

CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

GI★Joe Glover Joins the Ranks of American Heroes

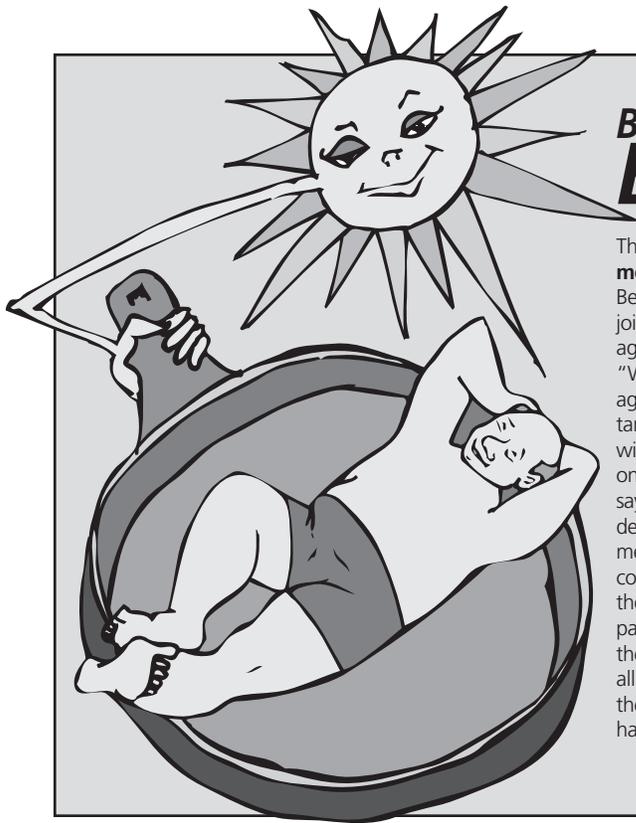
UF Presidential Task Force Commander “G.I.” Joe Glover is determined to turn the University of Florida into a “truly great” university—at any cost. “The Task Force will recommend how to consolidate the university’s rank and file resources to invest in the future, how to structure programs to ensure a high quality educational experience and a meaningful degree for students, and how the university may continue to address the needs of the state and nation,” Glover says. “Swift action will also be taken against the diabolical Destro and the rest of the nefarious gang at Cobra Headquarters.”

Glover, upon re-reading the edict from President Chuck Young that describes his duties, has determined that he has the ability to use “any means necessary” to achieve his mission. “To this end, the Task Force will recommend areas that should be strengthened, consolidated, redeveloped, reconstituted or de-emphasized,” he says. “The College of Engineering has also kindly provided us with a few prototype high-energy stun-beam cannons. They’re really neat. Zap! Zap!”

Although some UF administrators and deans expressed misgivings after one of the Task Force atomic hover tanks accidentally knocked over the top 15 feet of Century Tower, Glover promises to conduct his campaign with professionalism and sensitivity, without making hasty decisions. “During my reign, unique

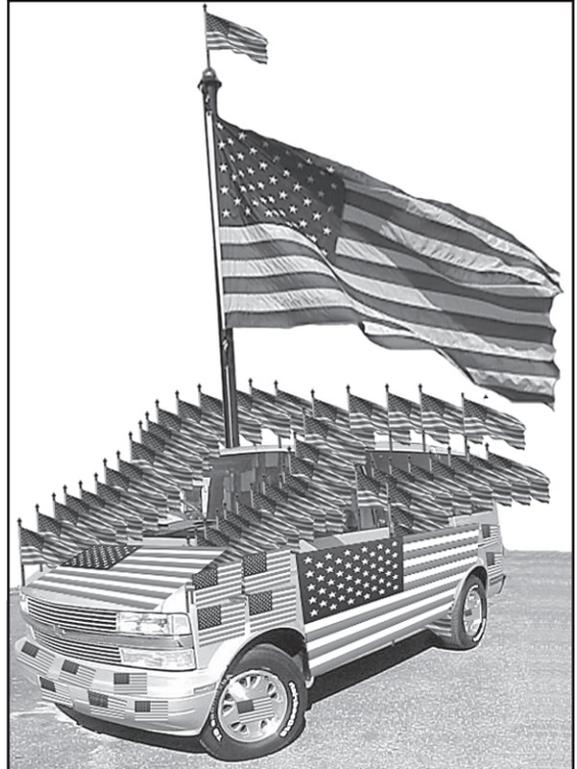
characteristics and strengths of the university’s programs will be compared with significant opportunities and challenges awaiting society and higher education in the next two decades. We will march these changes through the state legislature and anyone else who gets in our way,” he says “I’m also requiring that all college deans report at 0700 hours this Saturday to the Austin Carey Memorial Forest for survival training. It’s the only way to see whom the weak and the strong are. We’ll spend the weekend there, and determine whom will earn my trust and respect.”

The one-man “Action Team”
himself, GI Joe Glover.



Beach Blanket Bingo

The entire **sociology department** will be traveling to Bermuda this summer for a joint research project on the age demographics of tan lines. "We hope to discover which age group has more visible tan lines, and why. The results will have direct implications on the bathing suit industry," says John Henretta, chair of the department. Even though one member of the department could have easily conducted the study, the group decided to participate so they could spend the summer together. "We'll all be staying at one house on the island. We're just one big happy family," says Henretta.

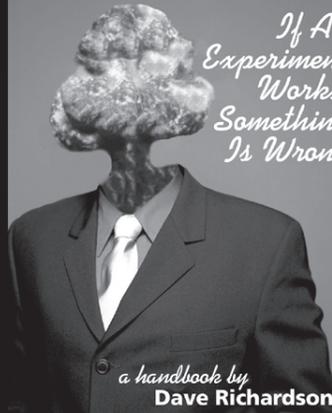


The **math department** has received a \$0.000001 million grant to determine how many American flags can be suction-cupped, glued or taped to a minivan. The grant, which is funded by the National Humanities Council's Americans for Patriotism Fund, represents the first time a scientific discipline has received a humanities-related grant. The award, one of the largest grants ever awarded by the National Humanities Council, also sets the record for the smallest grant ever received by any math department.

Joke of the Week

Two atoms are walking down the street and they run into each other. One says to the other, "Are you all right?" "No, I lost an electron!" "Are you sure?" "I'm positive!"

Submitted by Chemistry Chair Dave Richardson, who also has a new book out titled *If an Experiment Works, Something is Wrong*.



Thiele's Office Designated as Official CLAS Closet

After years of enduring complaints from CLAS faculty and staff about not knowing what type of clothing to wear during the spring, **Associate Dean Lisa McElwee-White** is converting **Political Science Chair Les Thiele's** office into a dressing room and closet.

With March temperatures sitting in the 30s to 50s in the mornings and heating up to the 70s and 80s by afternoon, many are left baffled by what duds to don.

McElwee-White organized a game of "rock paper scissors" that involved more than 150 faculty and staff whose offices qualified as "efficient closet space." The outcome was determined when Thiele attempted to deploy a forbidden "paper wraps scissors" maneuver.

Thiele will be relocated to an unused broom closet on the fifth floor of Anderson Hall but will still have limited access to the shower he had installed when Anderson underwent renovations last year. "I guess this means I don't get that hot tub I was wanting to put in next to the shower." Thiele said.

Bow Ties Filched

University Police were called to the Academic Advising Center last week when director **Albert Matheny** reported his entire bow tie collection had been stolen. Matheny had several hundred bow ties in his 30-year-old collection, including rare items worn by Donald Duck, Abraham Lincoln and Frank Sinatra. Police say the prime suspect in the case is psychology chair **Marty Heesacker**. Heesacker was seen late Monday night backing a truck up to Matheny's office and loading boxes into it. When questioned, Heesacker denied the allegations, saying it was a case of mistaken identity. Matheny, still too distraught over his loss to come to work, says Heesacker definitely has a motive for the theft. "Marty has always admired my collection, and he was upset that I have more polka-dotted bow ties than he does. Plus, he was mad because I just beat him in the election for president of the International Bow Tie Club."



Poor Matheny only has the one bow tie left. He vows not to remove it until the missing ones are found.

**LAST
PARKING
SPOT** ↓

Upcoming Construction Affects Campus Parking

Because of campus construction projects, UF Transportation and Parking Services advises that on Thursday, April 11 there will only be one available parking space for faculty and staff projects. There is no alternate parking available at this time, so everyone is encouraged to arrive extra early. For questions, comments or suggestions, please call 392-WALK.

"Huzzah" 150 Years

The University of Florida is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2003, and after much thought and deliberation, the official celebration colors will be orange and blue. Even though there was a push for the official celebration slogan to be "Go Gators!" the president's office has decided on "The University of Florida: Hot and Humid for 150 Years."

Retreat!

Seeking to foster a spirit of unity and teamwork between CLAS associate deans, department chairs and directors, **CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan** organized a retreat at Paynes Prairie last weekend.

"I feel that we need this time to relax, rejuvenate and get in touch with our inner self," says Sullivan.

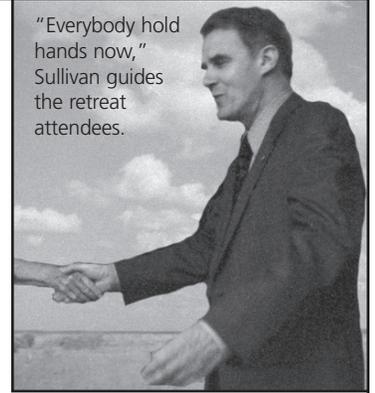
Upon arriving at the mandatory retreat, **Geological Sciences Chair Paul Mueller** commented that he had better things to do than sit around and talk about his feelings. However, a quick game of hide and seek in the prairie grass, which **Associate Dean Carol Murphy** won, broke the ice, and everyone was soon in a playful mood.

Other exercises offered the group physical activity and fun, but also challenged them to look at the ways they view themselves and their peers. "I was really scared to lean back and fall into **Angel's** arms during one of the trust-building exercises," **Krishna Alladi** said. "But when I finally worked up the nerve to jump off that big rock, and she caught me, I realized I'd just been saved from physical harm by this woman. She is my hero."

Another exercise involved everyone sitting in a circle while holding hands and then saying one nice thing about the person next to them. **Ken Wald** (Center for Jewish Studies) remarked to Dean Sullivan, "I've always loved your accent. I wish I could speak like that." Sullivan returned the compliment with, "I like your glasses."

The retreat appears to be a success and has brought everyone closer

"Everybody hold hands now," Sullivan guides the retreat attendees.



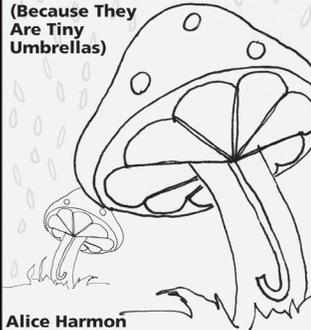
together. "Ever since the retreat, I send e-mail cards to each of the chairs and deans every morning telling them how much I value their friendship," Mueller says. "I never dreamed my life could be this full."

Budget News

Due to recent budget cuts, CLAS **Minister of Finance John Watson** has announced that the Keene Faculty Center will be turned into a casino hall on nights and weekends to make extra money for CLAS. Yearly cost-of-living raises are now available in your choice of orange or blue poker chips.

Mushrooms Always Grow in Wet Places

(Because They Are Tiny Umbrellas)



Alice Harmon

Recent Publications From CLAS Faculty

We're Normal and Everyone Else is Skewed, George Casella, Statistics; *Mushrooms Always Grow in Wet Places Because They Are Tiny Umbrellas*, Alice Harmon, Botany; *Abbreviated: A Long Word*, Diana Boxer, Linguistics; *If it Wasn't for Thomas Edison, We'd All Be Watching Television in the Dark*, Neil Sullivan, Physics; *Using Square Roots Effectively: How to Keep a Square from Moving*, Gerard Emch, Math; *Never Reach for the Stars: They Are Hot Balls of Gas and Will Give You Bad Burns*, Charlie Telesco, Astronomy.

Barking Success of One Florida

Oblio, a chihuahua, was admitted to UF for the summer session as a result of Governor Jeb Bush's One Florida plan. The plan, put into effect in 1999, eliminated race and ethnicity as factors in university admissions. Apparently, since the question "Are you a member of the human race?" was not on the admission application, Oblio slipped through the cracks, according to a spokesperson for the university registrar's office. "We don't really have an explanation, but we're willing to try it. At least it shows how diverse UF really is." Governor Bush could not be reached for comment, but his spokesperson did confirm that he likes dogs.



Dean's Office Staff

Evelyn Butler has resigned from her position as executive secretary in the dean's office to pursue a career as a monkey trainer. "I've decided to work with actual monkeys because I think they'll listen to me better than the ones I work with now."

The Mysteries Revealed CLAS Horoscopes

If April 1 is your birthday: The next few days and/or weeks will be full of roses and wine or moaning and swine. It's hard to tell. You are generally a good person who has some friends, but perhaps not many, but maybe a lot. Sometimes you have good days and bad days, and, on occasion, you have been known to be sensitive, caring, intelligent, ignorant, angry, and depressed. May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December will be memorable months for you this year. A lot will happen in regards to your financial situation, employment and personal life. Your lucky numbers are 7, 3, 34, 5,467, 235, 345,325, 123,456,789, and π . You're smart enough to figure life out on your own, but that might not be the case.



Aries
(March 21–April 19)
You will discover that you can twitch one ear but not the other. This will aggravate you, and you'll spend the majority of the day in front of the bathroom mirror trying to correct the situation.



Taurus
(April 20–May 20)
You are about to have a great idea. Try to remain calm.



Gemini
(May 21–June 20)
Today is a good day to clean out your belly button. A Q-tip works best.



Cancer
(June 21–July 22)
When deciding what to eat today, choose pretzels, but don't choke!



Leo
(July 23–August 22)
Today is a good day to surprise your boss. Pretend you actually enjoy your job.



Virgo
(August 23–September 22)
You should have stayed in bed today. You are missing a really good episode of Jerry Springer.



Libra
(September 23–October 22)
You need to feel appreciated at the office. Tell your co-workers to clap their hands and cheer if they believe in you.



Scorpio
(October 23–November 21)
Today your nose will itch, and this will be a sign of company coming.



Sagittarius
(November 22–December 21)
A mad squirrel will attempt to steal your lunch today.



Capricorn
(December 22–January 19)
Do not ask strangers in an elevator for advice today. They will only try to flirt with you, and they won't be your type.



Aquarius
(January 20–February 18)
Remember, only YOU can prevent forest fires!



Pisces
(February 19–March 20)
Now is the perfect time to stop relying on horoscopes to discover what the future holds for you. Try fortune cookies instead.



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