

CLAS Horoscopes for April



Aries (March 21–April 19)
Grab the goat by both horns!
Try not to get caught.



Taurus (April 20–May 20)
Everything is going your way,
but not for long.



Gemini (May 21–June 21)
Your social climbing skills will come in
handy this year.



Cancer (June 22–July 22)
You will find a heaping pile of cash, which
you will promptly lose.



Leo (July 23–August 22)
You are hugely persuasive. Convince some-
one to jump off a bridge with you.



Virgo (August 23–September 22)
Fireworks are in your future.
Bring an extinguisher.



Libra (September 23–October 23)
Throw a party. See who doesn't show up.
Hunt them down.



Scorpio (October 24–November 21)
Change awaits you.
Seventy-five cents worth.



Sagittarius (November 22–December 21)
You will offend everyone, it cannot be
helped. Duck!



Capricorn (December 22–January 19)
Your career will receive a boost.
Out the door.



Aquarius (January 20–February 18)
Powerful people are looking out for you.
With a scoped rifle.

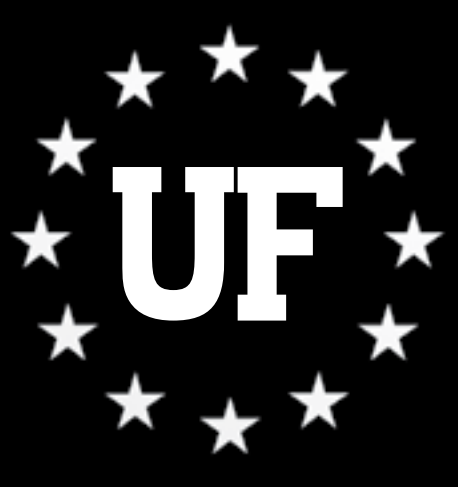


Pisces (February 19–March 20)
Last year wasn't lucky for you.
This year doesn't look much better.



CLAS News & Publications
All the news unfit to print

EUROPEAN STUDIES GROWS BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS



Emboldened by recent successes in program development, increased student enrollment and the 50th anniversary of the founding of the European Union, the Center for European Studies at UF quietly invaded the Center for African Studies over the weekend.

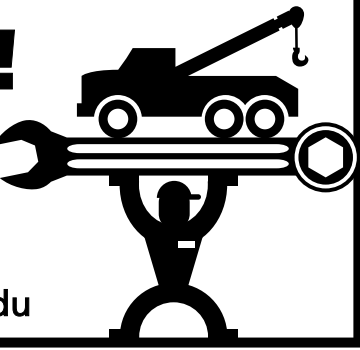
The so-called 're-colonization' of African Studies by European Studies was intended to demonstrate to students that history is indeed very much alive at the University of Florida and that those who do not study the history, culture and languages of these critical continents are bound to repeat it. The invasion itself was a relatively low-key affair, as the major campaign initiative took place over the weekend when almost no one was around. "Other than having to scare away a few pesky grad students who questioned our right to be there and the presence of so many EU flags, there was little resistance to the take over," said one of the military commanders of the campaign, Brano Kovalcik.

In a recent interview following the invasion, Director of European Studies Amie Kreppel (now assuming command under the title of Supreme Empress of Europe and Africa), proclaimed the "Unification no doubt will lead to greater economic prosperity and political stability for all involved." In other words, she is happy to finally have her money-grubbing hands on rest of the college's Title VI funds. The Center for European Studies has been re-named the Center of the Universe (or at least all the stuff that is really important). Plans for future conquest and expansion can be found online or by calling the center directly.

Professors!

Stuck in a Dull, Dead-end Job?
Want to make **BIG MONEY?**
Nashville-Auto Diesel College
Wants **You!**

Find out more at: www.nadc.edu



Special Edition
April 1, 2007
Volume 21
Thanks for the \$50 bucks, Joel!

CLAS-WcRONALD'S CO-EMPLOYMENT VENTURE

Teaming with job-placement specialist WcRonald's, CLAS forms the Relocation Center for the Departmentally Homeless. To apply, call Joe Glover at home.

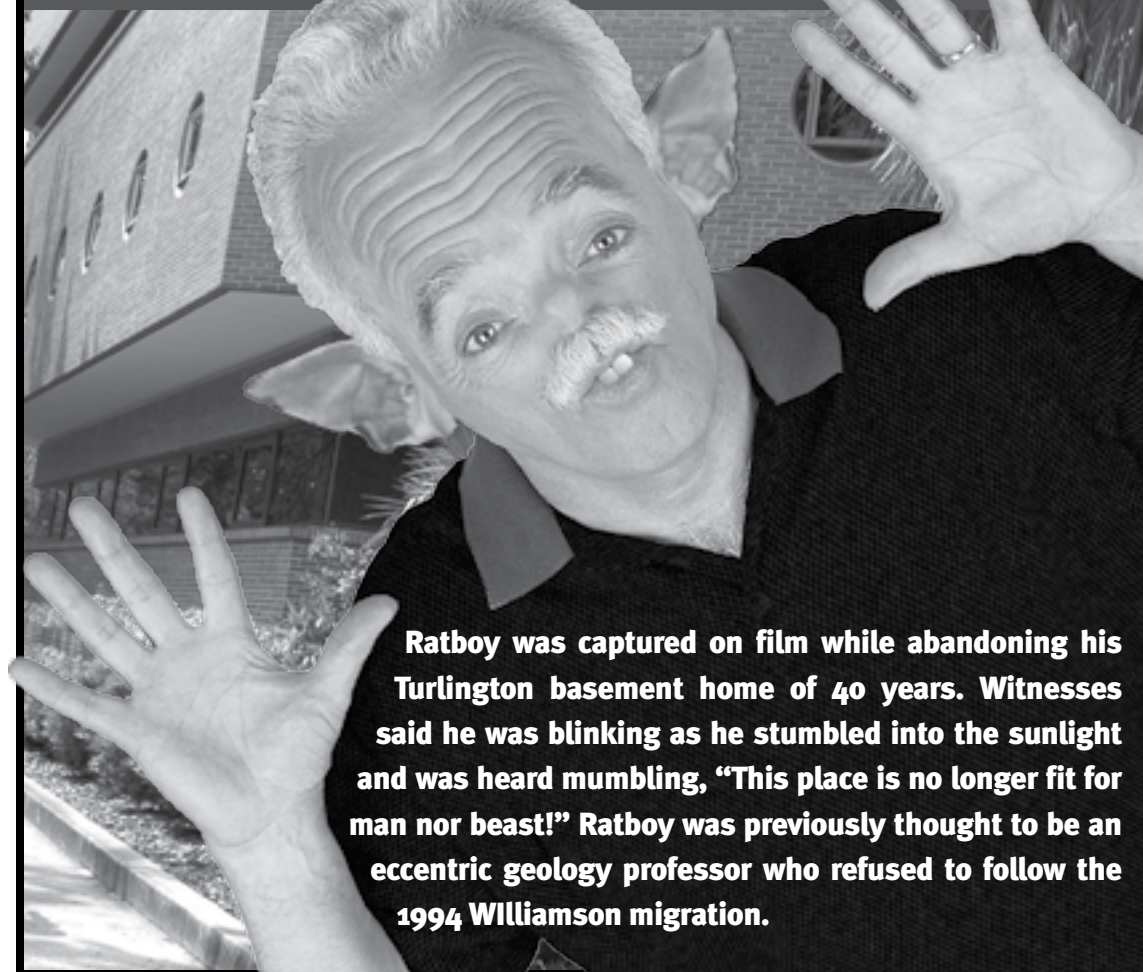


UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA'S UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ACADEMICS AND SCIENTISTS

CLASnotes

Today's Fortune: You may have lost your mind and your money, but you still have your sense of humor.

RATBOY EVACUATES TURLINGTON



Ratboy was captured on film while abandoning his Turlington basement home of 40 years. Witnesses said he was blinking as he stumbled into the sunlight and was heard mumbling, "This place is no longer fit for man nor beast!" Ratboy was previously thought to be an eccentric geology professor who refused to follow the 1994 Williamson migration.

WANTED: A NEW DEAN FOR 802 ADORABLE FACULTY

If you want this choice position
Have a cheery disposition
Rosy cheeks, no warts!
Play games, all sorts

You must be kind,
you must be witty
Very sweet and fairly pretty
Take us on outings,
give us treats
Sing songs, bring sweets

Never be cross or cruel
Never give us castor oil or gruel
Love us as a son and daughter
And never smell of barley water

If you won't scold
and dominate us
We will never give you
cause to hate us
We won't hide your
spectacles so you can't see,
Put toads in your bed
or pepper in your tea

Hurry, New Dean!
Many thanks.

Sincerely,
CLAS Faculty of Assorted Ranks

EXTRA, EXTRA!!! Long-lost CLAS money found wandering the halls of Turlington looking for room L007. Also discovered this week: a lost half hour, the missing payroll distribution list, and Biology's major.



Grad Students in Uproar Over Five-Year Plan

The new five-year plan for CLAS outlines the college's future efforts to balance its budget, decrease carbon emissions and help turn UF into a "top ten" university. But it doesn't include expenditures for basics like air conditioning, light bulbs or toilet paper—which has many students and faculty upset.

"It's hard enough juggling my thesis and teaching all my advisor's classes," said Tanya Hyde, a graduate student in the Department of Muscogean Languages and Scottish Dialects. She and other grad students have risen up against the plan in recent days, marching on Turlington Plaza, defenestrating Associate Dean David Richardson in effigy, and burning \$2.3 million in cash that was found in a storage room.

Richardson, who was chemistry chair at the time the plan was written, said he is shocked at the its poor reception, since it was apparently designed to appeal aesthetically to students and faculty. "You'd think they'd love the idea of a five-year plan," he said, "Them being mostly socialists and all. Perhaps they shouldn't have titled it the 'Great Leap Sideways.'"

Grad students reacted strongly to the title. "I'll tell them where they can stick their plan sideways," said Hyde. "Which reminds me, I have to go buy an extra roll of toilet paper to bring to school with me."

Petty University: Where You Don't Have to Live Like a Refugee

A major donation from rock 'n roll legend Tom Petty will result in a new identity for the 154-year-old University of Florida later this year.

Thanks to a multi-billion dollar donation from the Gainesville-bred Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, UF will become known as "Petty University" when its new term starts this fall. To Petty, the gift is intended as a tribute to the town where he launched his music career more than 30 years ago.

"Just trying to make the best of the hometown blues," the rocker said.

Petty first made arrangements for the donation last September while making a rare hometown concert appearance at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center, said Paul Robell, vice president for development and alumni affairs. The UF Foundation concluded negotiations with the aging rocker last month, and the new name was unveiled at the recent state Board of Governors meeting.

The name change is expected to cause a domino effect of changes across campus, including the adoption of a

new university mascot, officials announced. The Gators, named in 1911, will become the Petty Thieves. Students, faculty and staff will be invited to submit designs for a new mascot in a contest to be announced this summer. Other anticipated changes include:

- switching the school song from "We Are the Boys of Old Florida" to "Even the Losers"
 - renaming the UF Foundation "Petty Cash"
 - replacing the less-than-distinctive "UF" logo with "PU."
 - renaming "The Swamp," home of the university's national championship football team, "Mudcrutch"
- News of the name change spread quickly across the state, stirring immediate concern among alumni and supporters. Many donors said they would withdraw support for the university if the name changes.

"Whatever you're looking for... Hey! Don't come around here no more," one donor said.

UF President Bernie Machen did not attend the Board of Governors

meeting to address the name change, stating he didn't see any need to attend. He later disavowed any responsibility for the change or its implications. "This is not my plan," Machen said. "... I don't have to defend this plan in that sense."

Petty said he was offended by the backlash, but intended to push forward with his donation plans. "You could stand me up at the gates of hell, but I won't back down," the rocker said. "No, I won't back down."

The fact that Petty is not a UF alumnus is neither a concern nor a stumbling block, Robell said.

"We'll take anybody's money," the school's lead fund raiser said. "In case you haven't noticed, the UF Foundation building is getting a new roof. Someone has to pay for it. And my car is over a year old now. I had to buy my last pair of slacks at J.C. Penney's!"

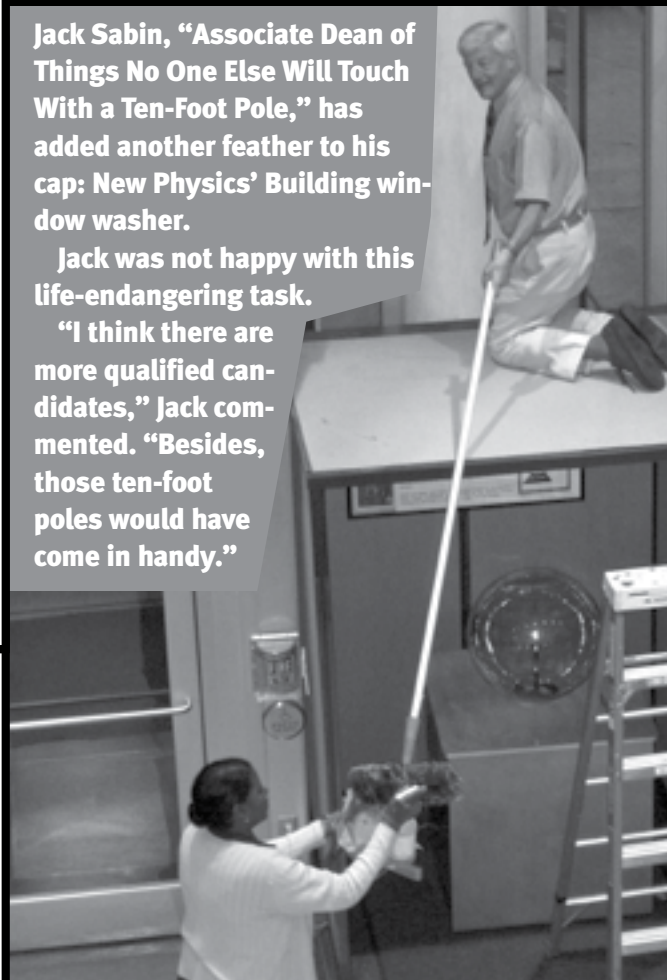
One alumnus, who said he had misgivings about the name change, did express gratitude for Petty's large gift. "Maybe the university will finally stop sending me donation solicitations."

JACK of all TRADES

Jack Sabin, "Associate Dean of Things No One Else Will Touch With a Ten-Foot Pole," has added another feather to his cap: New Physics' Building window washer.

Jack was not happy with this life-endangering task.

"I think there are more qualified candidates," Jack commented. "Besides, those ten-foot poles would have come in handy."



HHMI Faculty Chafing Under NEW HANDWASHING RULES

Faculty at CLAS were ecstatic last year after the college was selected to share a \$1.5 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. But these days, grant recipients feel like they're drowning in anti-bacterial hand soap.

"I like a clean office as much as the next person, but complying with the Howard Hughes sanitation rules is seriously starting to cut into my lab time," said HHMI researcher April Furst, as she washed her hands for the fiftieth time in her workday.

Under new rules tied to the HHMI grant, faculty must sanitize their hands each time they touch their own faces; use or cease using a pen, pencil or computer keyboard; handle money, or "see or speak to a creepy-looking person," according to HHMI grant paperwork. The "creepy clause," as it has come to be known, has become particularly burdensome.

"There are a lot of creepy-looking people in Gainesville," Furst said. "Not just out there on the street, but right here at Bartram Hall.

It would help if the HHMI folks could narrow it down a bit."



DEPARTMENTAL MERGERS

In an effort to consolidate college resources and promote interdisciplinary studies, Yumiko "Downtown" Hulvey announced that smaller units within the college will be combined into Interdisciplinary Tracks, or ITs. These units will tap into today's youth culture with the hip slogan: "Getting Jiggy with IT." Yumiko explains:

Oral History of Statistics: "Reading statistics can be a dull affair (in fact, the American Medical Association suggests it as an alternative to Lunestra). But imagine listening to the Theory of Probability as delivered by Jon Stewart? Or lurking variables as described by Ryan Seacrest? That's gold. We'll get a billion hits on YouTube."

Quantum Theory in Children's Literature: "We'll be moving forward with No Child Left Behind by moving elementary students directly into college-level courses while their brains are still developing. It's the best time to cram it all in, while it can stretch."

Macromolecular Science and Film Studies: "The scientists are used to looking at the 'big picture' in the subatomic world. The film experts are used to looking at the 'big picture' in a comfy seat in a big dark room. It's a no-brainer."



ASTRONOMY REACHES OUT TO ATHLETICALLY CHALLENGED GEEKS

As the Gator basketball team made a play for its second NCAA basketball title in March, UF's astronomy department launched an effort to teach Gainesville geeks the basics of college sports.

Astronomy professors use simple concepts like superstrings, singularities, and Heisenberg's uncertainty principle to help Hogtown's math and science geniuses grasp—and care about—the basics of sports.

"It's well known that a high math GRE score is co-morbid with serious sports-related learning deficits," said Stephen Eikenberry, head of the new program and former rugby star. "But I believe everyone can learn the rules of, say, baseball—even a physics graduate student."

Using Internet tools such as *Second Life* and *Google Earth*, Eikenberry and his colleagues are able to give even the dorkiest graduate student a grasp on the basics of the game.

"Basketball is a tough concept to grasp," Eikenberry said. "But what if I asked you to think of the earth spinning on its axis as it revolves

around the sun, creating day and night. And then I asked you to think of the earth as a big basketball with a flashlight shining on it. Suddenly, the concept of the basketball starts to make sense."

Eikenberry said some of his students have shown a significant increase in interest in sports. Fifty percent of them say they now read and understand the *Gainesville Sun's* sports page. One student even watched a Final Four game.

For others, however, the learning curve is steep. Some students, pointing to the success of fantasy baseball, refuse to believe in the existence of baseball teams.

"If you look at baseball from a purely statistical standpoint, the team would seem to be an illusion," Eikenberry admitted. "The fantasy baseball model—a universe of multiple players each batting and pitching in isolation—seems much more elegant."

Golf is another game that gives geeks serious pause.

"Topologically it doesn't make sense to them," Eikenberry said. "Students keep asking why there are 18 holes, instead of one hole with 18 approaches. These are tough questions to answer."

DANCING WITH THE DEAN

"Desperate times call for desperate acts," is the philosophy of CLAS Interim Dean Joe Glover. Facing down a \$4.5 million college debt, Glover has scheduled an unusual fund-raising event. On April 1, he will sponsor the First (and clearly Last) Annual CLAS

Dance Challenge in the Keene Faculty Center. Glover, a renowned third degree black belt ballroom dancer, will team with Provost Janie Fouke to challenge all comers for a "dance off" benefitting CLAS.

"Given the interest this has aroused from UF," said Glover, "the \$1,000 team entrance fee should go far in breaking the CLAS bonds of poverty. Of course, there is no question who the knockout winner will be. It is widely known that I am hot to trot. Janie and I will be smoking the floor to the fandango. Between us, the provost is a bit slow picking up the steps (an engineer, don't you know), but I can cover for her with my mathematically brilliant John Travolta moves."

Fouke seemed less than thrilled about the proposition when reached in her Tigert office for comment. "He caught me in a moment of weakness, and I unfortunately agreed to dance. Just let me say that his 'Interim' title is now even more interim."

First prize in the big contest is an evening on the town with Dean Glover. Second prize is two evenings on the town with Dean Glover.

COMING THIS SUMMER TO CLAS TV!

Joey's Angles

"Once upon a time, there were three beautiful little girls who went to the University of Florida, and they were each assigned very hazardous duties. But I took them away from all that, and now they work for me. My name is Joey." They may be right, they may be acute, but they're never obtuse. See "The Angles" and HEAR their man of mystery on Thursdays, following *American Mogul: The Search for a Superdonor*.

