

## FLORIDA STATE

A newspaper for FSU alumni, friends, faculty &amp; staff

## Times

## Class act:

## Student performance raises FSU's prominence

By Jeffery Seay  
Editor in Chief

This fall, the freshman class at Florida State University is the best and brightest to ever matriculate here. The average freshman accepted into FSU boasted a high-school grade point average of 4.0, an SAT score of 1261 (in critical reading and math) or an ACT score of 28. Even though freshman enrollment decreased from 6,300 to 5,200 because of the decline in state funding, the number of applicants clamoring to become Seminoles did not decline.

Naturally, fewer slots make acceptance standards much more competitive. The majority of FSU's students, freshmen or otherwise, are serious scholars, researchers, philanthropists and volunteers. They have come to Tallahassee ready to turn upside down the myth of FSU as a "party school." Their performance in the classroom and involvement in the community and world at large have spoken: *U.S. News and World Report* has named FSU as one of the top 50 public universities in the nation, in its "America's Best Colleges 2009" edition.

FSU tied with the University of Massachusetts-Amherst for 50th place. In addition, FSU's overall ranking jumped 10 places to No. 102 among all universities

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FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds

## Attracting the BRIGHTEST

The average freshman accepted into FSU boasted a high-school grade point average of 4.0, an SAT score of 1261 (in critical reading and math) or an ACT score of 28.



FSU undergraduate Tess Mattingly, above, and Josh Goodman, at left, participated this year in research activities, working directly with professors.

## Undergraduates getting a head start on research

By Bayard Stern  
Managing Editor

Conducting research isn't just for graduate students anymore. Florida State University students seeking bachelor's degrees now have the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors to help them participate in research activities and work directly with professors beyond the classroom.

"We ought to be doing everything we can to engage our undergraduate students in the research mission of the university," said Karen Laughlin, FSU's dean of Undergraduate Studies. "We now have a centralized office where we can assist with this effort, in lots of different ways. We want to help students who are interested in research figure

out how to go about getting engaged in a research project. We often work with the Office of National Fellowships and the University Honors Program to help students attain their goals."

Cathy Levenson, the Hazel K. Stiebeling Professor of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences



Cathy Levenson

and the program in Neuroscience, is the new director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors.

"Research experience as an undergraduate can really set a student

above and beyond the rest of the field," Levenson said. "Our office is getting the message out to undergraduates about the value of research experience. We also are engaging faculty in this process to make sure they understand how they can enhance undergraduate education on this campus by getting as many students as possible involved in the research process."

Undergraduate research is gaining popularity at FSU with students who are driven to learn more about their field, earn academic credit, gain experience and work directly with faculty members. The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors notes that undergraduate research helps participating students improve critical-thinking and communication skills. In addition, offering a wide array of research opportunities helps FSU

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## The 4-1-1 on FSU's hottest majors

By Avery Hill

When talking class schedules with the newest Seminoles, don't even think about making the proverbial Basket Weaving 101 joke. These scholars would hardly find the "blow-off" course comment amusing.

That's because business, biological science, psychology and nursing are among the most popular majors declared by Florida State University freshmen — and the most demanding.

"I think all the superlatives

fit this year's admittees — smartest, brightest, brilliant, dazzling," said John Barnhill, FSU's assistant vice president for enrollment management. "It is an impressive group."

Having graduated from high school with exemplary grade point averages and college placement scores that outpaced their peers, today's students aren't coasting on past performance. Rather, they're adding to that history of achievement a rigorous course of study at FSU to launch post-

collegiate success.

With majors such as these, often the first challenge is to get in.

"Our program is a limited-access program, so students can't get into the program unless they have a 2.9 overall GPA," said College of Business Dean Caryn L. Beck-Dudley. "With that, they have to have the calculus class. They have to have had the statistics class. They have to have had the economics classes, which most people consider to be relatively demanding."

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## Seminole coaches Phelps

Bob Bowman was a music major and scholarship swimmer at FSU before coaching Olympian Michael Phelps.

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## 'Osceola' is world-class polo player

Chris Gannon is the youngest person ever to win the U.S. Polo Open. Now he rides as Osceola.

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# Former FSU swimmer is coach to Michael Phelps

By Dave Fiore

Bob Bowman is a respected and accomplished swimming coach who, like many of his colleagues, has patrolled early-



Vol. 14 No. 3  
www.fsu.com

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The Florida State Times is published six times annually by the Florida State University Communications Group, the Alumni Association, the FSU Foundation and Seminole Boosters Inc. to keep alumni, friends, faculty and staff informed about FSU's growth, change, needs and accomplishments. Views expressed in the Florida State Times are not necessarily the views of university officials or the newspaper staff. Inclusion of underwriting does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services. To suggest news stories, write to the Florida State Times, 1600 Red Barber Plaza, Suite 104, Tallahassee, FL 32310-6068 or e-mail the editor: fstimes@mail.fsu.edu. To submit address changes, news for Alumni News Notes or In Memoriam, call Alumni Affairs at (850) 644-2761. Underwriting is handled by the Florida State University Communications Group. For rates, call Crystal Cumbo at (850) 487-3170, ext.352. The Florida State Times is available in alternative format upon request. It is printed on recycled paper.

Available online at  
<http://unicomm.fsu.edu/pages/FloridaStateTimes.html>

morning poolside practices for many years in relative obscurity.

That was, of course, until the wonder of Michael Phelps grabbed our collective imagination and would not let go for the first eight days of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. Phelps, who has been coached by Bowman for 12 years, won a record eight gold medals inside the Water Cube and helped NBC capture an average audience of 28.7 million Americans every night — staying up late to watch the thrilling assault on one of the Olympics' most revered records.

That exposure also placed Bowman ('87, Psychology) in the spotlight, including plenty of face time around the races and afterward in interviews with TV host Bob Costas.

It certainly was a change of pace for the driven and unassuming Bowman, who came to FSU as a music major, focusing on his piano skills with sights on a career in musical composition. But as a scholarship swimmer, he was forced to make a choice and concentrated on the pool.

Bowman swam at Florida State for three years and captained the team as a junior. His senior year, he served as an assistant coach — both at FSU and the Area Tallahassee Aquatic Club. That led to coaching positions across the country, including California's Napa Valley, Cincinnati, Las Vegas and Birmingham, Ala.,



Phelps and Coach Bob Bowman

before ending up in Baltimore, where he met a precocious but talented 11-year-old, Michael Phelps.

As senior coach at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club from 1996 to 1999, Bowman helped produce three individual national champions, 10 national finalists and five U.S. National Team members and was a national coach of the year three times. But it was his investment in Phelps that would lead to his greatest success.

The subject of dozens of media reports since the days before the Olympics, Bowman has been called a "maestro" who drove Phelps "like a drill sergeant, but also pushed and prodded him to

greatness." He has earned such loyalty and respect from Phelps that the world's greatest swimmer followed Bowman to Ann Arbor, when Bowman accepted a job at the University of Michigan four years ago and has followed him back to Baltimore, where Bowman is now CEO of the same club where they met.

"Training with Bob is the smartest thing I've ever done," Phelps told reporters following the Games. "I'm not going to swim for anyone else."



## Walter Dix enters personal 'Bronze Age'

By Dave Fiore

Among the thousands of athletes at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing were 13 Seminoles — the largest contingent ever representing Florida State. The previous high was at the 2000 Games, which had 10 FSU students or coaches. FSU has had at least one Olympian in every Summer Olympics since 1972.

Leading the way in 2008 was former All-American sprinter Walter Dix, who won a pair of bronze medals and was a dropped baton away from a chance for a third medal. Dix finished strong in the 100 meter

race with a personal best time of 9.91 seconds, and followed that with a clean 200 that earned him another spot on the podium.

"We're just so unbelievably happy for Walt," FSU head coach Bob Braman said. "He's the last of a breed of collegiate athletes that have done it the right way, and this is his reward. He didn't get off to the greatest of starts (in the 100 meters race), but as the whole world now knows, very few people can close a race like Walt."

To the right is a list of the Seminoles who participated in Beijing, the country they represented and their event(s).

How do you top being the most famous swimming coach in the world? It appears that the options are almost limitless.

"Everything in our life is kind of potential right now," Bowman told The Associated Press in Beijing. "Michael and I are definitely going to go into some business ventures together. What those are, we have some ideas, but we don't have any specifics."



## FSU students competed at the Beijing Olympics

**Yuruby Alicart**, Venezuela  
Event: Softball

**Gonzalo Barroilhet**, Chile  
Event: Decathlon

**Ricardo Chambers**, Jamaica  
Event: 400m

**Rafeeq Curry**, United States  
Event: Triple Jump

**Walter Dix**, United States  
Events: 100m, 200m, 4x100m Relay  
Results: 100m, Bronze - 9.91 (personal best) 200m, Bronze - 22.20 4 x 100m Relay

**Brian Dzingai**, Zimbabwe  
Event: 200m  
Results: 4th - 22.20

**Tom Lancashire**, United Kingdom  
Event: 1,500m

**Andrew Lemoncello**, United Kingdom  
Event: 3,000m Steeplechase

**Ngoni Makusha**, Zimbabwe  
Event: Long Jump  
Results: 4th - 8.19

**Barbara Parker**, United Kingdom  
Event: 3,000m Steeplechase

**Paul Rogers**, Canada  
Event: Women's Soccer, assistant coach

**Dorian Scott**, Jamaica  
Event: Shot Put



SHORT  
TAKES**Artist captures  
Obama on canvas**

It isn't every day that an artist's painting of a presidential candidate is chosen to be displayed at a national political convention, but 28-year-old Phil Fung is no everyday artist. The Miami-born world traveler believes his Chinese-Jamaican cultural heritage has defined both his artistic style and outlook.

**Phil Fung**

In August, Fung's art was elevated to national prominence. His rendering of Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama, titled "Stars and Stripes," was displayed at the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

While a student at Florida State University, Fung (B.S. '02, Studio Art) mastered more than drawing and painting, venturing into stone carving as an apprentice to FSU art education Professor Emeritus Ralph Hurst, a world-renowned stone carver. Since graduating, Fung has explored six continents. He lived in New Orleans for two years prior to Hurricane Katrina, where he sold his paintings to admiring tourists in the French Quarter. His next stop was the University of Central Florida, where he earned a Master of Arts degree.

To view more of Fung's sublime artistry, visit [www.philfung.com](http://www.philfung.com).

**Florida State Law's  
Student Bar Association  
is tops in the nation**

The American Bar Association's Law Student Division has named the Florida State University College of Law's Student Bar Association as the "Student Bar Association of the Year" because of its outstanding programming and services.

In fall 2007, the Student Bar Association organized a homelessness awareness week, which included an awareness forum and a service day. Earlier this year, the Student Bar Association held its third annual

Florida Legislative Preview, as well as a Mental Health Day to raise awareness of mental health issues. What's more, it established the Florida State Law Speakers Bureau, which brought U.S. Sen. Mel Martinez (B.A. '69, J.D. '73) and Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum to the FSU campus.

"This award would not have been possible without the outstanding work of the entire 2007-2008 Student Bar Association executive board, as well as Florida State Law's very supportive student body, faculty and administration," said Ben

Gibson, 2007-2008 Student Bar Association president.

**Stone chosen for  
Goldwater Scholarship**

Florida State University sophomore Rebecca Stone has received a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, awarded each year to some of the nation's most talented college sophomores and juniors who are passionate about research careers in the math, science and engineering fields.

Stone is a chemical engineering major from Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

The award covers expenses including tuition, fees, books and room and board, up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

**Rebecca Stone**

Stone will receive the award for two years.

At FSU, Stone has received a research opportunity that many undergraduates can only dream about: working alongside a Nobel Laureate. For the past three semesters, she has conducted nanotechnology research in the laboratory of Sir Harold Kroto, FSU's Francis Eppes Professor of Chemistry and a co-recipient of the 1996 Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

## Equestrian extraordinaire: World-class polo player portrays Osceola

**By Dave Fiore**

Experience handling a horse in front of a noisy crowd while carrying a large stick is not necessarily a prerequisite for being selected to portray Osceola during Seminole football games, but it certainly doesn't hurt.

Just ask Chris Gannon, the Florida State University senior and world-class polo player who is riding Renegade on Saturdays this fall.

Playing polo was great preparation for his role as Osceola, Gannon said, although there are some significant differences.

"They are two very different styles of riding, but you are still holding a stick with one hand and riding a horse," Gannon said. "And with polo, you can make a mistake and make up for it. Here, there is one chance with no room for error."

Not that Gannon is used to making many errors. The 25-year-old finance major, most recently from Palm Beach, Fla., is the youngest person ever to win the U.S. Polo Open (in 2001) and, at that time, was considered one of the best players at his level in the world.

"On the weekends I would play polo in Palm Beach, and people saw that I could play and would hire me to start playing for them," Gannon said. He played all over the country and also in Argentina, where he lived for six

months and was selected to play in the World Cup in Paris. He even had a brush with royalty.

"I was selected to play in an exhibition game with Prince William, Prince Harry and Prince Charles for charity," he said. "It was very formal off the field, but on the field, they were just regular players like everyone else."

As impressive as his riding skills are, it was Gannon's character that most impressed Allen Durham, the director of the Renegade and Osceola Program, owner of Renegade, and past Osceola himself in the early '90s.

"I was obviously impressed with Chris' equestrian skills," Durham said. "But it was more his attitude and understanding of the role he might be given the opportunity to portray. He read a book on Osceola and the Seminole Tribe and wrote a great essay that showed me he understood that it is more than just glitz and glamour — he saw this as an opportunity to represent an unconquered people. That was a big factor in selecting him over the other 30 or so applicants."

In some ways, Gannon seemed destined for the role since childhood.

"My dad had horses growing up, and my sister and I would do hunter jumping,

but I didn't like the tight pants," he said. "When I started playing polo, as soon as I picked up the mallet I was hooked. I would ride our horses at night while my sister and dad were sleeping."

He also had an appreciation for the culture he would one day symbolize.

"I always have had a love for the Native American people and the way they took care of the Earth," he said. "This is not a mascot, it is a representative of the Seminole Tribe. It is more than just riding, it is representing a great tradition."

Gannon's father, an FSU alumnus, would bring him to

FSU football games when he was young.

"We came to the games when I was a little kid, and the highlight of coming here was seeing Osceola and Renegade," Gannon said. "I even got my picture taken with them."

Now, the next generation of admirers line up on Saturdays to get their picture made with him.

**Chris Gannon**



# The secret of their success: Dunlap center debuts

By Jeffery Seay  
Editor in Chief

At Florida State University, well-rounded students don't just happen. They are carefully cultivated.

This semester, FSU opened the Albert J. and Judith A. Dunlap Student Success Center. Its mission is to help students clarify and implement their educational plans and career goals, and to help them find opportunities for community involvement and service. It also helps to pair them with mentors for leadership training.

The Dunlap Student Success Center houses the nation's flagship university career center, known simply as The Career Center, which brings faculty and career-placement professionals from around the world to learn best practices from its faculty and staff.

"I'm always bragging about our office," said Jeff Garis, director of the Career Center. "No office is perfect, but ours is highly regarded nationally and internationally for our comprehensive services and innovations in serving FSU students."

The Dunlap Student Success Center also houses FSU's Center for Leadership and Civic Education.

"The ability to make a difference occurs when students are enabled and empowered to create change in their communities," said co-director Laura Osteen. "We will enable students by developing their abilities to create change, and empower them by developing and connecting their individual passions with community needs."

Part of the center includes space for the headquarters of student organizations such as Alternative Break Corps and the FSU chapter of Habitat for Humanity. In this way, students can not only plan their organization's individual outreach activities but benefit from planning multi-organizational collaborations.

"The Center for Leadership and Civic Education will

have an array of advisers and opportunities available to students to help them build their skills, and develop their character and their values, which will help them be respectful of the communities where they're going to work, and become leaders in their professions," said

co-director Bill Moeller.

Find out more about the Career Center at [www.career.fsu.edu](http://www.career.fsu.edu), and more about the Center for Leadership and Civic Education at <http://thecenter.fsu.edu>.

*The Dunlap center stands in the heart of campus along Woodward Avenue.*



FSU Photo Lab/Ryals Lee

## 'Meet me at the Oglesby Union'

By Bayard Stern  
Managing Editor

The Oglesby Union is the headquarters for many student organizations, including the Student Government Association.

It is the premiere place for Florida State University students to simply hang out and relax.

"I think the Union is awesome," said Jacki Jerrems, a freshman from Gulf Breeze, Fla. "It's a great place to meet with friends and see new people."

Restaurants, stores, a bowling alley and the Club Downunder

also are located in the Union.

"It's really interesting down here," said Haley Lake, a freshman, also from Gulf Breeze, Fla. "There are so many things out here to look at and experience."

Every Wednesday the Union Courtyard is transformed into an outdoor market with

vendors selling their wares and organizations dispensing information and answering questions about their causes.

Mike "CD" Prost is a fixture at the Union on Wednesdays and has sold CDs and DVDs exclusively there for 13 years.

"I graduated from FSU with a major in international business

and a minor in German," Prost said. "Now I sometimes give lectures in the College of Business classes dealing with entrepreneurship."

"I love working down here at the Union because I like people, movies and music, and this is a great combination of all of those things."



## Class Act: Student Performance ... continued from page 1

— public and private — up from last year's ranking of 112.

If FSU's dedicated faculty is half of the story of its success, then its dedicated student body is the other half.

Last year, FSU boasted 55 National Merit Scholars, 12 National Achievement Scholars and 15 Hispanic Scholars. And because of the effort of the FSU Office of National Fellowships, the university's students are gaining critical assistance in competing for the most prestigious national and international scholarships.

Through the growing efforts of FSU's Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors, FSU students are participating in individualized research and study in greater numbers than ever. More than 600 undergraduates participated in either an Honors in the Major thesis or a Directed Individual Study in 53 different majors during both the fall 2007 and spring 2008 semesters.

What's more, FSU students

performed more than 260,000 hours of community service, doing everything from tutoring migrant farm workers in nearby Gadsden County, Fla., to traveling abroad to India and Uganda to work on hunger and homelessness issues.

"We know there are students completing even more undocumented volunteer hours than that number represents," said Lisa Brown, the coordinator of information and public relations at FSU's Center for Leadership and Civic Education.

FSU's students have responded positively to two of its latest programs designed to help them achieve beyond the classroom — in some cases, far beyond.

The university has launched the Summer Serviceships program, which grants a stipend to undergraduate students so that they can spend between eight and 12 weeks volunteering for a local, national or international nonprofit agency.

"One student has spent the

last two summers at Mother Teresa's clinic in Calcutta," said Mary Coburn, FSU vice president for Student Affairs. "They've gone to Sierra Leone, they've gone to New Orleans with hurricane relief and cleanup efforts. Some have spent the summer at AIDS clinics. Our students are doing phenomenal things."

In addition, the university has launched its Global Pathways Initiative to increase collaboration between its own international studies and cross-cultural efforts. To that end, FSU students now can take advantage of the FSU Global Pathways Certificate, which allows them to choose an international or cross-cultural theme of study, take related courses, learn a foreign language and participate in international or cross-cultural experiences and events.

"At FSU, we try not to take our students for granted," Coburn said. "There can be a tendency to expect our students to be very involved and engaged on campus, enthusiastic and excited about being at Florida State, and



VP Mary Coburn

maintain a certain level of allegiance and loyalty. If these are the qualities of our students, we must not take them for granted."

One of the keys in keeping the student body from feeling abused by the administration over student policies, according to Coburn, is maintaining a dialogue.

"It doesn't mean that we agree on everything, but it means that we've developed a kind of respectful relationship that we can disagree with each other, share ideas, and then come up with a solution together," she said.



# Students attain top internships

By Avery Hill

When it comes to garnering work experience in government and sports administration, few internships are more desirable among students than the Florida governor's prestigious Gubernatorial Fellowship Program and the Disney sports management internship, respectively.

And Florida State students have landed both.

Floridians Jennifer Young Blalock of Tallahassee, Jacob T. Cremer of Palatka, Karen Modzelewski of Venice and Lauren Hylemon of Naples are among this year's Gubernatorial Fellows. William Harper of Kissimmee, Fla., and Lauren Morningstar of Palm Harbor, Fla., are two of only 25 selected nationally to explore the field

of sports administration at Walt Disney World.

The Gubernatorial Fellowship Program gives college students a rare entrée to career training in government.

"I applied for the Gubernatorial Fellows program because I am interested in how to apply knowledge in real-world settings," said Blalock, a doctoral candidate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. "I wanted to learn more about how state government functions. This program offers unique opportunities in both of those areas."

Concurrently pursuing a juris doctorate and a Master of Science degree in Planning, Cremer intends to practice land use and environmental law in Florida after graduating with both degrees in spring 2010. He sees the

Gubernatorial Fellowship as an important steppingstone toward his goals.

"When I am seeking a job in a law firm in the future, I have no doubt potential employers will value my lifelong contacts with other fellows, who are the leaders of the future, the access I have had to state leaders and decision makers, and the maturity that will come from observing how our government works," he said, "and most of all, the public service component of the fellowship."

Assigned to Florida's Department of Community Affairs, the agency that handles growth management and community planning, Cremer has witnessed first-hand the challenges of operating in a climate of dramatic budget cuts.

"My biggest project has



Jacob T. Cremer

Jennifer Young Blalock

**Strength , Skill , Character**

been helping the agency search for innovative ways to finance its operations," Cremer said. "Because many of our statutory duties deal with land development, many people think that our workload decreases in economic downturns like now. Unfortunately, this simply is not the

case, and we are looking for the best ways to provide taxpayers with the planning services they expect and deserve."

In addition to his work with Community Affairs, Cremer and his colleagues in the fellowship meet weekly at the Capitol, interacting face-to-face with current government officials.

"We have access to state leaders that is unheard of for people so young," he said. "We have been able to meet with state agency chiefs and much of the governor's and lieutenant governor's staffs. Not only do we get to learn about their responsibilities within the Executive Branch, but we get to ask them more personal questions, such as how they deal with a high pressure job and how they balance family and personal responsibilities with their work lives."

The starting gun for Inaugural 2009 Disney's Princess Half Marathon won't officially sound until March 8, 2009, but FSU's Lauren Morningstar got started on this race months ago.

"My job was to research the market and find similar races where we could promote Disney's Princess Half Marathon," said Morningstar, winner of a coveted year-long internship.

Since 1996, Disney's Wide World of Sports complex in Orlando has been a training ground for master's or doctoral students from accredited universities with a special interest in sports and recreation.

Morningstar joined the program as a sales management intern for Disney's Endurance Team (road races, marathons, adventure races, etc.). A "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," the position offers extensive exposure and hands-on career development, she said.

## Office guides students toward fellowships

"One man had lost everything in Hurricane Katrina — his car, his apartment, everything. FEMA had sent him to Indiana, and when he came back, his luggage was stolen," said 2008 Florida State University graduate Joe O'Shea, describing one of the survivors he encountered as he transformed a flooded house in New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward into a free health clinic after the storm. "I met him at a volunteer place and brought him over to the clinic. He stayed for five weeks and worked with me every day."

These were the kinds of real-life, human interest details that Jamie Purcell, director of Florida State University's Office of National Fellowships, urged O'Shea to include in his application for a 2007 Truman Scholarship, a \$30,000 grant for college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are aiming at a career in public service. That advice, in tandem with months of support from Purcell and her office, paid off. O'Shea was one of just 65 students nationwide to win the coveted award. The 2007-2008 student body president went on to win a Rhodes Scholarship in the spring of 2008, as well, and is currently studying in Oxford, England.

O'Shea is the second FSU student to win a Rhodes Scholarship in the past three years. The other was Garrett Johnson, who won his in 2006 — also with the assistance of the Office of National Fellowships. These numbers, according to Purcell,

are significant for a public university and in comparison to other Florida universities.

Active since January 2005, thanks to the generosity of FSU Trustee David Ford, the Office of National Fellowships opens important doors for FSU's most talented and motivated

students. With Ivy League schools having long dominated the most prestigious national and international fellowship programs — Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater and Fulbright — the Office of National Fellowships helps put FSU students on equal footing.

The support given by the office can range from reviewing more than 20 drafts of a personal statement to setting up mock interviews and even advising finalists to go with a red or blue necktie for the selection committee meeting.

The Office of National Fellowships' rise to success was swift. In its first year of operation, 12 students won nationally competitive awards. Along with the two Rhodes Scholars in the past three years, and two Truman (Cara Castellana, O'Shea) and two Goldwater (Priya Pal, Rebecca Stone) scholars in the past two years, the number of Fulbright recipients — each winning a year to study abroad — has skyrocketed to 18 in the past three years from just six in the previous decade. There were 10 winners and two alternates this year alone, making FSU a "Fulbright powerhouse," in the words of Dean of Undergraduate Studies Karen Laughlin.

Learn more about the Office of National Fellowships at [www.onf.fsu.edu](http://www.onf.fsu.edu).



**We knew him 'back when':** In 2006, Joe O'Shea goes over Truman Scholarship application materials with Jamie Purcell, director of FSU's Office of National Fellowships.

FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds



# Sit back, relax, get comfy: The Student Life Building

By Bayard Stern  
Managing Editor

Located just up the hill from the Oglesby Union, the Askew Student Life Building was designed to help students enjoy themselves. Housed inside the modern, airy building's lobby is

the Student Life Cinema movie theater and the Cyber Café and Lounge. The Cyber Café and Lounge is designed for students who want to relax between classes, just hang out or wait for a movie.

"A lot of students walk

through here and use the computers for games and the Internet, or they just watch TV," said Jarrod Fredericks, a senior from Washington, D.C., majoring in history with a minor in political science. "I hung out here so much they hired me in the theater to work in concessions, as an usher, and in the box office. Some people just love to relax on the couches. We do have a core group that we call the 'SLB junkies.' They are the ones who are serious gamers and who come here for the video games."

The Student Life Cinema's state-of-the-art movie theater seats 380 and features stadium-style seating, 35-millimeter and digital projection, 5.1 Dolby Digital surround sound, an 18-by-43-foot screen, and movie refreshments at affordable prices. Digital media shown in the theater can be routed



Bayard Stern

**FSU senior Jarrod Fredericks enjoys relaxing with computer games at the Student Life Building.**

to meeting rooms and Cyber Café TVs for overflow seating. Prime seating is available for guests in wheelchairs, and infrared headphones are available for the hearing-impaired.

In addition, the building is the home of the offices for University Housing, University Counseling, the Congress of Graduate Students and the National Pan-Hellenic Council.



**Scott Atwell**  
President,  
Alumni  
Association

By every measure, Allen Durham had a richly rewarding undergraduate career at FSU: a member of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, the Sigma Chi fraternity and three years as Chief Osceola, rider of famed Renegade. Yet looking back, he is just as passionate about his time as a member of the Student Alumni Association (SAA).

"Being around alumni showed me the true strength of FSU," said Durham, a Tallahassee businessman who today serves as treasurer on the Alumni Association's National Board of Directors. "I saw alumni who were using their personal resources to come back and work on behalf of the university, and it just set a great example for the kind of alumnus I wanted to be."

To this day, creating opportunities for undergraduates to interact with alumni is central to the purpose of our student organization. The FSU Alumni Association is committing more resources to make the experience even more satisfying for current FSU students. We have just hired a new director for SAA, recent FSU graduate Joe Mahshie, who was a key player in growing the Student Booster organization to nearly 3,000

members.

Mahshie is building a student alumni program rich in meaning, utilizing the talents of its own members such as SAA president Candace Greene (pictured).

"The student group serves to ensure that anyone who enters the university and gets involved early remains active lifelong members of the Seminole community," said Greene, a public relations major from Virginia.

Along with Mahshie, Greene is designing activities to meet that goal — events like "Noteworthy 'Noles," an old-fashioned dinner party hosted by an alumnus for up to ten students.

"Hearing about their time as students and how they made the transition into their professional lives is beneficial for members," Greene said. "It allows students to engage in dialogue with alumni who have the knowledge and experience that students find invaluable."

Of course, the students don't need any advice on being passionate. Greene and the rest of her fellow student members can be seen on campus and at other alumni events proudly wearing T-shirts that read: "Students Today. Alumni Tomorrow. Seminoles Forever!"

If you are an alumnus interested in mentoring students or participating in a "Noteworthy 'Noles" dinner, contact Joe Mahshie at [jmahshie@fsu.edu](mailto:jmahshie@fsu.edu) or (644-3035). To join the FSU Alumni Association, visit [www.alumni.fsu.edu](http://www.alumni.fsu.edu).



## Pumping iron at Leach: The 'big guns' show

By Jeffery Seay  
Editor in Chief

Like many Florida State University students, 19-year-old sophomores Adam Levit and Michael Walding — both members of the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity — are as serious about weight training as they are about their coursework. They are among the more than 3,500 students who use the Bobby E. Leach Student Recreation Center every day.

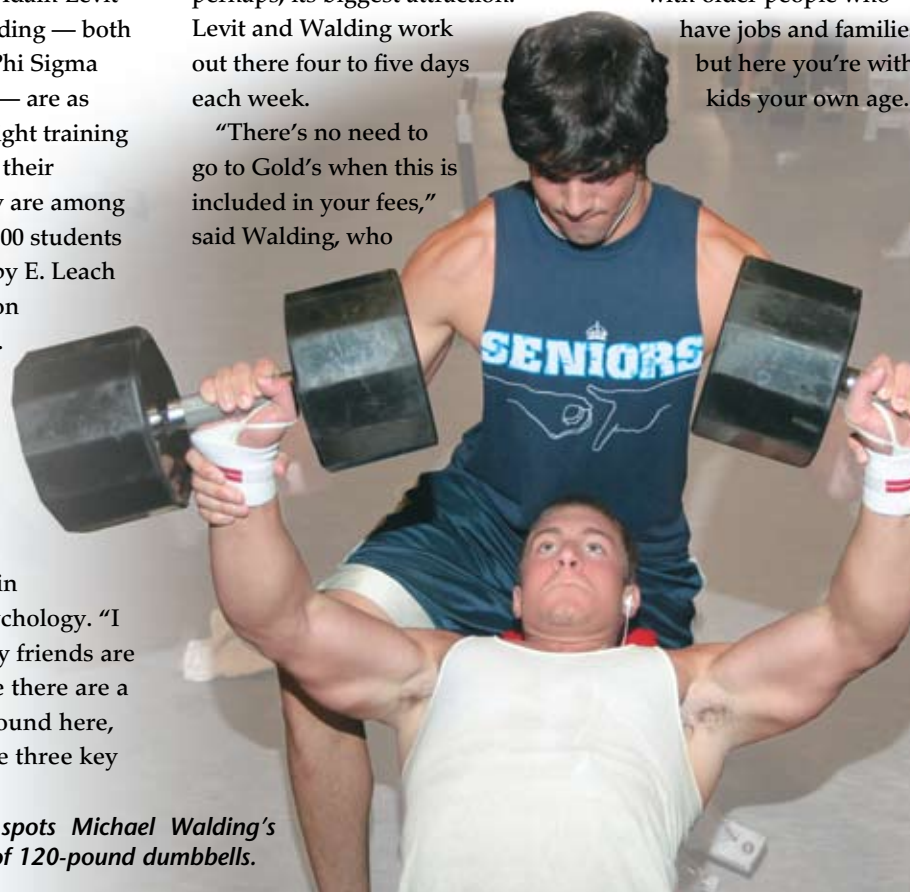
"First off, I come to the Leach Center to get jacked, just like everybody else," said Levit, who is majoring in business and psychology. "I like it because my friends are here and because there are a lot of hot girls around here, too. Those are the three key

points for coming to Leach."

Opened in the fall of 1991, the Leach Center accommodates dozens of exercise-related activities, but weight training is, perhaps, its biggest attraction. Levit and Walding work out there four to five days each week.

"There's no need to go to Gold's when this is included in your fees," said Walding, who

is majoring in political science and psychology. "You get to see people you know here every day. At most other gyms, you don't. And at other gyms, you're with older people who have jobs and families, but here you're with kids your own age."



**Adam Levit spots Michael Walding's bench press of 120-pound dumbbells.**

FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds



# The appeal of Greek life

By Jeffery Seay  
and Bayard Stern

They number 4,000 strong, making up 14 percent of the student body. They volunteer more than 30,000 hours of community service annually and maintain a 3.0 GPA collectively. They join for different reasons, but forge common bonds of brotherhood and sisterhood. They are the men and women of Florida State University's fraternities and sororities, and like the generations who have gone before, they have discovered the timeless appeal of Greek life and are making it their own.

## THE FRATERNITIES

If Joe O'Shea paints a picture of today's fraternity man at FSU, then the "party till you drop" image of college Greek life depicted in "National Lampoon's Animal House" is history. O'Shea (B.A. '08, Philosophy), a member of the FSU chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha, served as the 2007-2008 student body president, maintained a 4.0 cumulative grade point average, established a public health clinic in post-Katrina New Orleans, and was named a Rhodes Scholar before graduating.

More than ever, fraternity men at FSU seem to be pulling out the stops to promote personal growth through academic excellence and

leadership, both on campus and in the community. John Belushi's Bluto Blutariski would be amazed.

"Fraternity life is changing," said Jay Revell, a 21-year-old senior who is majoring in political science. Revell is consul of the FSU chapter of Sigma Chi. "The stereotypes of yesteryear are beginning to fade away, and a new image for fraternities is emerging."

Fraternities at FSU have increased their philanthropic efforts and community service, according to Revell.

"Campus leaders are coming right out of chapter meetings and going down to serve in various student government roles," he said. "Fraternities are becoming the premier place for the leaders of tomorrow to learn the skills they need to find success."

There are other benefits to being a part of a fraternity, said Angel Valladares, a 20-year-old junior who is majoring in both biological science and anthropology and plans to attend medical school.

"One of the most important aspects that I have experienced through my fraternity and in learning from brothers of other fraternities has been the family bond," said Valladares, president of the FSU colony of Phi Iota Alpha, the oldest Latino fraternity in existence. "The bonds of brotherhood have been created through shared experiences, passions and ideals."

Valladares also discussed the connection between fraternity life and volunteerism.

"Working as a brotherhood is a much more efficient catalyst to drive civic-minded efforts," he said. "Many of the fraternities on our campus have a mission to develop great men through the promotion of higher ethical standards and values that promote well-roundedness. I've learned that in order to become a leader, you must actively involve yourself in service. My passion for community service has only been intensified since becoming a brother of Phi Iota Alpha."

The appeal of fraternity life for

FSU senior Robert Potomski has everything to do with aligning himself with other students who share his sense of morality and values — not the idea of joining an endless party.

"I have been able to see the way Greek life positively affects the campus, community and individuals in my capacity as executive vice president and chief justice of the Interfraternity Council," said Potomski, a 22-year-old senior with a double major in business management and real estate. Potomski is a member of the FSU chapter of Kappa Alpha. "The best part about it all is that these positive experiences related to Greek life are attributed to the values-based teachings common with each and every organization in the community."

The primary reason why so many fraternity men are active in campus leadership positions, according to Potomski, is pride — not only in being a member of a fraternity, but in building its future.

"Being in a fraternity gives you a sense of being part of something that is bigger than yourself, and while you are enveloped in this



Lauren Robertson

experience, you gain a lot of accountability and responsibility through it," Potomski said.

## THE SORORITIES

Florida State University has a sorority system that is steeped in tradition and pageantry. Many freshman women who arrive on campus choose to immediately be a part of sorority rush, a ritual that takes place the week before classes begin.

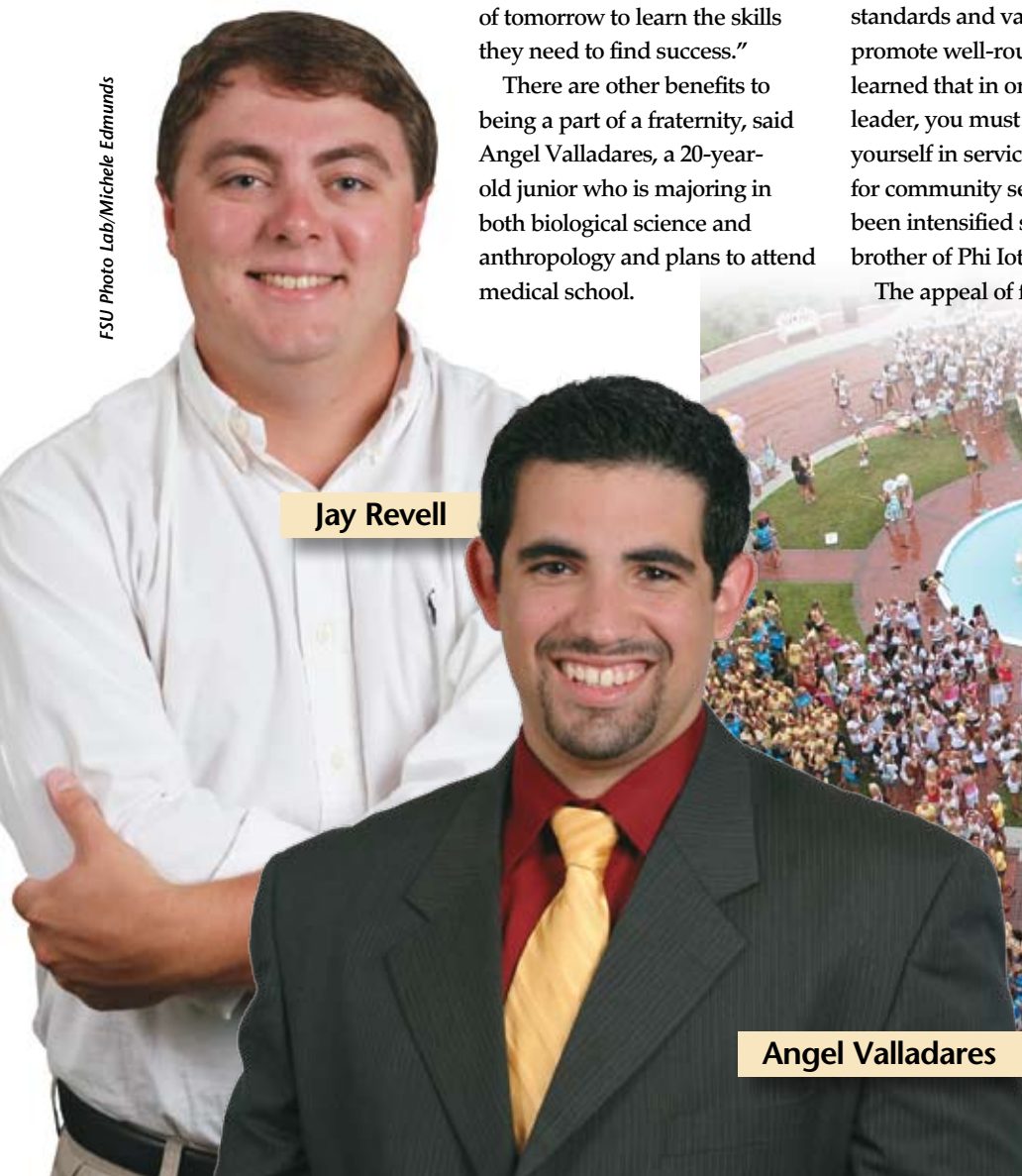
During this time, thousands of young women walk between the majestic sorority houses for days on end in order to meet the sorority sisters of each house. This is where the process begins to figure out who will become a pledge and where. This year, a surprise guest, Tropical Storm Fay, added some drama, dumping as much as 20 inches of rain on Tallahassee.

"We had a successful recruitment week for Panhellenic," said Lauren Robertson, FSU Panhellenic Association president, Phi Mu sorority member and a junior majoring in business management and criminology. "Despite the tropical storm that made it difficult to walk from house to house at times, we achieved 'parity' for the second year in a row. This means that every sorority made its quota, and thus each sorority now has at least 46 new members."

The intricate process of pledges and sororities figuring out who goes where has remained largely unchanged for decades. What has changed is the life of a sorority sister once she becomes a member. The formal dances, hayrides and events with fraternities still remain, but now much more emphasis is being placed on community service, outreach and academics.

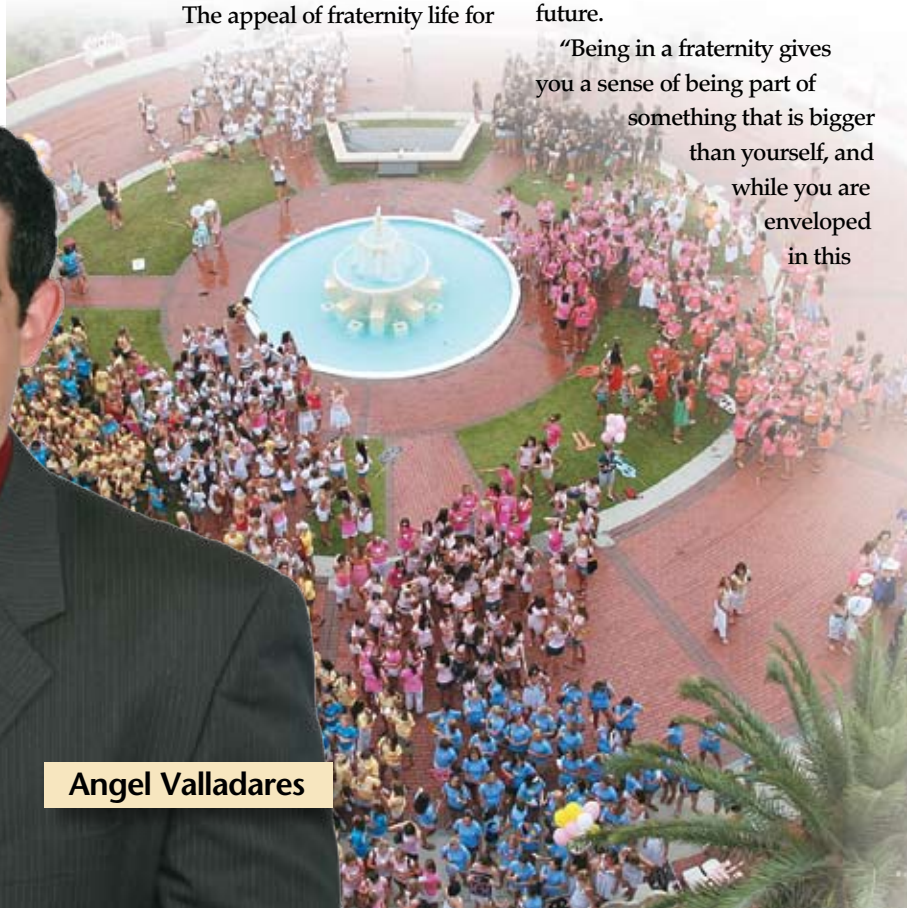
Each sorority has a national philanthropy that it benefits, such as Ronald McDonald House,

FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds



Jay Revell

Angel Valladares





the Children's Miracle Network and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. All sororities take part in different types of events and activities in cooperation with other Greek fraternities and sororities to raise money, including FSU's Dance Marathon, Relay for Life, softball, and soccer and golf tournaments. This summer, a fraternity and sorority held their first-ever summer philanthropy by hosting a 5K run that benefited the Dick Howser Center and the Student United Way of the Big Bend.

"I believe that it is going to become more of a trend in future years for fraternities and sororities to start benefiting local philanthropic organizations as well as their national philanthropy," Robertson, the Panhellenic Association president, said. "As a Panhellenic, in the

past year, we have participated in a toy drive for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program, we have donated formal dresses to the Junior League of Tallahassee and helped them in some of their other events, and our organizations play a very active role in fundraising and participating in Dance Marathon and Relay for Life."

The 15 Panhellenic sororities on campus all have an academic-excellence program and recognize scholastic achievement in many ways.

"Panhellenic honors all dean's list and honor roll women from all 15 sororities each semester," Robertson said. "We hold a scholarship reception and encourage the women who are invited to bring a professor or faculty member who has influenced them at FSU. We also

give awards to the chapter with the highest GPA and the most improved GPA from the previous semester. Another award we have is called 'Strive for Pi,' which is (for students with) a 3.14 GPA and above. Last spring semester, we are proud to say that every sorority was able to achieve a GPA above 3.14. Panhellenic women consistently have a higher GPA than the all-women's GPA average at FSU, and we pride ourselves on that standard."

### THE PAN-HELLENICS

Jonathan Lesane, a senior from Pompano Beach, Fla., is the president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council for the 2008-2009 school year. The FSU National Pan-Hellenic Council consists of eight predominantly African-American fraternities and sororities. The council's Web site

describes these organizations as being committed to scholarship, community service and cultural enrichment, with a purpose to create and maintain high standards in the life of fraternities and sororities and to perpetuate constructive fraternity and sorority relationships.

"Unity and philanthropy is something we strive for as Greek students at FSU," Lesane said. "Homecoming is a major event that unifies and promotes collaboration between Greek organizations. Relay for Life, Dance Marathon and Renegade Recess, during Homecoming Week, are just a

few of the philanthropies that I have had the pleasure of being involved in. Within my own fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi, I have served as the community service chairman and coordinated our 16th annual 'Kappa Christmas' benefit concert. We received over 400 donated toys and delivered them to Toys for Tots and we handed out the toys to more than 300 children and families."



Boyard Stern

Jonathan Lesane

### Casey Miskowski

A knock on my door at 2 a.m. could only mean one thing — it was time for a diner run. We all lived in Landis Hall — Mary, Maggie, Ally and Sanderson. There was only one place open 24 hours and close enough for us to walk to — Park Avenue Diner. Sure, the food tasted greasy and the service was awful, but I spent hours of my freshman year crammed into those booths. Everyone could eat for less than three bucks — me with a coffee and a "Rock Around the Clock" (a menu selection), and Mary eating Ally's leftover grits.

### Jessica Willsie

The best part of being an FSU student is football. Yes, it sounds typical, but those 13 magical weeks of tailgating, football and parties to celebrate our victories or to mourn our losses are the best weeks of the entire school year. Standing in Doak Campbell Stadium with 80,000 people, all screaming the War Chant and feverishly doing the Chop, goose bumps came over my body as the band repeated the chant for a second time I realized that I suddenly belonged to something bigger than anything I had ever seen or felt in my life. I became a Florida State Seminole.



### Anamari Eskildsen

My orientation experience at FSU was like nothing I had ever experienced in my life. The singing, dancing, pompons, "F-L-O-R-I-D-A S-T-A-T-E" — I swore that I would never, as they gruesomely said, "bleed garnet and gold." I am now five weeks away from graduating (at press time) and I have rarely met anyone so in love, proud or thankful of their university as I am now.

### Frank Longobardo

Writing for the FSView has shaped my time at FSU because it has given me opportunities that when I was growing up, I could only dream of, whether it is going to FSU football media day and getting to interview players and Coach Bowden or actually getting to go and cover the College World Series in Omaha. Are you kidding me?

### Christie Dishner

I volunteer six hours a week to do play therapy with a 4-year-old autistic girl. At first it was just a résumé-building experience as a prospective student in the College of Communication, but then it became a heartwarming, life-altering experience. On my last session of volunteering for the 2008 spring semester, she spontaneously said my name. After working with her for almost a year there, was nothing more exciting — it was the biggest "paycheck" I could have ever received.



FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds

# Seminole Sound-Off



# Don't go anywhere — get ready for 'next act'



**Charlie Barnes**

**Executive Director,  
Seminole Boosters**

*"This is where I came in."*

There's a phrase unknown to folks below a certain age; has to do with the way movie theatres operated up through the end of the 1950s. Even small towns had two, sometimes three theaters and perhaps a drive-in movie. They ran mostly B films: westerns, horror, some adventures, maybe slapstick with Abbott & Costello.

People didn't pay much attention to the start times because the films were simple. It was common practice to walk in and sit down in the middle of a movie, watch the cartoons that played between shows and then stay to watch it over from the beginning until you saw where you came in. At that point you simply got up and left.

That phrase came back to me upon discovery of an old Seminole

wall poster. It was produced in black & white by the Athletic Department, and pictured a young Bobby Bowden being carried off the field by his jubilant team after winning the Tangerine Bowl in late December, 1977.

I was back in Tallahassee then, preparing to begin my career with Seminole Boosters, Inc. That wall poster reflected the exuberance of Seminole fans and the optimism that had arrived with Bobby Bowden. One quadrant of the poster displayed a final poll for 1977. There was Florida State — toward the bottom to be sure at #18 — but Seminole fans could not have been more proud.

The headline proclaimed Bobby Bowden's words: "We're Not Second Rate Any More!" Gone was the frustration of losing seasons; the gloom of defeat had been exorcised. Seminoles dared to think of themselves as first rate again, and hungered for respect and victories.

Our Seminoles have run many courses since then. We won more football games than any other college team in the 1990s. The first seven years of this new decade have not been without

their charms, but the paths of glory have slowly overgrown.

This August the *USAToday* preseason rankings were published and for the first I can recall as a Booster employee, my Seminoles did not appear anywhere in the Top 25. We can't blame *USAToday*. Lots of predictors have stuck their necks out for us the last few years only to be slapped down by a pair of 7-6 seasons.

No, back-to-back 7-6 seasons with attendant bowl games are not the same as 0-11 and 1-10 and 2-9 like those before Bowden. But to fans used to the good stuff, back-to-back 7-6 seasons are unacceptably grim. And Seminole fans are certainly used to the good stuff. Even before the 14-year Dynasty, Bobby Bowden brought the good stuff to FSU almost immediately upon his arrival. In the late 1970s he exhilarated fans with a pair of Orange Bowls and a string of victories four in a row over our biggest rival.

Optimists among us believe we see the debris being cleared away from those paths to glory. Word from the Moore Center in pre-season is that Coach Bowden is

out of his tower and down on the field pushing the boys, energizing his staff. They say he looks like a young man — a younger man at any rate — moving among the troops.

Jimbo Fisher they say prowls the practice field like a man possessed, a description embraced by Seminole fans hungry once more for victory and respect.

I have a sense that the foundation is solid once again. No doubt this could be another rough year, and even in the best case it is assuredly not *the* year. But *the* year is coming and when it does it will signal the start of a long run.

On August 22nd it was announced as a small matter in passing that Florida State will play Samford University in 2010. It will be the last year of Jimbo Fisher's three year contract that specifies he must be named Head Coach at the end of the season. Bobby Bowden knows he has the option to renew his own contract year-to-year.

There is always speculation as to when Coach Bowden might retire. No one knows the answer, but it's curious that Samford has

made a ghostly reappearance on the schedule of that most significant season three years hence.

In October of 1950, the Samford team came here to play on the night we dedicated Doak Campbell stadium. Bobby Bowden was Samford's sophomore quarterback, a couple of years before he made All-America, before he was named Team Captain. We have a brief span of grainy footage from the game.

What would it be like to stand next to Bobby Bowden on the sidelines when Samford returns to play on the same field again in 2010? Who could fathom his thoughts?

Consider the circle of time drawn with such elegant symmetry, exactly sixty years from beginning to end.

*"This is where I came in."*

I see where the Seminole story line is headed and I sense this is just about where I came in more than three decades ago.

But I enjoyed the feature presentation so much the first time, I think I'll stick around and watch some of it again.



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# NEWS NOTES ALUMNI

## Got News?

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

### 1950s

**Arthur H. Bougae** (B.S. '57, M.S. '59) retired in June after 42 years as a stock broker. Bougae was inducted into the Broker Hall of Fame in 1996.

### 1960s

**Sidney A. Stubbs** (B.A. '60) received the most point totals in the 2008 "Florida Super Lawyers" nomination, research and blue-ribbon review process. Stubbs has more than 40 years of experience in the areas of commercial and corporate litigation and law firm litigation.

**Frank M. Ryll** (B.A. '64) was honored with the 2008 Legacy Award, bestowed by Florida Gov. Charlie Crist and the Florida Cabinet in recognition of Ryll's profound impact on the progress and growth of Florida's business community.

### 1970s

**Jim Sauers** (B.S. '71) competed in the high jump at the Second Southeast Sports Festival at age 60, a full 37 years after winning the event for FSU in a duel against the University of Alabama and setting the record at 6 feet, 8 inches.

**Ronald F. Premuroso** (B.S. '75) has obtained his Ph.D. in accounting at Florida Atlantic University and has started a

new position at the University of Montana.

**Diahann W. Lassus** (B.S. '76) was included in the list of "50 Distinguished Women in Wealth Management" in the April 2008 issue of *Wealth Manager* magazine. The list of women is chosen based on varying criteria, but all are considered role models for the next generation of women advisers.

**Donald S. Stuart** (B.S. '79) has been promoted by M&I Wealth Management to the position of senior vice president. He is now responsible for developing and administering wealth accumulation, preservation and transfer strategies for high-net-worth individuals and families.

### 1980s

**Lisa Kasten** (B.S. '80) is the sole owner of Accessory Sports, a company she started based on her lifelong dream to create a company that sold quality sports-related items and could be used by organizations to generate funds.

**Robert Rohr** (M.A. '81) was the featured writer in the August 2008 edition of *Agency Sales* magazine for his writing about the U.S. Court of International Trade. He also recently completed an executive

program in corporate control and governance at California Polytechnic State University.

### 1990s

**J. Michael Beech** (B.F.A. '90) was awarded a North Carolina Theatre Capital Award for his choreography of "Damn Yankees" for the Wakefield Theatre Company in Raleigh, N.C.

**Sarah Spector** (B.S. '98, J.D. '03), an associate in Henderson Franklin's Land Use and Environmental Law division, has been appointed to the board of directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Florida. As one of her first official duties, Spector will chair the Little Moments, Big Magic 5K run committee.

### 2000s

**Janeia R. Daniels** (J.D. '03) has been named assistant dean for student affairs at the Florida State University College of Law, where she will be responsible for a wide range of student support and outreach programs, including academic support, placement and financial aid.

**Jennifer L. Rogers** (B.S. '03, M.S. '05) has joined Push, an advertising design and branding agency based in Orlando, Fla., as a junior account executive. She

will be responsible for advertising account management and client relations.

**Justin D. Null** (B.S. '04), a U.S. Coast Guard reserve seaman, graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J. The intense curriculum consisted of academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military customs and courtesies, seamanship skills, first aid, fire fighting and marksmanship.

**Camille B. Clyne** (B.S. '05) completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill.

**Chauncey Davis** ('05), former high school football player and current Atlanta Falcon, returned home to host the Explosion Football Camp at Bruce Canova Stadium in Auburndale, Fla.

**Sheena Wurm** (B.S. '05) has been promoted to the position of associate at Baker Barrios Architects corporate headquarters, located in downtown Orlando, Fla.

**Susanna Childress** (Ph.D. '07) was named a Lilly Fellow in Humanities and the Arts by Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind. She will begin a two-year appointment on the Valparaiso University faculty.



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### Friday, November 14

- Homecoming Parade • 2 p.m.
- Alumni Center Open House • 5:30 p.m.
- Clock & Seal Banquet • Civic Center • 5:30 p.m.
- Pow Wow featuring Jimmy Fallon • Civic Center • 8 p.m.

### Saturday, November 15

- Grads Made Good Breakfast • Union Ballroom
- Pregame Tailgate • Dick Howser Stadium  
(Sponsored by the Alumni Association & Seminole Boosters)
- Football Game • FSU vs. Boston College

For more information visit the Alumni Association website at:

[alumni.fsu.edu](http://alumni.fsu.edu)

Florida State  
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ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION



## OBITUARIES

**Yung-Li Wang**, retired Florida State University professor of physics, died Aug. 7.

Wang's service at FSU consisted of being both an educator and a researcher, and lasted for more than 30 years, beginning in 1968 and carrying on until 2001, when he retired due to illness.



Born in Canton, China, Wang graduated from the National Taiwan University in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science degree. He went on to earn a Master of Science degree in 1961 from National Tsinghua University, and then a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

In his time at FSU, Wang did extensive research in the area of condensed matter theory, and had more than 65 paper publications to his name.

**Margaret Strozier Wright**, a former first lady of Florida State University, died Aug. 8.

Wright, who was born in Boulder, Colo., earned a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Colorado. After trying her hand at teaching, she returned to school, this time at the University of Chicago, with the intent to earn a master's degree in medical social work. It was there that she met her soon-to-be husband, Robert Manning Strozier, who later became the second president of FSU (1957-60).



When Wright arrived at FSU in 1957, she immediately began working on the President's House (now known as the Pearl Tyner Alumni Welcome Center). Using her love for music and the arts as inspiration, Wright completely transformed the house with a blend of modern and traditional art styles.

While serving as first lady, she enjoyed touring the state with her husband on "get acquainted" trips. She hosted small tea parties for her fellow FSU wives, but was somewhat deterred from joining too many civic organizations because of her uncompromising dedication to setting time aside for her children and family.



## IN-MEMORIAM

### 1940s

- Mary Edwards Scott (B.A. '41)
- Mary Gray Holderman Creamer (B.S. '43)
- Joan Newman Campbell (B.A. '48)
- Dorothy Bennett Cox (B.A. '48, M.S. '62)
- Bettie Chamberlain Atwater (Ph.D. '74)

### 1950s

- Mary Land Miller (B.S. '50)
- Betty G. Blanton (B.S. '51)
- Constance Purvis Field (B.S. '51)
- Orlando H. Wyman Jr. ('51)
- Beatrice M. David (G.C. '52)
- Pencie Windsor Wester (B.S. '56)
- John A. McDonald (B.S. '57)
- Charles W. Pennington (B.S. '58)
- Susie Copeland (M.S. '59)
- James R. Neergaard (M.S. '59)

### 1960s

- Nathalie Waller Gray (B.S. '61)
- Stuart R. Taber (B.S. '62)
- Melvin D. Peters (B.S. '63, M.S. '68)
- Dan A. Samek (B.S. '63)
- Carolyn Stephens Gordon (B.S. '65)
- Gary L. Yates (B.S. '65, M.A. '70)
- John E. Bishop (B.S. '66)
- George A. Wood Jr. (B.S. '66)
- Robert L. Stell (M.S. '68)

### 1970s

- Jack B. Biles (B.S.W. '72)
- David M. Koontz (B.S. '72)

### 1980s

- Dexter Q. Orange (B.S. '82)
- Ira F. Wilson (B.S. '82)
- Pamela A. Sanow ('83)
- Medarine Jordan (Ph.D. '85)
- Mark R. Rohlman (B.S. '85)
- Louis G. Zelenka Jr. (M.S. '88)
- Babette E. Arthur (M.A. '89)

### 1990s

- Derrik L. Biller (Ph.D. '99)

### 2000s

- Joseph Inwang ('07)
- Heidi Miller Millarker ('08)

### Faculty/Staff

- Eileen Beach
- Shirley Brown
- Jean Van Dyke
- Tommy Barber Ogletree
- James Gordon Wheeler

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# FSU: Coming to a town near you



**Mary Beth Lovingood**

*Director, Special Events  
Florida State University  
Foundation*

This fall, Florida State University hits the road for five away football games, but the football team and its entourage aren't the only ones traveling.

In an effort to build a stronger FSU presence outside of Tallahassee, the FSU Foundation — the university's academic fundraising arm — has set a goal of implementing an integrated program in targeted regions of the country where there are FSU alumni, friends and potential students. As part of this initiative, the Foundation, Seminole Boosters and the FSU Alumni Association have joined forces, collaborating on several fun and exciting events in key

cities. Accomplishing this goal of an increased presence becomes a hopeful reality this fall, as all three of these organizations work together in an unprecedented effort to spread the message of giving to FSU.

In South Florida, more than 29,000 Florida State University alumni live, work and play. In the Atlanta metro area, Florida State is represented by more than 15,000 alumni; in the Washington, D.C., area, nearly 10,000; and in Jacksonville, nearly 10,000. Though alumni numbers reign supreme in our hometown of Tallahassee, these statistics support the need for FSU to extend its post-graduation efforts to other regions of the country.

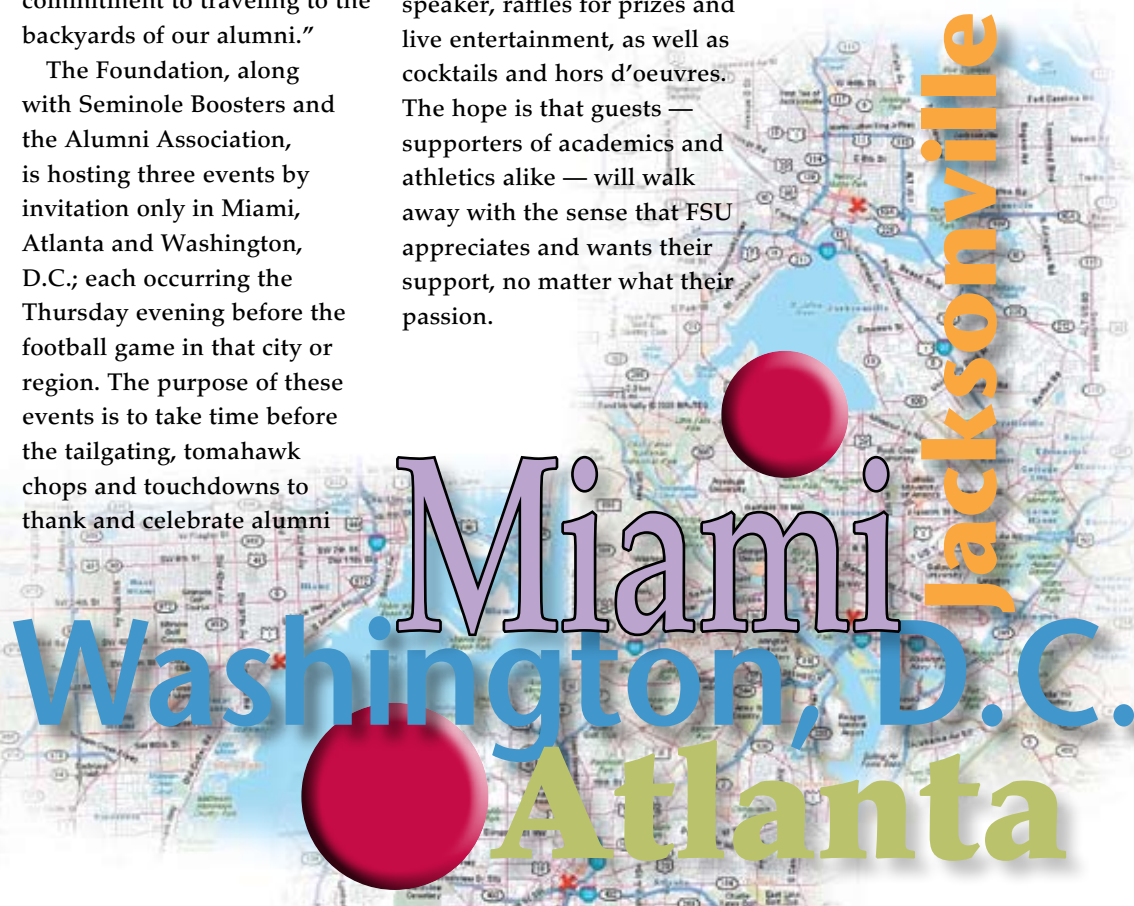
"For Florida State's alumni in the Miami, Atlanta and D.C. areas, the football games are home games for them," said Brett Davidson, assistant vice president of Annual Giving and Regional Programs for the FSU Foundation. "That frame

of mind is exactly why we at the Foundation and everyone at Seminole Boosters and the Alumni Association think it is important to show our commitment to traveling to the backyards of our alumni."

The Foundation, along with Seminole Boosters and the Alumni Association, is hosting three events by invitation only in Miami, Atlanta and Washington, D.C.; each occurring the Thursday evening before the football game in that city or region. The purpose of these events is to take time before the tailgating, tomahawk chops and touchdowns to thank and celebrate alumni

and friends who support the university by giving through one, two or all three of the organizations. Each event will feature a surprise guest speaker, raffles for prizes and live entertainment, as well as cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. The hope is that guests — supporters of academics and athletics alike — will walk away with the sense that FSU appreciates and wants their support, no matter what their passion.

For more information, call me at (850) 644-2313 or send an e-mail to [mblovingood@foundation.fsu.edu](mailto:mblovingood@foundation.fsu.edu).



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## In the trenches of undergraduate research ... *continued from page 1*

recruit academically motivated and talented students.

"What our office does is relay the message that FSU is a research university, and research is being done in every discipline," said Craig Filar, associate director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors. "I think there are a lot of students who are surprised to realize that if they are majoring in apparel design, music or business, they can actually do research under the supervision of a major professor in those disciplines. Our goal here in this office is to promote that to students, encourage them to talk to professors, and supply the tools they need to participate in a wide array of undergraduate research.

"Once students have done their research, the other main focus of this office is to make sure that their research gets out there," Filar said. "Our students have presented at conferences,



Josh Goodman

Melissa Meschler

have gotten their work published and have won national awards, grants and scholarships. We also facilitate helping students find summer research opportunities across the country at locations such as the Centers for Disease Control, the Mayo Clinic and numerous national and university laboratories. All of these opportunities offer a way for students to gain some great experience and really learn

about different fields."

Students have a wide array of choices in terms of what kind of credit they receive for their research. One option is the traditional directed individual study, or DIS. Filar explained that research possibilities are endless because if a student and professor agree on a research project, the sky is the limit.

The office is in its second year at FSU and already has had

some notable undergraduate-research success stories. Helping students find internships and present their research at conferences across the country is an important function of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors, which gives financial awards to help with expenses, according to Filar.

Graduate student Josh Goodman did his undergraduate research under history Professor James Jones. Goodman presented his thesis last spring at the annual ACC Meeting of the Minds Conference, which showcased student research accomplishments.

"My idea was to examine the ways in which the Treaty of Locarno affected United States foreign policy," Goodman said. "Altogether, my thesis essentially was an effort to trace the movements of internationalists' opinions from the end of World War I until 1925."

The office encourages and helps students to pursue their research interests no matter how far afield it may take them — even to Europe. Such was the case for Tess Mattingly, a senior majoring in vocal performance in the College of Music.

"I was able to study in Italy this past summer at the Asolo Song Festival to research the compositions of the composer Barbara Strozzi," Mattingly said. "I applied for the (Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors) award, which directly facilitated my work. Dr. Matthew Shaftel, a music theory professor at FSU, helped me to research and assemble a performance of one of Barbara Strozzi's cantatas, L'Astratto. I worked with a native Italian harpsichordist, Daniele Carretta, over four weeks through the Song Festival, with our rehearsals culminating in a performance for an Italian audience in Asolo, Italy. I feel incredibly lucky to have been able to do this research as an undergraduate student, and believe the research was integral in producing an informed interpretation of Strozzi's composition."

Learn more about the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors at [www.undergradresearch.fsu.edu](http://www.undergradresearch.fsu.edu).

## FSU's hottest majors ... *continued from page 1*

Second hurdle? Staying in.

"Once they're in the college, they also have to be good at not just the technical analytical skills, but they have to be good at the team building, the communication skills, the people part of business, and so business students really have to have a well-rounded academic approach to life and be able to work on both sides of their brains, and that's why it's demanding," Beck-Dudley said.

While college can offer many alluring distractions, today's top students face a third challenge of finding a way to stay on task, says Bryant Chase, chairman of the Department of Biological Science.

"The ones who stick with the biology curriculum are very motivated as well, self-motivated," said Chase, who has worked at FSU for seven years. "They have some ultimate goal that they are striving toward.

"I'll have several undergrads in my lab for any given year. I usually encourage them to stick around for at least a year," Chase said. "Many of them stay around for a year and a half or two years, and so I do get to know them pretty well in that venue. They just bring a lot of

enthusiasm, a lot of energy. It always amazes me."

The best and brightest come to FSU with an idea of what they want to do — even if their friends and family don't fully grasp it.

"People don't always know what we mean when we say somebody majors in psychology, and so people have this narrow view that these are people strictly being prepared to be mental health counselors or workers, and that is just not the case," said Janet Kistner, who chairs the Department of Psychology. "It's much broader than just maybe the idea of therapy, which is certainly a part of psychology, but psychology is more broad. There are a lot of demands on our students to learn a lot about research methods."

Whatever route they take, FSU prepares psychology students for high achievement, both in pursuit of further education or complementary disciplines, Kistner said.

"Some of our students will go on to graduate studies that will allow them to diagnose and treat persons with mental illness, but a lot of our students will go on to graduate school to study

any number of other things — business, for example, and then other professions like law and medicine," Kistner said.

After two years of required classes in humanities and liberal arts, nursing students at FSU begin the challenge of integrating what they've been taught.

"The prerequisites that they're learning all tend to be factual, theoretical, chemistry, biology, anatomy and physiology, and so the students learn all this kind of fact data," said Lisa Plowfield, dean of the College of Nursing.

As with other disciplines, the challenges in nursing continue beyond college classrooms.

"When you come into nursing now, you need to take that whole background you have about the complexity of the sciences and psychology and how people act and think and develop and respond, and now you need to put it into a medical or health-related field and framework," Plowfield said. "And you are continuing to learn more facts, you're continuing to learn about drugs, drug interactions — that how one body responds compared to the next is going to be different."

## Dancing for a cause

By Jeffery Seay

Editor in Chief

Just picture it: hundreds of Florida State University students crowded together on their feet, moving in unison, being driven by a common determination to achieve victory and having the time of their lives. Is it a Saturday afternoon at Doak Campbell Stadium? No, it is Dance Marathon, the one time of year when FSU students can bust a move, boogie down and shake their groove things, all in the name of charity.

For the past 13 years, FSU students have danced the night away at Dance Marathon — a 32-hour extravaganza that is the university's largest student-run philanthropy project. Over the years, students have raised more than \$1 million for the FSU College of Medicine's Pediatric Outreach Program and the Children's Miracle Network at Shand's Hospital by pledging to remain standing for the duration of the event. In 2008 alone, students raised \$410,000.

"After a year of planning, it is a great experience to see all of our hard work pay off and meet the Children's Miracle Network families who benefit from the money we raise," said former Dance Marathon Director of Marketing Maryann Rybnicky (B.S. '08, Political Science). "We have a great feeling of accomplishment."





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