our guests.

"Our cast members really are our product in many ways. I think others might be able to duplicate brick and mortar from time to time, but not the talent, creativity and interaction that our cast members have with our guests."

Now, with the responsibility of one of the cornerstones of Walt Disney's legacy resting squarely on her shoulders, Crofton isn't about to start standing in place.

"We have a great foundation here at Walt Disney World," she said. "I'm looking forward to growth and expansion. We like change and improvement. If it can be better for our guests and cast members, we're going for it.

"I am a lifelong learner. The good news is that Walt Disney World is so big that I've got a banquet of learning opportunities here for quite some time."

FSU research could explain development of diseases

(Continued from page 1)

ing production of its protein. EGFR must shut down Dystroglycan in order for the oocyte to properly polarize," Poulton said.

"We proved this by observing that mutated forms of genes in the EGFR pathway of cells surrounding the oocyte led to abnormally high levels of Dystroglycan protein, which in turn disrupted oocyte polarity. However, even with the mutated EGFR pathway gene, we were able to restore normal polarity by turning Dystroglycan off artificially," he said.

"While much remains unknown, our research confirms that EGFR regulation of Dystroglycan plays a key role in the polarization of the oocyte," Deng said. "That knowledge adds a pivotal link to our understanding of precisely how cell-to-cell communication occurs in this model system."

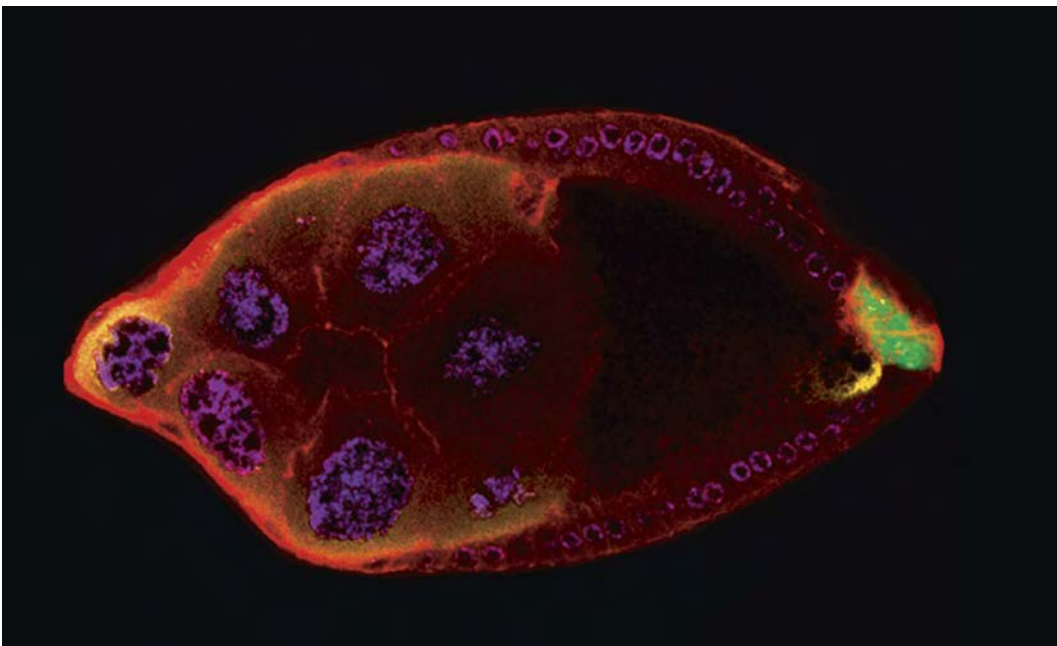
In recognition of the ground-breaking work of the FSU scientists — and to further the understanding of the mechanisms involved in cell-to-cell communication leading to oocyte polarity — the National Institutes of Health has awarded Deng a highly competitive "R01" Research Project Grant for health-

related research and development. It is a five-year, \$750,000 grant.

Just after joining the FSU faculty in 2004, Deng led a *Drosophila* oogenesis study that revealed mechanisms of cell-to-cell signaling

along other key pathways. Those findings were published in the 2005 editions of the journal *Development*. The current study — "Dystroglycan down-regulation links EGFR signaling and anterior-posterior polarity formation

in the *Drosophila* oocyte" — relied heavily on the state-of-the-art laser confocal microscope in FSU's Biological Science Imaging Resource facility. Funding for the research came in part from the American Heart Association.

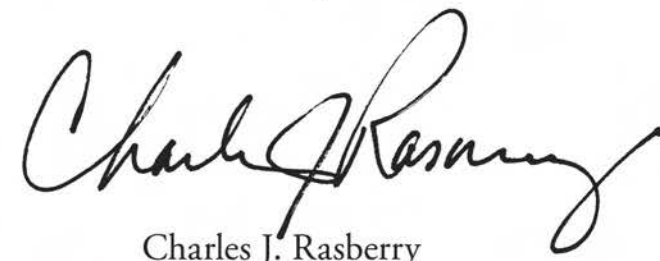


In the fruit-fly egg chamber, the polarization of the unfertilized egg, known as the oocyte, requires cell signaling between outer cells and the oocyte. Cells that have genetic mutations in this signaling pathway (shown in green), overproduce certain proteins like Dystroglycan (shown in red), which results in disruption of oocyte polarity (as indicated by a polarity marker in yellow).



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