



Timely Class, Timely Topic

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — A newly launched University of Florida class about terrorism is so popular that a larger room had to be found to accommodate all the students. POS 4931, named simply Terrorism, was planned before the Sept. 11 attacks and originally was expected to draw about 45 students. But administrators had to find a new home for the upper-level under-graduate political science class after more than 100 students registered. On the first day of class Wednesday, a standing-room-only crowd of mostly juniors and seniors looked over the syllabus and heard about the content and expectations for the class from teacher and UF political science doctoral candidate Adam Silverman. See the complete story at <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/terrorismclass.htm>



KABUL, Afghanistan — British Army Gen. John McColl, (left) and U.S. Brigadier General David Kratzer, on leave from his position as director of UF's Reitz Union, examine an agreement in early January paving the way for international security forces to help restore order to Afghanistan's capital. (AP photo)

New Use For Old Pests

TAMPA, Fla. — Unlike the scores of exotic species that have invaded Florida over the years, the newest environmental threat may be controlled in a practical way: serving it as an appetizer. Commercial harvesting may be the best way to control an invasion of green mussels that continues to spread rapidly along the state's southwest coast from Tampa Bay to Charlotte harbor, said Patrick Baker, assistant professor with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. See the complete story at <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/greenmussel.htm>



Patrick Baker, assistant professor with UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, collects mussels growing on piers of Gandy Bridge.

At A Glance...

- Tim Shepherd, a doctoral candidate in neuroscience at the University of Florida, won a first place national award for his poster presentation of a new method for tracking and defining the death of brain cells following injury.
- The American Association for Cancer Education has awarded University of Florida Eminent Scholar Carol Reed Ash the Margaret Hay Edwards Achievement Medal for her outstanding contributions to cancer education. This is the first time the multidisciplinary organization has selected a nurse to receive the medal.
- Seven UF students have been selected for Teach For America teaching placements beginning in August. They will join more than 600 recent college graduates already teaching in one of 16 sites nationally. Teach For America is the national corps that calls upon outstanding and diverse recent college graduates to commit two years of teaching in urban and rural public schools.

A Virtual Knockout

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — With no zombies to shoot or planets to conquer, a new interactive computer animation developed by University of Florida researchers won't ever take the Internet gaming world by storm. But the award-winning program is attracting a following in medical, nursing and veterinary schools around the world. The Virtual Anesthesia Machine program, dubbed "VAM" for short, is available for free on the World Wide Web at <http://www.anest.ufl.edu/vam>. It simulates the inner workings of an anesthesia machine and ventilator—the complex machinery in which oxygen, nitrous oxide and anesthetics mix to render patients insensitive to pain during surgery and other procedures. See the full story at <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/webanesthesia.htm>

UFactoid

Did you know that...

.....UF has made recycling a priority success story? During the last reported period (1999-2000), UF recycled approximately 1,790 short tons of paper, 62 short tons of glass, 19 short tons of aluminum cans, 3,200 short tons of yard waste, 270 short tons of sludge, 495 short tons of scrap metal and 570 short tons of masonry. Approximately 36% of all solid waste generated by the university is recycled, up from 32.5% just four years previously.

UF reduced its total water use per capita from a high of nearly 70,000 liters in 1997 to 40,000 in 1999.

Source - UF Sustainability Indicators Aug 2001



Hugh Popenoe, professor with the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, serves a snack to a herd of water buffalo at his farm near Gainesville. See story below.

Buffalo Girls Won't You Come Out For Pizza

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Mozzarella cheese made from cow's milk? Fuhgeddaboutit! Traditional Italian mozzarella - the soft, elastic cheese commonly associated with pizza and pasta dishes - is made with water buffalo milk. And University of Florida experts say a new effort to promote dairy farming with the huge, horned beasts may help U.S. cheese-makers gain a foothold in the gourmet mozzarella market. See the complete story at <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/waterbuffalo.htm>

Plug In, Tune In, Turn On

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Thanks in part to University of Florida research, people soon will plug into home or office outlets for more than just electricity. Adapters and other products set to debut later this month will make it possible to use existing electrical wiring to access the Internet, and to network computers and computing devices such as printers. The "powerline networking" technology, which backers say provides more consistent service than competing wireless systems, could reduce the need for expensive cable installations in houses or buildings built before the Internet boom. See the complete story at <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/powerline.htm>

Not What They Were Expecting

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — When rain brought an end to an intense drought in the Everglades a decade ago, wildlife biologist Peter Frederick thought there would be few wading birds left. The white ibis and other birds spend their entire lives around water, foraging in it for fish and nesting in the grasses above it for protection against predators. To Frederick, a wading-bird expert at the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, three years of bone-dry conditions would surely force the birds to fly to wetter places. Instead, he was shocked to note a surge in breeding pairs of white ibis, wood storks, snowy egrets and tricolor herons. "It was a classic case of scientists being caught with their pants down," Frederick said. "We thought there would be nothing, and it was the biggest year in 25 years." See the complete story at <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/wadebird.htm>

UF in the News

The following articles were recently published by UF faculty or administrators:

University Spinoffs a Wise Investment for Florida's Future

by Win Phillips, VP for Research, Dean Graduate School
Tallahassee Democrat, Jan. 30

Remember the Drug War?

Dennis Jett, Dean, International Center
Washington Post, Jan. 13