

vs.
 NR/NR **SAN JOSE STATE**
 SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2003
 BEN HILL GRIFFIN STADIUM
 (88,548)
 GAINESVILLE, FLA.
 6 p.m. (ET)

#21 UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

2003 GATOR FOOTBALL

WEEKLY GAME NOTES FOOTBALL CONTACTS: STEVE McCLAIN, ZACK HIGBEE, ALECIA PYNN
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FLORIDA READY TO OPEN SEASON...

THE MATCH-UP

■ The University of Florida opens the 2003 campaign Saturday, August 30, 2003 at 6 p.m. against San Jose State. The game will be the season opener for the Gators; however, the Spartans began their season as they shutout Grambling, 29-0, in the Literacy Classic on Aug. 23, 2003. The contest marked the first NCAA college game of the year. Florida is coming off an 8-5 season in 2002, which concluded with the program's 10th straight January bowl game. San Jose State is led by third-year head coach Fitz Hill. SJSU finished last season with a 6-7 overall record and a 4-4 Western Athletic Conference mark, which tied the Spartans for fourth in the league.

OPENING THE SEASON

■ The Gators will enter their second year under head coach Ron Zook looking for their 14th consecutive season and home-opening victory. Florida has won an SEC-best 13 straight season opening games. UF's last loss in a season opener was in 1989 when it suffered a 24-19 setback to Ole Miss at Florida Field. Current UF offensive line/running game coordinator Joe Wickline was coaching the offensive line with the Rebels at the time. UF's last loss to a non-conference opponent in a season opener came against Miami in 1987 (31-4). Florida is 73-24 in its previous 97 season openers including a 55-6 mark in the 61 openers that have been held in Gainesville. Furthermore, UF is 33-1 in the last 34 season openers, which have been held in Gainesville, a mark that dates back to the start of the 1949 season.

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

■ Florida enters the 2003 season with no players who have started at quarterback or at defensive tackle. Dating back to the 1980 season, this will be the sixth time UF has entered the season with a quarterback without any career starts ('03, '97, '93, '90, '88, '84):

Year	Quarterbacks With No Career Starts	Final Record
1997	Doug Johnson, Noah Brindise, Jesse Palmer	10-2
1993	Danny Wuertfel, Terry Dean, Eric Kresser	11-2
1990	Shane Matthews, Kyle Morris, Brian Fox	9-1
1988	Kyle Morris, Herbert Perry, Mike McQuagge	6-5
1984	Kerwin Bell, Rodney Brewer, Roger Sibbald	9-1-1

STADIUM EXPANSION

■ Today's game will mark the first for the Gators in the newly renovated Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. The project, which began in May 2001 and was completed in August 2003, increased capacity to 88,548. The fifth renovation in the history of the stadium focused on expanding the Press Level, which is complete with more than 200 working press seats and six TV/radio booths. The level is double in space and seating compared to the prior facility. In addition, more than 2,900 chairback seats were added on a new club level, which stretches along the West side of the stadium. The 28 prior existing suites were renovated and 34 additional suites were built. The Bull Gator Level of the Skybox Tower tripled in size, and the President's Box area increased by nearly 50 percent. The entire project cost \$50 million and was built with no state money. The University Athletic Association, Inc. financed and paid for the project with a bond that was approved by the State Board of Regents on Feb. 15, 2001. A historical look at the stadium shows the first game ever played in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium was a 20-0 loss against Alabama on Nov. 8, 1930, and the original cost of the facility was \$118,215.80.

NEW FACES AND NEW ROLES

■ For the third time in as many seasons, Florida will have a new defensive coordinator as Charlie Strong rejoined the staff on Dec. 27, 2002. Strong took the post after serving at the same position for South Carolina for the past four seasons. In addition, Bill Miller was named the Gators' linebackers coach on Jan. 10, 2003. Miller was a defensive coordinator for the last 17 seasons, four of them at Miami and the last four at Michigan State. UF made its most recent hire on Feb. 21, 2003 with the addition of Mike Locksley who will coach the running backs and serve as the recruiting coordinator. Locksley spent the

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GATOR STORYLINES

- Ron Zook enters his second year with the Gators ranked in the top 25 for the 13th straight season.
- It is the first time in 1,046 days UF will have a new starting quarterback in a regular season game.
- Florida has completed its fifth major expansion to Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, as capacity is now 88,548.
- Forty-six scholarship athletes on the UF roster haven't played a down of college football.
- The game ties the 1986 and 1997 seasons for the earliest start of a football season in UF history.

GAME SETUP

THE POLLS	UF	SJSU
Associated Press	NR	NR
ESPN/ USA Today Coaches	21st	NR

THE RECORDS	UF	SJSU
Overall	0-0	1-0
Conference	0-0	0-0

TELEVISION

The game will be available live on pay-per-view to viewers throughout Florida. David Steele (play-by-play), Nat Moore (color) and Steve Babik (sideline) comprise the broadcast team. The University Athletic Association once again will donate its portion of the proceeds from the telecast to the UF Libraries. Since 1992, the UAA has donated more than \$540,000 to the UF Libraries through these telecasts.

DELAYED TELEVISION

Sunshine Network with David Steele (play-by-play) Nat Moore (color) and Steve Babik (sideline) will show the game at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 31 on Sunshine's "Breakfast with the Gators." The show will also air on Tuesday, Sept. 2, at 10:30 p.m.

THE GATOR RADIO NETWORK

Mick Hubert (play-by-play) and Scot Brantley (color) will team to broadcast the contest. WFXJ radio (930-AM in Jacksonville) serves as UF's flagship station. Pre-game show two hours before kickoff. 90-minute show following the conclusion of the game.

DID YOU KNOW?

Florida has scored on its first possession of the season five out of the last seven years. The last time the Gators came up empty on the opening drive of the year was a missed a field goal against Marshall, 2001.

SERIES NOTES AND A LOOK AT THE SPARTANS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

past six seasons at Maryland where he served in the same capacity. UF also reassigned several coaches who were already on staff. Dwayne Dixon was named Assistant Head Coach/Inside Receivers Coach after working with the receivers a season ago. Larry Fedora was renamed Perimeter Game Coordinator after serving as the Run Game Coordinator/Running Backs coach in 2002. Joe Wickline picked up the role of Running Game Coordinator and continues to work with the offensive line after leading only that unit a season ago. Mike Woodford has added the additional responsibility of Special Teams Coach and he will continue to work with the defensive backs.

CHANGING VIEWS

■Florida Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks Coach Ed Zaunbrecher and Perimeter Game Coordinator Larry Fedora will both have different views of the field this season. Zaunbrecher will move to the field, and Fedora will coach from the box. Fedora, Red Anderson (Defensive Line), Mike Locksley (Running Backs/Recruiting Coordinator), Bill Miller (Linebackers) and graduate assistant Cheston Blackshear all will be in the coaches box.

AN EARLY OPENER

■This is the fourth time since 1996 that the Gators have opened a season in August after opening in August just once (1986) in the previous 89 years of play (1906-95). The Gators have never lost a contest in the month of August, as they have combined to outscore opponents 165-44 in the three previous contests that occurred during the month.

A SIMILIAR SITUATION

■For the second time in school history the Gators will be hosting San Jose State and there are plenty of similarities between today's game and the first meeting on September 7, 1991:

1991

UF head coach in his second season
First-year defensive coor. (Ron Zook)
Introduction of North End Zone renovation

2003

UF head coach in his second season
First-year defensive coor. (Charlie Strong)
Introduction of West Side renovation

■In the first meeting, the Gators scored on six of their first eight possessions in the first half, with one drive ending in a missed field goal. Six of the seven touchdowns in that game were scored on drives of four plays or less. The Gators led just 17-14 with less than 10 minutes to go before halftime before ripping off four TDs to up the score to 45-14 before the break.

SERIES NOTES - FLORIDA VS. SAN JOSE STATE

■The game will represent the sixth time in Florida history a team from the West Coast has visited Gainesville. Previous visits by West Coast teams include: 1932 - a 12-2 win over UCLA, 1974 - a 21-17 win over Cal, a 17-9 win over USC, 1987 - a 65-0 win over Cal-State Fullerton, 1991 - a season opening 59-12 win over San Jose State. The Gators are 5-0 at Florida Field vs. teams from the West Coast. The game will mark just the fourth time in school history that Florida has opened a season vs. an opponent from the West Coast. In 1974, the Gators defeated Cal, 21-17, in Gainesville, and in 1980, Florida posted a 41-13 win over Cal in a game played in Tampa. Overall, this game is just the 15th time in school history Florida has met a West Coast team. Florida is 10-4 against teams from the West Coast in its football history.

■From 1992 to 2000, San Jose State head coach Fitz Hill was a fixture on the University of Arkansas staff. Through three different head coaches and four post-season bowl appearances over the eight season span, the one constant assistant coach was Hill. During his time, he was part of Arkansas squads that went 0-3 against the Gators. During the span, UF first defeated the Razorbacks 34-3 in the 1995 SEC Championship Game. A year later the Gators made a trip to Fayetteville, Ark., where they came away with a 42-7 victory. In 1997, Arkansas visited Gainesville to play then top-ranked Florida, which took out the Razorbacks, 56-7.

■Florida defensive coordinator Charlie Strong and San Jose State Head Coach Fitz Hill both grew up in Arkansas. Strong spent his childhood in Batesville, Ark., while Hill grew up in Arkadelphia, Ark. The two towns are separated by 160 miles.

■During his college days, Hill was a member of the Army ROTC in order to augment his football scholarship. In order to pay back the Army, Hill was active in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. A decorated soldier, he received a Bronze Star and U.S. Army Commendation Medals during his nine months of active military service in 1990 and 1991. UF Athletics Director Jeremy Foley

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2003 SEC STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION

Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Florida	0-0	.000	0-0
Georgia	0-0	.000	0-0
South Carolina	0-0	.000	0-0
Tennessee	0-0	.000	0-0
Kentucky	0-0	.000	0-0
Vanderbilt	0-0	.000	0-0

WESTERN DIVISION

Team	SEC	Pct.	Overall
Auburn	0-0	.000	0-0
Ole Miss	0-0	.000	0-0
Mississippi State	0-0	.000	0-0
LSU	0-0	.000	0-0
Arkansas	0-0	.000	0-0
Alabama	0-0	.000	0-0

THE SEC THIS WEEK

Aug. 30, 2003

Georgia at Clemson
South Carolina vs. Louisiana Lafayette
Tennessee vs. Fresno State
Vanderbilt vs. Ole Miss
Auburn vs. Southern California
LSU vs. Louisiana-Monroe
Mississippi State vs. Oregon
Kentucky vs. Louisville, Aug. 31

TRACKING OPPONENTS

SAN JOSE STATE (1-0) at Florida
Last week: vs. Grambling State, W (29-0)
Next week: at Stanford

at **MIAMI** (0-0) at Louisiana Tech
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Florida

FLORIDA A&M (0-0) at Alabama State
Last week: Open
Next week: Open

TENNESSEE (0-0) at Stanford
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Morgan State

at **KENTUCKY** (0-0) vs. Louisville
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Murray State

OLE MISS (0-0) at Vanderbilt
Last week: Open
Next week: at Memphis

at **LSU** (0-0) vs. UL-Monroe
Last week: Open
Next week: at Arizona

at **ARKANSAS** (0-0) Open
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Tulsa

vs. **GEORGIA** (0-0) at Clemson
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Middle Tennessee State

VANDERBILT (0-0) vs. Ole Miss
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Tennessee Chattanooga

at **SOUTH CAROLINA** (0-0) vs. La. Lafayette
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Virginia

FLORIDA STATE (0-0) at North Carolina
Last week: Open
Next week: vs. Maryland

TODAY'S MATCHUP...

FINAL 2002 TEAM STATS

Florida	Category	Opponents
270.7	Passing Offense	162.4
136.2	Rushing Offense	163.2
406.9	Total Offense	325.5
25.8	Scoring Offense	21.5
162.4	Passing Defense	270.7
163.2	Rushing Defense	136.2
325.5	Total Defense	406.9
21.5	Scoring Defense	25.8
301	1st Downs For	209
.382	3rd Down Conv.	.293
.444	4th Down Conv.	.484
20-139	Sacks By-Yards	24-175
95-172	Penalties-Yards	104-780
21-8	Fumbles-Lost	28-1
28:58	Avg. Time of Poss.	31:02

2003 TEAM STATS

San Jose State	Category	Opponents
335.0	Passing Offense	210.0
128.0	Rushing Offense	50.0
463.0	Total Offense	260.0
29.0	Scoring Offense	0.0
210.0	Passing Defense	335.0
50.0	Rushing Defense	128.0
260.0	Total Defense	463.0
0.0	Scoring Defense	29.0
25	1st Downs For	16
.500	3rd Down Conv.	.266
.000	4th Down Conv.	.000
2-16	Sacks By-Yards	1-6
7-85	Penalties-Yards	6-50
2-2	Fumbles-Lost	3-2
35:29	Avg. Time of Poss.	24:31

UF RETURNING INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Rushing	G	Att.	Net	Avg.	TD	YPG
Carthon	13	105	563	5.4	5	43.3
Martin	12	11	51	4.6	0	4.2

Passing	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds.	TD	YPG
Martin	10-7-0	70.0	96	25	10.7

Receiving	G	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Perez	11	58	591	10.2	4	53.7
Kight	13	37	511	13.8	1	39.3

Defense	UT-AT-TT	TFL	S	INT	FF	FR
Scott	69-33-102	2	1	2	2	0
Ratliff	44-9-53	6	2	1	1	0
McCray	20-25-45	4	2.3	0	0	1
Bailey	25-18-43	0	1	1	0	1

SJSU 2003 INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Rushing	G	Att.	Net	Avg.	TD	YPG
Davis	1	16	69	4.3	1	69.0
Martin	1	10	44	4.4	0	44.0

Passing	A-C-I	Pct.	Yds.	TD	YPG
Rislov	38-24-0	63.2	321	1	321.0

Receiving	G	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	YPG
Davis	1	6	69	69.0	0	69.0
Starling	1	4	88	22.0	0	31.0
Broussard	1	4	48	12.0	0	48.0

Defense	UT-AT-TT	TFL	S	INT	FF	FR
Wilson	5-5-10	0	0	0	0	0
Jones	3-5-8	1-(-2)	0	1	0	0
Ossai	4-2-6	1-(-10)	1	0	0	0

SCHEDULES

FLORIDA (0-0, 0-0 SEC)

A30 _____ SAN JOSE STATE
 S6 _____ AT MIAMI
 S13 _____ FLORIDA A&M
 S20 _____ TENNESSEE
 S27 _____ AT KENTUCKY
 O4 _____ OLE MISS
 O11 _____ at LSU
 O18 _____ at Arkansas
 N1 _____ ^vs. Georgia
 N8 _____ VANDERBILT (Homecoming)
 N15 _____ at South Carolina
 N29 _____ FLORIDA STATE
 D6 _____ *SEC Championship
 ^ at Jacksonville, Fla. *at Atlanta, Ga

SAN JOSE STATE (1-0, 0-0 WAC)

A23 ___ Grambling St. (Literacy Classic), W, 29-0
 A30 _____ at Florida
 S6 _____ at Stanford
 S18 _____ Nevada
 O4 _____ at Rice
 O11 _____ SMU
 O25 _____ at Boise St.
 N 1 _____ Hawaii
 N 8 _____ at UTEP
 N15 _____ at Fresno State
 N22 _____ at Tulsa

SERIES HISTORY

Florida Leads: 1-0
 At Gainesville: Florida leads 1-0

YEAR	W/L	UF	SJSU
1991	W	59	21

CURRENT PLAYERS IN OPENERS

Rushing	Year	Opp	Att-Yd-TD
Carthon	2002	UAB	7-19-1
Fason	2002	UAB	4-10-1
Carthon	2001	Marshall	1-2-0

Passing
 None Returning

Receiving	Year	Opp	C-Yd-TD
Carthon	2002	UAB	2-40-0
M. Jackson	2002	UAB	1-8-0
Kight	2002	UAB	2-29-0
Kight	2000	Ball State	1-10-0
Perez	2002	UAB	1-13-0
Perez	2001	Marshall	1-25-1
Sharp	2002	UAB	1-6-0
Small	2002	UAB	2-41-0
Troupe	2002	UAB	1-25-0
Troupe	2001	Marshall	1-7-0

TOP UF PERFORMANCES VS. SJSU

Individual (Only previous meeting was on 9/7/91)

Rushing
 Attempts _____ 12, Errict Rhett
 Yards _____ 75, Errict Rhett

Receiving
 Catches _____ 6, Errict Rhett
 Yards _____ 92, Errict Rhett

Passing
 Att. _____ 22, Shane Matthews
 Comp. _____ 17, Shane Matthews
 Yards _____ 272, Shane Matthews
 TD Pass _____ 5, Shane Matthews

Defense
 Tackles _____ 10, Ed Robinson
 Int _____ 1, Carlton Miles

Kicking
 Punts _____ 5, Shayne Edge
 FG _____ 1, Arden Czyzewski
 Long FG _____ 30, Arden Czyzewski

PREVIOUS MEETING

1991 - UF 59 SJSU 21
 This game was the first in a newly expanded Ben Hill Griffin Stadium and was played in front of a crowd of 83,067. At the time this game was played, it was not only a record for Florida Field, but a record for the entire state of Florida.

The Gators wasted little time breaking in their new digs as on their first play after a Spartan turnover, Shane Matthews threw a 22-yard TD pass to Harrison Houston, for Houston's first collegiate touchdown.

The two would hook up on a second TD pass, less than three minutes later, to put UF up 14-0. After the Spartans closed within three points at 17-14, the Gators scored 28 points in just under eight minutes, to put the game at 45-14 at halftime. Included in the onslaught was a 24-yard touchdown strike from Matthews to Willie Jackson, which was Jackson's first collegiate touchdown.

After halftime, Willie McClendon and Aubrey Hill each caught a TD pass, giving the Gators a then school record six scoring catches on the afternoon.

THE COACHES

Ron Zook
 Record at Florida: 8-5 (.615)
 Overall Record: Same
 Seasons at UF/Overall: 2/2

Fitz Hill
 Record at SJSU : 10-16 (.384)
 Overall Record: Same
 Seasons at SJSU/Overall: 3/3

SERIES NOTES CONTINUED...

GATORS IN THE RED ZONE

UF in the Red Zone in the Ron Zook Era

Times Total in RZ	Scored	Pts
49	41	250

■ Dating back to the 2002 Georgia game (Nov. 2) the Gators have scored on 14 straight trips inside the Red Zone (a span of four games). Florida last came up empty when a Rex Grossman screen pass was intercepted by UGA's David Pollack.

■ Florida's red zone offense has scored 18 rushing touchdowns under Zook, more than any other fashion of scoring. UF has been picked off five times in the area under Zook, which has halted 62.5 percent of the squad's missed opportunities.

■ The Gators were a perfect six of six inside the redzone in the 2002 season opener against UAB and have scored on nine consecutive trips inside the redzone in season openers. The Gators last failed to convert when Brent Talcott missed a 25-yard field goal wide right against Marshall in the opening game of the 2001 season.

■ Under Zook, the Gators have scored 19 of 21 times inside the red zone against non-conference opponents (90.4 percent). The only team outside of the SEC which has managed to turn away the Gators during the Zook era is Miami.

LAST TIME IN AN OPENER

■ The following is a list of the last time these events occurred by a Gator in a season opener:

Freshman scored a TD:

_____ Earnest Graham vs. W. Michigan, 9/4/99

Freshman threw for a TD:

_____ Kerwin Bell vs. Miami, 9/1/84

Freshman caught a TD pass:

_____ Ike Hilliard vs. Ball State, 9/2/00

UF trailed:

_____ vs. Houston, 9/2/95

NEXT UP FOR THE GATORS

On Sat., Sept. 6, the Gators will travel to the Orange Bowl in Miami, Fla., to take on the Hurricanes for the first time in Miami since a 31-4 loss in the opening game of the 1987 season. This is the second installment of a two-year home-and-home revival of the in-state rivalry. Of the 51 previous meetings, 24 have been settled by a touchdown or less. Both teams have a losing record on their home field with the Gators holding a 14-12 advantage in Miami. UF is looking for its first win against the 'Canes in the Orange Bowl since a 35-23 victory on Sept. 7, 1985.

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also has ties to Desert Storm as his younger brother, James, commanded troops during the operation and won two silver stars. In Foley's UAA office, an orange UF sweatshirt worn by his brother at the Kuwait International Airport, is encased in glass.

■ San Jose State Assistant Head Coach and Defensive Line Coach Earl Buckingham was an All-Southwest Conference defensive lineman for Arkansas during his collegiate playing days. In fact, it was in his final college game that he helped Arkansas defeat Florida, 28-24, in the 1982 Bluebonnet Bowl. In that game, the Gators took a 17-7 halftime lead against the Razorbacks before being edged. Wide receiver Dwayne Dixon was named Florida's MVP after catching three TD passes. Today Dixon is the Assistant Head Coach for the Gators.

■ There are two members of the San Jose State football roster with Florida connections as junior safety Katrell Collier is from Miami, Fla. and junior wide receiver Clarence Cunningham is originally from Ft. Myers, Fla. There are also a pair of Gators from California as junior college offensive linemen transfers Billy Griffin and Anthony Guerrero signed with UF last December. Griffin attended Ventura Junior College, while Guerrero spent two years at Cerritos Junior College. A native of Lakewood, Calif., Guerrero attended the same junior college as San Jose State senior defensive end Philip Perry, who is the cousin of William "The Refrigerator" Perry.

SCOUTING SAN JOSE STATE

■ Last season San Jose State won twice as many games as they did in 2001 (from three to six), upset Illinois of the Big 10 Conference and finished in a tie for fourth with Nevada in the WAC. The Spartans begin the year in search of just their second winning season since 1992. Like the Gators, the Spartans also will have a new defensive coordinator in second-year assistant Chris Wilkerson.

■ Now one game into his third year at San Jose State, head coach Fitz Hill will go up against a member of the SEC for the first time while with the Spartans. In the previous two years, Hill's Spartans have met up with members of the Pac-10, Big 10 and Big 12. In those contests, Hill has gone 1-7 with the sole victory coming by a 38-35 margin at Illinois a season ago. San Jose State has been outscored 318-135 against members of these conferences.

■ The 2746.69 miles between San Jose, Calif., and Gainesville is almost the farthest East the Spartans have ever traveled to play a game of football. The farthest trip San Jose State has made has been to Miami. The last time SJSU faced the Hurricanes was in 1989, four days prior to the major earthquake that delayed the World Series.

■ A season ago, the Spartans had 61 scholarship athletes. The Spartans signed 33 new players, including three junior college All-Americans. The Spartans welcome back 44 returning letterwinners, 15 of whom were starters on the 2002 team. Joseph Hayes, San Jose State's most experienced lineman, is one of the 36 players on the 2003 Outland Trophy "watch list" announced by the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA).

■ DE Philip Perry and Safety Gerald Jones are the top returnees from a defense that ranked fourth nationally in turnovers gained (38). Jones tied for second nationally with eight pass interceptions and Perry tied for third in the country by forcing three fumbles.

■ Senior quarterback Scott Rislov finished second in the WAC in pass efficiency (132.0). Rislov set a school record for total offense in 2002 (3,264 yards) and returns with four of the offensive linemen who blocked for him a season ago.

■ Next up on the schedule for the Spartans is a Sept. 6 meeting with Stanford. Former UF assistant coach Buddy Teevens is in his second season as head coach in Palo Alto. Teevens is one of 12 former UF assistant coaches to leave Gainesville to accept a head coaching position. Teevens was with the Gators from 1999-2001 and held multiple duties with the offense during the period.

■ A season ago, SJSU gave up an average of 493.4 yards a game, with 192.9 of that coming on the ground and 300.5 coming in the air.

■ Only twice in 2002 did the Spartans manage to hold an opponent under 20 points.

■ San Jose State went from having no byes during the 2002 season to having three byes this year.

THE TEAM

■ Florida will begin the season looking for its 16th consecutive winning season. Florida's current streak

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE GATORS...

of 15 winning seasons is the longest in the SEC.

■UF will play more opponents (three) ranked inside the Top 15 of the ESPN/USA Today Coaches poll away from home than any other school in the country.

■This season the Gators return six offensive starters along with three starters on defense and a pair of specialists. In addition, UF returns the following percent in each category:

Rushing Yards ___ 41.8
Passing Yards ___ 3.3
Total Receptions _ 58.9
Sacks _____ 36.1
Interceptions ___ 71.4

■Florida begins the 2003 season with only five players who started fall semester in 1999. A class of 21 incoming freshmen from five years ago has been reduced to Ran Carthon, Daryl Dixon, Matt Farris, Dwight Jackson and Bobby McCray.

THE OFFENSE

■In 2002, Ron Zook's first season in Gainesville, the Gators led the SEC in passing offense (270.7) and total offense (406.9). The Gators have led the SEC in passing offense each of the last two years and eight of the last 13. In addition, UF has led the league in total offense in four of the last eight seasons.

■Florida enters this season looking to build on its mark of converting on 41 of 49 trips inside the red zone in the Ron Zook era (.837).

■UF has lost five starters on offense and five letterwinners. However, the Gators return six starters and 16 letterwinners to the offense. In all, the unit combined has 118 career starts to its credit, 82 of which came during the 2002 season. A season ago at this same point, the offense also returned five starters to go along with 22 letterwinners off the 2001 squad.

■The Florida offense has totaled 40-or-more points in its season opener in each of the last five season openers.

■The offense comes into the game looking to replace its top skill players at quarterback, wide receiver and running back. However, the returning members of the Florida offense accounted for 54.1 percent of the scoring a season ago.

QUARTERBACKS

■For the first time in 1,046 days the Gators will have a new starting quarterback in a regular season game. Although Rex Grossman did not start the 2002 Orange Bowl, the last time someone other than Grossman started a regular season contest was when Jesse Palmer took the snaps at Mississippi State on Sept. 30, 2000.

■Florida quarterbacks have a combined 10 career pass attempts, all by sophomore Ingle Martin. In his Florida career, Martin has connected on seven of those 10 passes. Three of those seven completions came against Auburn last year.

■UF has thrown for at least 263 yards per game for 13 consecutive years.

■Since the NCAA declared freshmen eligible in 1972, 10 true freshmen have played QB for UF:

1977 ___ Cris Collinsworth _____ 10 passes (including a 99-yard TD*) in three games
1980 ___ Wayne Peace _____ 7 starts, 1,271 yards passing
1980 ___ Mark Massey _____ 5 passes in 2 games
1980 ___ Roger Sibbaid _____ 3 passes in 5 games
1984 ___ Rodney Brewer _____ 18 passes in 6 games
1987 ___ Herbert Perry _____ 8 passes in 3 games
1989 ___ Donald Douglas _____ 4 starts, 25-52 for 316 yards, 4 int, 1 TD
1996 ___ Doug Johnson _____ 171 yards in 7 games
1997 ___ Jesse Palmer _____ 38 passes in 6 games (1 start)
2000 ___ Brock Berlin _____ 27 passes in 4 games

* - Florida school record and tied NCAA record

■The last time a true freshman quarterback threw for a touchdown for the Gators came on Sept. 30, 2000 when Brock Berlin completed a 29-yard pass to Matt Jackson in a 47-35 loss to Mississippi State. The last time a true freshman Florida quarterback rushed for a touchdown was a five-yard run

PLAYER ANECDOTES

WR DALLAS BAKER

Nephew of former Florida great and NFL wide receiver Wes Chandler.

WR CARLOS PEREZ

Until he was 14, planned on pursuing a professional baseball career.

WR JEMALLE CORNELIUS

Also played defensive back in high school, and picked off the first pass thrown his way during the 2001 1A state championship game.

WR KENNETH TOOKES

Volunteered as a mentor for younger kids while in high school.

OL MAX STARKS

Could not play Junior Midget League football because of his size in junior high and didn't start playing the sport until he was a freshman in high school.

OL SHANNON SNELL

Favorite class at UF was College Algebra and plays the alto saxophone.

OL LANCE BUTLER

Was a member of the Beta Club, which requires a 3.6 GPA, in high school.

TE BEN TROUPE

At six-foot-five, 240-pounds, played on high school tennis team because he liked how it helped his hand-eye coordination.

TE DARRELL CARPENTER

Father Darrell played football for UF from 1973-76 and sister Kimsey currently attends Florida.

TB DESHAWN WYNN

Consensus All-American at Reading HS in Cincinnati, Ohio.

TB RAN CARTHON

Father, Maurice, was a standout fullback for two-time Super Bowl champion New York Giants and is currently the Dallas Cowboys offensive coordinator with head coach Bill Parcells. Maurice Carthon was a fullback for Parcells during his tenure with the New York Giants and played on Super Bowl championship teams in 1986 and '92.

TB JIMTAVIS WALKER

Wears a James Brown T-shirt under his jersey every game.

WR/CB KEIWAN RATLIFF

Father, Charles, was classmates with former UF defensive coordinator Bob Stoops at Cardinal Moody High School in Youngstown, Ohio.

WR KELVIN KIGHT

Never made an official visit to UF, due to a snowstorm.

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE GATORS/UNIT NOTEBOOK...

PLAYER ANECDOTES

LB TAUREAN CHARLES

Admires former UF great Jevon Kearse, and when Kearse and fellow Titan teammate Samari Rolle showed up at Charles HS spring jamboree, he was so shocked he couldn't even go down to meet them.

DE DARRELL LEE

Once shattered a backboard performing a 360-degree reverse dunk.

DE TRAVIS HARRIS

Wears his hair in dreadlocks to honor his God-brother Maurice Martin who died of leukemia.

DT ERIC HOLCOMBE

Signed with Florida, got married and became a father all in one week.

DT RAY MCDONALD

Father, Ray McDonald, played wide receiver for the Gators in the mid-80s, and was featured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* after catching both scores in a 14-10 victory at Auburn in 1985. Little Ray was only one at the time.

LB BRIAN CRUM

Cousins Travis Taylor (Ravens), Champ Bailey (Redskins) and Sam Cowart (Bills) all play in the NFL. Taylor was an All-American wide receiver at UF in 1999. Father Boston Crum played football at Delaware State.

CB JERMAINE MCCOLLUM

Committed at the same time as twin brother Tremaine, who also plays defensive back. The twins never considered attending separate schools.

CB DESHAWN CARTER

Ran track at Ponchatoula High in Louisiana. During his freshman season, he advanced to regionals in the 400m before losing to former FSU standout Travis Minor.

LB MATT FARRIOR

Younger brother of James Fariior, former Virginia All-America linebacker and 1997 first-round draft pick by the New York Jets. James is his role model because he has seen all the things that James has accomplished, and that makes him want to be as successful.

LB TODD MCCULLOUGH

Father, Todd, played for Coach Zook at Murray State in 1979.

DT KENNY PARKER

Lived in Homestead, Fla., for a week in August 1992 before Hurricane Andrew destroyed the family house.

DT RONALD DOWDY

Didn't play football until senior year of high school.

SS GUSS SCOTT

Enjoys chess, basketball and video games.

by Donald Douglas on Nov. 18, 1989 in a 38-28 victory over Kentucky.

■The last time Florida used:

Three QBs in a game: ___ La. Monroe, 9/8/01 (Brock Berlin, Jeff Creveling, Rex Grossman)

Four QBs in a game: ___ C. Michigan, 9/6/97 (Noah Brindise, Doug Johnson, Jesse Palmer, Larry Richart)

Rotated QBs: _____ Miss. St., 9/30/00 (Brock Berlin, Rex Grossman, Jesse Palmer)

■Doug Johnson and Cris Collinsworth are the only true freshman quarterbacks to ever play in a season opener. Johnson began the 1996 season by going three of nine for 37 yards and two interceptions against Southwest Louisiana. Collinsworth went two of four for 113 yards with one touchdown in 1977 against Rice. There never has been a true freshman that has started the season opener at Florida.

RUNNING BACKS

■RB Ran Carthon, who led the team in average yards per carry in 2002 with 5.4, will return to lead the running backs. In all, the Gators return 36.3 percent of the UF rushing yards in 2002. However, those athletes got just 35 percent of the carries in 2002. Carthon is the only returning RB with more than 10 yards in a game.

■RB Ran Carthon is looking to eclipse his career total of 758 yards this year. Carthon, who has averaged five yards per carry in limited action his first three seasons, missed a considerable amount of spring drills with a left foot sprain.

■The Gators averaged 136.2 yards on the ground last year, finishing 10th in the SEC. However, this still was the second-highest total in five seasons for Florida.

■For the first time in three seasons, the Gators will not return their leading rusher from the previous year, as Earnest Graham led the backs for the last three years.

WIDE RECEIVERS AND TIGHT ENDS

■Florida returns 12 of the 16 receivers who caught passes in 2002. Those who return caught 58.9 percent of the throws last year. Every receiver in the UF system that is returning caught more passes last year than they did in their previous career combined.

■Carlos Perez, who was second on the squad with 58 catches last season, should headline the unit. All but 10 of his receptions in 2002 (48) came over the final seven games he appeared in. Perez returns to the receiving corps after missing the Florida State and Michigan games last season due to a broken right fibula in the South Carolina game.

■Perez and Kelvin Kight emerged in the Georgia game last year as the two combined for 21 receptions in the 20-13 victory, and 16 more over the next two games.

■The tight ends caught 45 passes last year, more than any season since 1990. Of those 45 catches, 18 were hauled in by returning tight ends. Aaron Walker is gone after catching more passes (27 for 376 yards, 4 TDs) than any other TE since 1990.

■In 2002, Ben Troupe's average of 13.3 yards a catch was higher than the team average of 11.9

■UF has started seven games in a two tight end formation in the Zook era.

■Heading into the 2002 season, the Gators had to replace 132 receptions and 23 touchdowns from the season before at the wide receiver post. This year the Gators have to replace 73 receptions and eight touchdowns.

OFFENSIVE LINE

■Max Starks, Shannon Snell and Mike Degory started together 11 times last year and will provide experience to the line in 2003. Snell and Starks have been playing since their freshman seasons and have combined to start 47 games in the past three years.

■One of the strengths of the team this season should be the line as the Gators return six of their top seven offensive linemen from a year ago. Only David Jorgensen is gone; however, Florida added three junior college players to add depth.

■Max Starks played more downs than any other player on the roster last season (1,044).

UNIT NOTEBOOKS..

■Seventy-four of the 104 total career starts are by offensive linemen (71 percent). In addition, of the 78 combined starts by returning offensive players, 52 are by offensive linemen (67 percent). Furthermore, Max Starks, Shannon Snell and Mike Degory combined total 60 starts between them in their collegiate careers.

THE DEFENSE

■Although the Gators return three of their starting five defensive backs, eight defensive starters are gone due to graduation and the NFL Draft.

■For the third time in as many seasons UF has a new defensive coordinator. Formerly in the same post at South Carolina, Charlie Strong took the position over when John Thompson left Florida at the end of last season to become the head coach at East Carolina. Thompson had replaced John Hoke who held the position from 1999-2001. The last time Florida had three different coordinators on the defensive side of the ball was from 1989-1991. Gary Darnell held the role in the 1989 season followed by Jim Bates in 1990 and Ron Zook in 1991.

■Despite totaling only seven interceptions in 2002, the UF defense ranked seventh nationally in passing yards per game allowed with just 162.4.

LINEBACKERS

■The linebacker unit will have to replace 316 tackles between departed seniors Bam Hardmon and Mike Nattiel. The last time UF was this inexperienced at the position based on replacing starters, in 2000, it allowed 133.1 rushing yards per game and permitted Mississippi State and Tennessee to combine for 570 yards on the ground. Nattiel and Hardmon combined for a quarter of Florida's tackles in 2002 with 316 tackles of Florida's 1,307.

■New linebacker coach Bill Miller will replace Jerry Odom, who departed Florida for East Carolina following last season. Miller spent the last eight seasons as a defensive coordinator as he served four years at Miami before moving to Michigan State in the same capacity. Miller is one of six coaches on staff to have squared off against Florida while with another school. Charlie Strong, Ed Zaunbrecher, Red Anderson, Joe Wickline and Mike Locksley have also done so. Combined they went 5-11-1 against UF.

■The returning LBs all are looking for the first sack of their careers. The four upperclassmen linebackers have 11 starts combined.

DEFENSIVE LINE

■The Gators lost four senior defensive tackles from a year ago, as the interior linemen enter the year with one career tackle between them.

■UF lost its top five tacklers up front and seven of its top nine. Bobby McCray's 10 tackles against Auburn were four more than any other returning DL registered against anyone in 2002. Fifteen of Florida's 17 scholarship linemen have never started in Division I.

■Seven players on the line who accounted for 80 percent of UF's snaps last season, including two juniors who left early, will not return.

SECONDARY

■UF picked off seven passes last season, and the returnees were responsible for four of those. Senior Daryl Dixon, a former starter who missed all of 2002 with a shoulder injury, replaces All-SEC safety Todd Johnson.

■FS Daryl Dixon returns to the unit in 2003 after being redshirted after his junior year to rehabilitate from shoulder surgery in January 2002.

■Guss Scott is Florida's top returning tackler with 102 stops in 2002. He had a team-high 11 deflections in 2002 and returned a critical interception against Georgia to help the Gators to a 20-13 victory.

■Forty-eight of the 73 career starts on defense are by defensive backs (66 percent). In addition, 32 of the 44 returning starts from 2002 come from the unit (76 percent).

SPECIAL TEAMS

■The last three times Florida has blocked a punt (Vanderbilt, 2001; Miami, 2002; Michigan, 2003) Guss Scott has played a part in it. Todd Johnson blocked the punts against Vanderbilt and Miami, and Scott was there to recover the ball. Against Michigan, Scott partially blocked a punt.

PLAYER ANECDOTES...

PERIC WILBUR

Mother (Lynn) attended Florida.

QB CHRIS LEAK

Was offered a scholarship to Wake Forest as an eighth grader after attending the Deacon's football camp.

DB DEMETRICE WEBB

He ran summer track, qualifying for the Junior Olympic team in the 100-meter (10.6) and was the anchor on the 4 x 400-meter relay.

WR ANDRE CALDWELL

Seven of his teammates signed DI scholarships his senior year (North Carolina State, Maryland, Georgia Tech, San Diego State, South Florida and Auburn).

WR CHAD JACKSON

Lost his cousin, Victor Hill, during a high school voluntary summer workout in 2002 when he collapsed in the huddle. Victor was his teammate at Hoover HS as a running back, receiver and defensive back. Jackson wore No. 8 his senior year and wears the same number at Florida. Hill wore the number at Hoover HS.

FRESHMEN NOTES

■The following is a list of the last true freshman to have started for the Gators at each position:

QB _____ Jesse Palmer, 1997

WR _____ Kelvin Kight, Matt Jackson, 2000

RB _____ Robert Gillespie, 1998

TE _____ Walter Odom, 1983

OL _____ Randy Hand, 2002

DL _____ David Barnard, Johnie Church, 1992

LB _____ Travis Harris, 2000

DB _____ Keiwan Ratliff, 2000

■No true freshman has ever started a season opener at the wide receiver, running back, tight end, defensive line or linebacker.

■Since the NCAA allowed true freshmen to begin play in 1972, the University of Florida has had 178 different student-athletes do so. In addition, 18 players have achieved All-America status as a true freshman with the Gators.

■Florida has had four true freshmen start a season opener and 89 play on opening day. The four to start were Ricky Williams (1981, OL), Mike Williams (1972, OL), Lester Norwood (1998, DB) and Reggie Green (1992, OL). In addition, 20 redshirt freshmen have started for the Gators in a season opener, and 158 have played in the first game of the year.

■The most true freshman to play in a season opener at Florida is 12, which came on Sept. 2, 2000 against Ball State. The most redshirt freshmen to play in a season opener was 17 on Aug. 31, 1996 when the Gators squared off against Southwestern Louisiana.

UNIT NOTEBOOKS...

A STRONG DEFENSE...

■ From the time he arrived in Columbia, S.C., to the day he left, new Florida defensive coordinator Charlie Strong made several improvements. Listed below are where the Gamecocks ranked in several key defensive categories the year prior to Strong taking over the defensive coordinator role at USC and where things left off following last season:

	1998	2002
Total Defense	396.8 (10)	351.4 (10)
Rush Defense	178.9 (12)	164.5 (9)
Pass Defense	217.9 (8)	186.9 (7)
Scoring Defense	33.0 (10)	21.8 (8)
Tackles	536	1150
Sacks	14-116	15-97
Interceptions	5 (12)	9 (T6)
Fumble Rec.	10 (9)	12 (T5)
TFL	38	64
Pass BrUp	36	42

() - SEC rankings for categories kept.

SINCE 1990 FLORIDA IS...

■ 106-2 when holding opponents to 21 or less points.

■ 74-3 when it rushes for 150 or more yards in a game and 56-29-1 when held under 150 yards.

■ 116-8 when it rushes for at least 100 yards in a game and just 14-24-1 when held under 100 yards.

■ 67-3 when a back rushes for 100 or more yards in a game.

■ 98-4 when UF outrushes its opponent and just 32-28-1 when it is outrushed.

■ 97-11 when UF scores first and 33-21-1 when opponent scores first.

■ 121-6-1 when leading at the half and 9-26 when tied or trailing at the half.

■ UF has been outrushed in 28 of the 32 games it has lost.

■ The Gators have posted a 75-5-1 record when they hold an opponent to less than 100 team rushing yards.

■ UF is 21-3 in games in which it blocks a punt.

■ The Gators are 87-16-1 in games played in the state of Florida (73-7 in Gainesville, 11-1 in Jacksonville, 2-1 in Orlando, 1-0 in Miami, 0-6-1 in Tallahassee, 0-1 in Tampa).

■ 84-3 vs. unranked teams at game time.

■ Matt Leach made five of his last six field goals from inside 40 yards.

■ UF has made seven straight PAT's last missing against Georgia (11/2/02).

■ Ingle Martin saw extensive action last year as a punter, and Zook also worked with a freshman punter, Robby Stevenson, in 1995, his last as an assistant at UF:

Year	Punter	Punts	Yards	Avg.	Long	Blkd.
2002	Ingle Martin	38	1362	35.8	70	0
1995	Robby Stevenson	33	1264	38.3	52	0

OFFENSE NOTEBOOK

■ Florida had 982 total plays on offense in 2002. The Gators rushed the ball 465 times and attempted 517 passes. Florida's season-by-season run-pass over the past two seasons:

Year	Run%	Pass%
2001	41.1	58.9
2002	47.4	52.6

■ Since 1990, UF has thrown for 300 or more yards in a game in 97 of its 163 contests. The Gators threw for 300 or more yards in a game just 14 times in the previous 83 seasons of play (1906-89).

MOST TOUCHDOWN PASSES SINCE 1990

1. FLORIDA	445
2. Florida State	358
3. BYU	344
4. Louisiana Tech	299
5. Nevada	289
6. Fresno State	286
7. Miami	281
8. Oregon	268
9. Houston	265
10. Tennessee	257

■ The Gators have gone a school-record 179 games without being shutout, dating back to a 16-0 loss to Auburn in 1988. Over that same span, the Gator defense has posted nine shutouts. A look at the leaders nationally as well as SEC teams' consecutive games without being shut out:

NATIONAL LEADERS

1. BYU	350
2. Texas	265
3. Washington	253
4. Michigan	215
5. Washington State	214
6. Oregon	208
7. Florida State	185
8. FLORIDA	179
9. Colorado	172
10. Arizona	135

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE LEADERS

1. FLORIDA	179
2. Tennessee	109
3. Georgia	91
4. Arkansas	84
5. Ole Miss	51
6. Auburn	40
7. Alabama	25
8. Mississippi State	16
9. LSU	3
10. South Carolina	2
11. Vanderbilt	0
Kentucky	0

■ During the past seven seasons (1996-2002), UF has posted 52 300-yard passing games, which is the most in the nation:

1. FLORIDA	52
2. Kentucky	51
Louisiana Tech	51

■ Since 1996, the Gators rank third in the country in combined passing yards:

NATIONAL LEADERS

1. Louisiana Tech	28,554
2. Marshall	28,322
3. Florida	25,687
4. Purdue	23,766
5. UCF	23,614

■ Since 1990, Florida has ranked in the top 10 in total offense in the final NCAA stats seven times.

THE DEFENSE

■ Florida has allowed more than 200 yards passing in just three games during the Zook era and allowed only one opponent QB (John Navarre, Mich.) to throw for more than 300 yards in a game.

■ Opponents have not completed more than 50 percent of their passes in five of the last six games.

UNIT NOTEBOOKS...

■ Opponents have scored TDs in just 14 of their last 28 trips inside the red zone while Ron Zook has been at Florida.

■ Under Ron Zook the Gator defense did not allow a touchdown in the first quarter in 10 of 13 games. It gave up only 39 points in the quarter, and 18 of those points came from field goals.

■ Auburn, Georgia and Vanderbilt were the only SEC teams that scored an offensive touchdown against the Gators in the first half against Florida under Zook.

■ One of Florida's goals in 2002 was to increase its "Big Plays" (TFL, QB sacks, forced QB hurries, forced fumbles, fumble recoveries, pass deflections, interceptions, blocked kicks). The chart below reflects how big the Gator defense has come up in the last two seasons:

Year	Big Plays	TFL	QBS
2001	219	74	30
2002	269	84	23

■ Since 1990, Florida has led the SEC in rushing defense six times and ranked among the nation's top 20 teams in total defense on seven different occasions.

■ UF has held its opponents to less than 50 net rushing yards 23 times in its last 88 games since the 1995 season. In the last 101 games, UF has held 48 opponents to 100 net rushing yards or less.

■ Since 1990, Florida has ranked in the top 10 in rushing defense in the final national stats seven times.

SPECIAL TEAMS

■ The last eight games, opponents' average kick return was just 15.3 yards per return, and only two of 22 returns went for more than 18 yards.

■ The Gators blocked five kicks in the 2002 season (3 punts, 2 field goals).

■ With Ron Zook as the special teams coordinator at Florida in 1994 and 1995, the Gators blocked 12 total kicks, and the 1994 unit blocked a school-record five punts. In 1995, Zook's special teams blocked seven kicks in the regular season, including four punts, two field goals and an extra point. Three of the blocked punts led to Gator TDs.

SEC TELEVISION EXPOSURE

■ The Gators have appeared on live network television in 62 of their last 64 SEC games. Since the start of the 1994 season, the Gators have had 70 of their 75 SEC games televised live on network TV.

THE SCHEDULE

■ In 2003, the Gators will be on the road on five different occasions marking the second time in school history (1979) that UF has had to play on the road more than four times in a season. This year, every league team plays five road games except South Carolina (four) and Mississippi State (six again).

■ As a result of the SEC scheduling, UF will not play Auburn this year ending a series that had run uninterrupted since 1945. The 80-game series with the Tigers is tied with Georgia for the longest in school history.

■ According to the NCAA, the 2002 Florida Gators faced the sixth toughest schedule in the nation and UF probably will rank highly again in strength of schedule for its 2003 slate:

■ Florida will play seven teams this fall that made appearances in bowl games during the 2002 season. The Gators will square off against eight teams that had enough wins a year ago to be bowl eligible, including Kentucky. In fact, every team in the SEC plays at least five bowl eligible teams from 2002. Florida plays seven bowl teams from last season, which equals the total of Auburn, Mississippi State and Vanderbilt for the third highest total among SEC members.

2003 Opponents in 2002 Bowls

Team	Bowl
Ohio State, 31 vs. Miami , 24 (2 OT)	Fiesta
Maryland, 30 vs. Tennessee , 3	Peach
Ole Miss , 27, vs. Nebraska, 23	Independence
Texas, 35 vs. LSU , 20	Cotton
Minnesota, 29 vs. Arkansas , 14	Music City
Georgia , 26 vs. Florida State, 13	Sugar

2003 opponents are in bold

FIRST-YEAR COACHES...

■ Checking in with the 13 head coaches that were in their first year in a new place a season ago reveals that Florida's Ron Zook was the second most successful among that group in 2002:

Coach	School	Record
Tyrone Willingham	Notre Dame	10-3
RON ZOOK	FLORIDA	8-5
Jeff Tedford	California	7-5
Chan Gailey	Georgia Tech	7-6
Steve Roberts	Arkansas State	6-7
Tom Craft	San Diego State	4-8
Gerry DiNardo	Indiana	3-9
Rickey Bustle	UL-Lafayette	3-9
Phil Bennett	SMU	3-9
Buddy Teevens	Stanford	2-9
Bobby Johnson	Vanderbilt	2-10
Paul Johnson	Navy	2-10
Mark Mangino	Kansas	2-10
TOTALS		59-100

■ The six coaches with no previous head coaching experience at a four-year college went 27-47 in 2002. The following indicates how coaches have done in that situation over the past few years:

Year	Won	Lost	Pct.
2001	72	67	.518
2000	39	54	.419
1999	40	51	.440
1998	44	59	.427
Totals	195	231	.457

ON THIS DATE...

Aug. 30, 1986

Florida vs. Georgia Southern

UF 38 - GSU 14

Gainesville, Fla.

Defending Division I-AA national champion Georgia Southern came into Florida looking to knock off the 13th-ranked Gators.

Florida's offense finished with 418 total yards as a group of several young Gator running backs led UF to a 38-14 win in front of 74,221 rain-drenched onlookers.

UF's tailback trio of sophomore Wayne Williams and freshmen Octavius Gould and Tony Lomack combined for 207 yards on 33 carries.

QB Kerwin Bell finished the game 14-of-23 for 160 yards and three touchdowns.

Aug. 30, 1997

Florida vs. Southern Mississippi

UF 21 - S. Miss 6

Gainesville, Fla.

Playing without the departed Heisman Trophy winner Danny Wuerffel on offense, the Gator defense took control. Five times the Southern Mississippi offense penetrated the UF 30-yard line and came away with points only once.

The defense forced four turnovers and held the Eagles to just 157 yards of total offense, including only 49 in the second half.

Sophomore QB Doug Johnson made his first career start and connected on 17-of-34 passes for 231 yards and two touchdowns with three interceptions. Johnson also rushed for a TD with a one-yard TD plunge in the third quarter.

POLL NOTES...

CURRENT CONSECUTIVE WEEKS IN THE POLLS SINCE 1990 NCAA DIV-1A

* Current consecutive weeks ranked in the AP poll and/or the coaches poll since 1990... Maximum possible total is 222 weeks.

Rk.	School	Weeks
1.	FLORIDA	221
2.	Michigan	78
3.	Texas	73
4.	Virginia Tech	71
5.	Miami	55
6.	Oklahoma	54
7.	Georgia	30
8.	Florida State	22
9.	Ohio State	19
	Penn State	19
11.	USC	17
	Notre Dame	17
13.	Kansas State	15
14.	Pittsburgh	8
	Maryland	8
16.	Auburn	5
	N.C. State	5
18.	TCU	2
	Virginia	2
20.	Arizona State	1
	Colorado State	1
	LSU	1
	Oklahoma State	1
	Purdue	1
	Tennessee	1
	Washington	1
	Wisconsin	1

CURRENT CONSECUTIVE WEEKS IN THE POLLS SINCE 1990 SEC SCHOOLS

* Current consecutive weeks ranked in the AP poll and/or the coaches poll.

Rk.	School	Weeks
1.	FLORIDA	221
2.	Georgia	30
3.	Auburn	5
4.	LSU	1
	Tennessee	1

CURRENT CONSECUTIVE SEASONS IN THE FINAL COACHES POLL

Rk.	School	Years
1.	Florida State	19
2.	Michigan	18
3.	FLORIDA	13
4.	Georgia	6
	Texas	6
6.	Virginia Tech	5
	Miami	5

■ A look at the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Preseason Poll shows that UF will play the second most preseason top 25 teams this season with five. Florida, Alabama and South Carolina are the only members of the SEC, which will play five opponents this season that are ranked in the top 25 of the poll:

NATIONAL LEADERS

Ohio State	6
Florida State	6
Florida	5
Miami	5
Notre Dame	5
Purdue	5

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE LEADERS

Florida	5
Alabama	5
South Carolina	5
Auburn	4
Arkansas	4
Georgia	4
Tennessee	4
Vanderbilt	4
Kentucky	3
LSU	3
Mississippi State	3
Ole Miss	3

■ Florida is only one of three teams to be in the Top-5 in the annual toughest schedule leaders in two of the past three years. No school has been in the top five in all three previous seasons. The other two schools are Colorado (4th - 2000; 2nd - 2001) and Kansas (5th - 2000; 3rd - 2001).

POLL NOTES

■ Florida finished the season ranked 24th in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll and begins the 2003 season at No. 21 in the same poll. UF now has been ranked in a poll in 221 of a possible 222 weeks since the start of the 1990 season. Florida's 221 consecutive weeks in the polls is the longest active streak. The Gators have appeared in the top five of the polls 117 times, the top 10 of the polls 185 times since 1990 and have spent 29 weeks at No. 1.

■ Florida has been ranked No. 1 in the AP and/or Coaches poll 29 times since 1994, tying for the second most weeks of any school over that nine year time period. Nebraska has been ranked first 33 times and Florida State 29 to round out the top three schools in the category since 1994.

SCORING IN THEIR FIRST UF START (SINCE 1990)

■ With 46 student-athletes who have not started a game, several members of the Florida squad could be making their first start as they look to join the list of 17 Gators since 1990 who have scored in their first start:

Year	Player	Scoring Play	Opponent
2000	Jabar Gaffney	13 & 23-yard TD reception from Rex Grossman	Mississippi State
2000	Aaron Walker	19 & 14-yard TD reception from Grossman	Middle Tennessee
1999	Kirk Wells	Two-point conversion pass from Johnson	Alabama
1999	Brian Haugabrook	Seven-yard TD reception from Johnson	Kentucky
1999	Earnest Graham	4 & 11-yard TD runs	Western Michigan
1997	Jaime Richardson	9 & 28-yard TD receptions from Johnson	Central Michigan
1997	Doug Johnson	1-yard TD run	Southern Mississippi
1995	Jacquez Green	96-yard TD reception from Eric Kresser	Northern Illinois
1993	Aubrey Hill	18 & 4-yard TD receptions from Terry Dean	Vanderbilt
1993	Chris Doering	19 & 28-yard TD receptions from Danny Wuerffel	Kentucky
1992	Jack Jackson	31-yard TD reception from Shane Matthews	Louisiana State
1991	Willie Jackson	32-yard TD reception from Matthews	Northern Illinois
1991	Harrison Houston	Three TD receptions from Matthews (22,37,14)	San Jose State
1990	Kevin Randolph	8-yard TD run	Kentucky
1990	Tre Everett	50-yard TD reception from Matthews	Oklahoma State
1990	Shane Matthews	1-yard TD run	Oklahoma State
1990	Dexter McNabb	2-yard TD run	Oklahoma State

THE STADIUM...

ATTENDANCE NOTES

■The attendance for the game against Miami on Sept. 7, 2003 of 85,777 established a new school record. The previous record stood at 85,771 and was set at the Tennessee game in 2001.

■The attendance for the season opener last year for the UAB game of 85,575 was the largest opening day crowd in Florida history. The previous record was 85,445 vs. Marshall on Sept. 1, 2001.

■Today's attendance is expected to make "The Swamp" the seventh largest on campus stadium in the nation.

■In 2002, the Gators sold all available season tickets (72,000). That figure continues to rank as the second highest in the state of Florida history for any team - collegiate or professional.

■The Gators have ranked among the nation's top 15 schools in average home attendance in each of the last 21 years (1982-2002) and ranked among the nation's top eight schools in each of the last 12 years (1991-2002). UF's average of 85,493 fans per home game in 1999 ranked as the best single-season mark in school history. UF averaged 85,432 in 2001 and 85,185 during the 2002 season.

■Florida has a current streak of 84 consecutive home sellouts dating back to the 1989 season. Here is where UF ranks nationally for current consecutive sellouts:

1. Nebraska	255
2. Notre Dame	167
3. Michigan	113
4. FLORIDA	84

BEN HILL GRIFFIN STADIUM AT FLORIDA FIELD "THE SWAMP"

■A look at the Gators at home since 1990:

Overall:	73-7
SEC:	42-4
SEC East:	24-1
SEC West:	18-3
Non-Conference:	31-3
Top 25 Teams:	17-7
Top 10 Teams:	9-5
Top 5 Teams:	7-4
Unranked Teams:	56-0
At Night (6 p.m. or later)	22-1

■Florida's home winning percentage of .912 (73-7) ranks third-best in the nation since 1990.

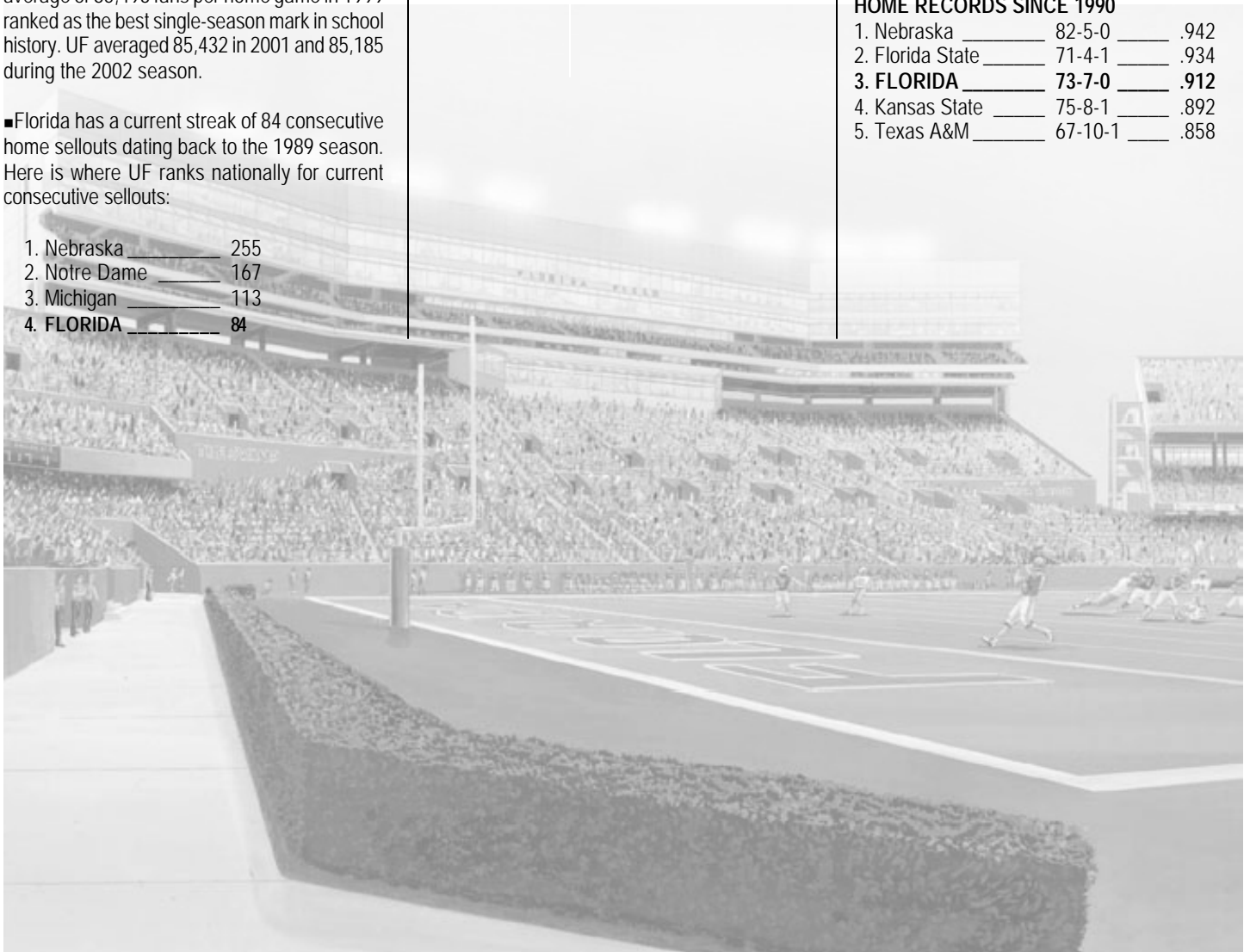
■The Gators had two significant streaks at "The Swamp" in the 1990s: A 23-game win streak from 1990-93 and a 30-game streak from 1994-1999. In 80 home games since 1990, UF has scored 30 or more points 62 times and has held its opponent to 14 or less points 42 times.

■Since 1990, UF has outscored its opponents at "The Swamp" by a combined total of 3311-1292 (an average of 41.3 to 16.1 for an average victory margin of 25.2).

■Since 1990, Florida has lost only three times at home to a team ranked below the top five.

HOME RECORDS SINCE 1990

1. Nebraska	82-5-0	.942
2. Florida State	71-4-1	.934
3. FLORIDA	73-7-0	.912
4. Kansas State	75-8-1	.892
5. Texas A&M	67-10-1	.858



HEAD COACH RON ZOOK...

THE RON ZOOK FILE

- 25 years of coaching experience
- 19 year collegiate coaching experience (Florida, Ohio State, Virginia Tech, Tennessee, Kansas, Cincinnati, Murray State) Six years professional coaching experience (Pittsburgh, Kansas City and New Orleans)
- Coached for three NFL franchises (Pittsburgh, Kansas City and New Orleans)
- Coached on three NFL Division Champions (1996 and 1997 Steelers - AFC Central, 2000 Saints - NFC West)
- Coached on five SEC Championship teams (four at Florida, one at Tennessee)
- Participated in 14 bowl games (three as a player and 11 as a coach)
- Coached at four schools that are members of college football's premier conferences (SEC, Big Ten, Big 12, Big East).

PERSONAL

Birthdate: April 28, 1954
 Hometown: Loudonville, Ohio
 Alma Mater: Miami of Ohio (1976)
 Family: Wife, Denise; daughters Jacquelyn, Casey

COACHING EXPERIENCE

Florida
 2002-Present _____ Head Coach
New Orleans Saints
 2000-01 _____ Defensive Coordinator
Kansas City Chiefs
 1999 _____ Defensive Backs Coach
Pittsburgh Steelers
 1996-98 _____ Special Teams Coach
Florida
 1995 _ Assoc. Head Coach/ Special Teams Coor.
 _____ Nickelbackers and Strong Safeties Coach
 1994 ___ Special Teams Coordinator/Nickelbackers
 1991-93 Defensive Coordinator/ Defensive Backs
Ohio State
 1988-90 _____ Defensive Backs
Virginia Tech
 1987 Defensive Coordinator/ Assistant Head Coach
Tennessee
 1984-86 _____ Defensive Backs
Kansas
 1983 _____ Defensive Coordinator
Cincinnati
 1981-82 _____ Defensive Coordinator
Murray State
 1978-80 _____ Defensive Backs
Orville High School
 1976-77

THE COACHING STAFF

Jerry "Red" Anderson DL
 Dwayne Dixon Assistant Head Coach
 Larry Fedora Perimeter Game Coordinator
 Mike Locksley RB/Recruiting Coordinator
 Bill Miller Linebackers
 Charlie Strong Defensive Coordinator
 Joe Wickline OL/Running Game Coor.
 Mike Woodford DB/Special Teams Coor.
 Ed Zaunbrecher Offensive Coordinator/QB

ROOTS AND FAMILY

- Zook grew up in the small town of Loudonville, Ohio. The town's population is a mere 3,000, and a canoe livery was its biggest industry.
- As devoted as he is to football, Zook is still a family man. During his hectic first spring as Florida's head coach, Zook found the time to make a 90-mile drive from Daytona Beach to Jacksonville to watch his daughter, Casey, run the 100-meter hurdles in the district championships. Casey was ecstatic that her father would drive two hours for a 17-second race.
- Zook's father, a traveling salesman, was over 400 miles away in Chicago at a trade show during senior night at Ron's final high school home football game. His father drove straight in from a meeting, wheeled into the parking lot just before kickoff and immediately left after the game to get back to Chicago in time for his Saturday appointments.
- Zook started flying planes when he was 13 and had his first solo flight when he was 16.
- Zook's grandfather, Peter, came to America from Russia. When he arrived at Ellis Island, immigration officials looked at his 26-letter last name and shortened it to simply Zook.

■ Zook's wife, Denise, tells about her husband's meticulous scrutiny of life on, and off, the football field. "When he's making a decision on anything, I don't care if it's insurance, buying a house, getting a loan, getting a dog, whatever, he's going to check out everything," says Denise. "You should ask the car salesman how he is about buying a car. It's hilarious. It's just how Ron is. Every single thing we buy has to be researched."

ZOOK AS A PLAYER

- Zook's brother Bob would stand at the top of a hill behind their childhood home and roll an old tire down to Ron, who was standing at the bottom of the hill in shoulder pads and a helmet. Zook was small growing up but the drill taught him toughness. He either made a great stop or got knocked to the ground and afterwards he would get up and push the tire back up the hill and prepare for another shot. "It was a toughness drill, teaching me to run through things when I tackled. You had to hit it hard, because it was a moving object, and it'd roll right over you."
- There was also a variation where the ball was tossed to 80-pound Ron, whose objective was to run through Bob and his 120-pound neighbor. "He either cried or bled," Bob Zook said. "Most of the time it was both." Ron wore glasses at the time and before long "there was more electrical tape on his glasses than there were glasses."
- As a freshman, Zook became a star quarterback and defensive back at Loudonville HS, due to his drive and preparation for the game. "We had four touchdowns called back because he had faked the ball so well, and the officials blew the whistle. We're losing 14-6 to Ontario just before halftime, and we ran a belly play. Ron faked the ball to the fullback and handed it to the tailback. The ref blew the ball dead because he thought the fullback had it, but the tailback was in the end zone with it 52 yards away." Said John Burkhart, mayor of Loudonville and high school teammate.

- Zook also ran track and still holds the school record for the 110-meter hurdles (15.3 seconds) with two others.
- As a member of the freshman basketball team, Zook's team was down 20-0 at the half vs. Fredricktown. After his coach walked out at halftime, Zook took over and they ended up winning 43-42.

IN THE "CRADLE" OF COACHING

- When he didn't receive any scholarship offers out of high school, Zook decided to walk-on to the team at Miami University of Ohio after a local dentist, Dave Mallory, introduced him to his brother Bill Mallory, the coach at Miami. When he walked off three years later, he was the team's captain. In the three seasons Zook played, Miami lost only one game.
- Though everyone who meets Zook today marvels at his intensity, he was just as intense when he played for Miami from 1972-75, according to Tennessee Titans' running backs coach Sherman Smith, who played with Zook at Miami. "He would play so hard he would hit guys and get knocked out," Smith says.
- Judging by the school's prestigious alumni, attending Miami may have been the first step toward coaching greatness for Zook. Known as the "Cradle of Coaches," Miami has produced such greats as Paul Brown, Weeb Ewbank, Woody Hayes, Ara Parseghian, Bo Schembechler and Sid Gilman.

HEAD COACH RON ZOOK...

■ In perhaps the highlight of his college playing career, Zook's Miami took on Florida in the 1973 Tangerine Bowl. The game was played in Gainesville due to renovations to the stadium in Orlando, and Miami upset the Gators 16-7 in what was the first of three consecutive Tangerine Bowl victories. On the game's opening kickoff, Zook tackled Gator great and current Sunshine Network commentator Nat Moore to set the game's tone. According to ex-teammate John McVay, Zook had a great game and "must've made every tackle on the punt coverage and kick coverage."

ZOOK THE RECRUITER

■ When Zook was on John Cooper's Ohio State coaching staff, they were on the road recruiting when Cooper wanted to stop somewhere for seafood. Zook zipped through a Shoney's drive-thru for clam chowder.

■ When AD Jeremy Foley offered Zook the head coaching job, Zook didn't haggle over his salary. "That literally lasted five seconds," Foley said. "I told him it was going to be a five-year deal and it would pay him \$1 million a year and he said, 'OK, I need a cell phone so I can start recruiting.'"

■ Zook was hired on January 9, 2002 — a Wednesday. That Friday some 15 recruits were scheduled to arrive in Gainesville for official visits. Zook, who refused to delay any of the visits, rushed to organize the perfect trips. When every detail was planned perfectly by Zook and his brand new coaching staff, they waited eagerly at the stadium to greet the recruits and their host players. However, there was one problem. When 30 athletes arrived, Zook and his staff weren't sure who were being recruited and who were already playing at Florida. Zook paused for a moment to think, and provided his staff with one simple direction. "Recruit them all."

■ Zook is a man that believes that no time should be wasted. Once when the fire alarm went off in the football offices, everybody but Zook evacuated. "If there really had been a fire, I could have escaped," Zook explained to *Orlando Sentinel* columnist Mike Bianchi as he pointed out his second-story office window. "It's not that far of a jump."

■ *Orlando Sentinel* columnist Mike Bianchi spent a day on the road with Zook during the May recruiting period and was amazed at what he saw. After watching Zook talking loudly into his cell phone at 6:45 a.m. while speeding down an interstate and driving with his knees, Bianchi knew it wasn't going to be a normal day. When Zook wouldn't feed him until nearly 12 hours later (a 6 p.m. "lunch" from the drive-thru window at Kentucky Fried Chicken), Bianchi had had enough. He didn't buy Zook's argument that lunch can't be eaten while schools are open. In his column Bianchi addressed Zook: "You, Ron Zook, are not normal. You are a madman."

RON ZOOK'S RECORD AT UF WHEN...

Overall	8-5
vs. SEC	6-2
vs. SEC East	5-0
vs. SEC West	1-2
vs. Non-Conference	2-3
Play at home	5-2
Play away	2-2
Play at neutral sites	1-1
Playing in the state of Florida	6-4
Receive kickoff to start game	6-3
Kickoff to start game	2-2
In night games (6 p.m. or later)	5-2
In the rain	2-0
Score first	6-2
Opponents score first	2-3
Lead after one quarter	5-1
Trail after one quarter	1-3
Are tied after one quarter	2-1
Lead at half	7-1
Trail at half	1-4
Are tied at half	0-0
Lead after three quarters	7-0
Trail after three quarters	1-5
Are tied after three quarters	0-0
Overtime games	1-0
Have a team pass for 300+ yards	4-2
Have an individual pass for 300+ yards	4-2
Opp. has a team pass for 300+ yards	0-1
Opp. has individual pass for 300+ yards	0-1
Have a team rush for 100+ yards	6-2
Have an individual rush for 100+ yards	2-1
Opp. has a team rush for 100+ yards	6-4
Opp. has an individual rush for 100+ yards	3-2
Commit two or less turnovers	6-2
Opponents commit two or more turnovers	2-2
Score 10 or more points	8-4
Hold their opponent to 21 or less points	6-1
Score	
under 10 points	0-1
10-19 points	0-3
20-29 points	3-0
30-39 points	3-1
40-49 points	1-0
50 or more points	1-0
Hold opponent to	
under 10 points	3-0
10-19 points	3-1
20-29 points	1-0
30-39 points	1-3
40-49 points	0-1
50+ points	0-0

SEC Coaches Division I Experience Rankings

1. Mississippi State	17.3 years
2. South Carolina	16.5 years
3. Tennessee	15.3 years
4. Florida	14.5 years
5. Kentucky	14.4 years
6. Georgia	13.5 years
7. Auburn	11.4 years
8. Alabama	10.3 years
9. LSU	9.9 years
10. Ole Miss	9.7 years
11. Vanderbilt	7.0 years
12. Arkansas	5.7 years

Zook Against Ranked Teams (W - L)

2002 - No. 1 Miami 41 vs. No. 6 Florida 16
2002 - No. 10 Florida 30 at No. 4 Tennessee 13
2002 - No. 18 LSU 36 vs No. 16 Florida 7
2002 - No. 22 Florida 20 vs. No. 5 Georgia 13 (N)
2002 - No. 23 Florida State vs. No. 11 Florida 14
2003 - No. 12 Michigan 38 vs. No. 20 Florida 30 (N)

Gator Turnovers In The Zook Era

In UF's 8 Wins	UF - 1.37 per game	Opp - 1.75 per game
In UF's 5 Losses	UF - 2.4 per game	Opp - 0.8 per game

Florida Second Year Coaching Records

1907	Jack Forsythe, 4-1-1
1910	G.E. Pyle, 6-1
1915	Charles J. McCoy, 4-3
1918	A.L. Busser, 0-1
1921	William Kline, 6-3-2
1924	J.A. VanFleet, 6-2-2
1926	H.L. Sebring, 2-6-2
1929	Charles Bachman, 8-2
1934	D.K. Stanley, 6-3-1, 2-3 SEC
1937	Josh Cody, 4-7, 3-5 SEC
1941	Thomas J. Lieb, 4-6, 1-4 SEC
1947	Raymond B. Wolf, 4-5-1, 1-4-1 SEC
1951	Bob Woodruff, 5-5, 3-3 SEC
1961	Ray Graves, 4-5, 5-2 SEC
1971	Doug Dickey, 4-7, 1-6 SEC
1980	Charley Pell, 8-4, 5-2 SEC
1985	Galen Hall, 9-1-1, 5-1 SEC
1991	Steve Spurrier, 10-2, 7-0 SEC

Second-Year Coaches Superlatives

Overall Wins	10, Steve Spurrier (1991)
SEC Wins	7, Steve Spurrier (1991)
Most Points Scored	77, J.A. VanFleet (1924)
Most Home Wins	6, Steve Spurrier (1991)
Undefeated at Home	4-0, G.E. Pyle (1910)
	3-0, J.A. VanFleet (1924)
	2-0, Charles Bachman (1929)
	5-0-1, Galen Hall (1985)
	6-0, Steve Spurrier (1991)

Current SEC Coaches Career Records (through 13 Games)

1. Philip Fulmer - Tennessee	12-1 (.923)
T2. David Cutcliffe - Ole Miss	9-4 (.692)
T2. Mark Richt - Georgia	9-4 (.692)
T2. Nick Saban - LSU	9-4 (.692)
5. Ron Zook - Florida	8-5 (.615)

LEGENDARY STATUS...

ONE OF THE ONLY SCHOOL'S IN THE NATION TO:

■Florida's spectacular success has resulted in the Gator program being classified a "major college dynasty" by the NCAA in its annual records book. This is a rare and elite honor that has been bestowed on Florida, the 1996 National Champions, due to a consistent level of success that is achieving legendary status.

■One of three schools in major college history, and the only one in the SEC, to ever win at least nine games for a period of 12 consecutive years (1990-2001).

■One of six schools in major college history to ever win 100 games during a decade (102 wins in the 1990s).

■The only school in modern major college history to ever score 500 or more points for a period of four straight years (1993-96).

■In the history of the NFL Draft, Florida and Miami hold the distinction of being the only schools represented for the most consecutive years in the first-round of the draft.

■One of only two schools in the nation to have multiple recipients of the Draddy Trophy which is presented by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame to the nation's top football scholar-athlete.

■The only school in the nation that can boast of a Heisman Trophy recipient (Danny Wuerffel) who also received the Draddy Trophy which is presented by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame to the country's top football scholar-athlete.

THE ONLY SCHOOL IN THE SEC TO:

■The only school in SEC history, and one of only three in major college history, to ever win at least 10 games for a period of six straight years (1993-98).

■Win at least eight conference games in a season for four consecutive years (1993-96).

■Post a perfect 8-0 conference record in back-to-back seasons (1995-96).

■The only school in SEC history, and one of only four schools in major college history, to ever rank in the top 15 of the final polls in 12 consecutive seasons (1990-2001).

■The only school in SEC history, and one of only six in major college history, to ever appear in a January bowl game for nine consecutive seasons (1993-2001).

■Its 87-13 SEC record from 1990 to the seventh conference game of 2001 is the best league record over a 100 SEC game time period in conference history.

■It holds the SEC record for most consecutive seasons (12) with at least six league wins, a streak that doubles the previous record of six set by Alabama from 1961-66).

■Ever win 70 league games in a decade (73 in the 1990s).

■One of only two schools in SEC history to ever win four consecutive league championships (1993-96).

■Play in seven of the 10 SEC Championship Games and has won six SEC titles over the last 11 years.

GATORS JOIN

EXCLUSIVE 100-WIN DECADE

CLUB

Florida, 102-22-1 during the 1990s, joined an exclusive list of only six major colleges that won 100 games during a decade entirely spent at the I-A level

1970s

Alabama 103-16-1
Oklahoma 102-13-3

1980s

Nebraska 103-20-0
BYU 102-26-0

1990s

Florida State 109-13-1
Nebraska 108-16-1
FLORIDA 102-22-1

CONSECUTIVE WEEKS IN THE POLLS (ALL-TIME)

Nebraska	347 (1981-2002)
FLORIDA	221 (1990-Active)
Florida State	212 (1989-2001)
Alabama	184 (1971-82)
Michigan	160 (1968-80)
Notre Dame	159 (1964-75)
Oklahoma	156 (1971-81)

CONSECUTIVE JANUARY BOWL APPEARANCES

Nebraska	17 (1981-97)
Miami	12 (1983-94)
Florida State	12 (1991-Active)
FLORIDA	10 (1993-Active)
Michigan	9 (1985-93)
Notre Dame	9 (1987-95)
Penn State	8 (1991-98)

COLLEGE LEADERS SINCE 1990

MOST TOTAL WINS

Nebraska	137
Florida State	136
FLORIDA	130
Miami	126
Tennessee	125

TOP-15 FINISHES

FLORIDA	12
Florida State	12
Nebraska	10
Tennessee	10
Miami	10
Penn State	9
Michigan	9

TOP-10 FINISHES

Florida State	11
FLORIDA	10
Nebraska	8
Tennessee	7
Michigan	6

FINAL POLL RANKING AVG.

Florida State	5.3
FLORIDA	8.1
Michigan	11.2

WEEKS IN THE POLLS

FLORIDA	221
Michigan	78
Texas	73
Virginia Tech	71
Miami	55
Oklahoma	54

* - There are 222 maximum polls possible to have appeared in since the start of the 1990 season. UF did not enter the polls until week two of that season.

FLORIDA AND THE NFL...

GATORS AND THE 2003 NFL DRAFT

■ Rex Grossman's selection in the first round kept Florida's streak intact of having a first-round pick in each of the last seven years and 16 of the last 20. Florida's 26 first-round draft choices since 1983 is the second best total in the nation. Since the first NFL Draft in 1936, a Florida player has been selected in the first round 35 times covering 26 separate seasons, which ties Alabama for the fourth highest total in the country.

■ One of only two schools to have had at least one first-round draft selection in 17 of the last 21 drafts.

■ One of only two schools to have had multiple first-round draft selections in six of the past nine drafts.

■ Eight former members of the University of Florida football team were selected in the 2003 NFL Draft, which was held in New York City. The total tied for the highest from any school in the nation, while also tying for the third highest total in program history. In addition, for the first time since 1957 four Gators went to the same organization.

■ Set a NFL record for the most consecutive years (nine, 1983-91) represented in the first-round of the draft

FLORIDA 2002 NFL NOTES

■ Florida had 39 players on 2002 NFL opening day rosters, which tied with Florida State for the most from any school in the country. Michigan and Notre Dame both had 38.

■ Florida had 23 offensive players (nine WR, seven OL, three QB, two RB, one TE, one C) on rosters.

■ Florida's nine wide receivers on 2002 NFL rosters ranked as the top total in the nation for any school (Michigan is second with seven).

■ Florida's seven offensive linemen in 2002 tied for the highest total in the nation (Auburn and Michigan both have seven, while Mississippi and Nebraska both have six).

■ Florida had three QBs on NFL rosters in 2002, a total that was the second best in the nation (Washington is first with five).

Former Gator Emmitt Smith became the NFL's all-time leading rusher on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2002 with an 11-yard run against the Seattle Seahawks in Dallas. Smith surpassed the long-time record held by Walter Payton, who rushed for 16,726 yards in his 13-year.

Smith was a three-time All-American at the University of Florida from 1987-89. He established 58 school records in three seasons, including a career rushing mark of 3,928 yards. Following his junior season with the Gators, Smith was a first-round selection in the 1990 NFL Draft by the Dallas Cowboys. Smith finished the 2002 season with 17,162 career yards on 4,052 attempts, eclipsing Walter Payton's 18 year-old NFL rushing mark against Seattle on Oct. 27. On Wednesday, March 26, Smith agreed to terms with the Arizona Cardinals.



On April 12, 2003 Florida fans got the opportunity to recognize one of their own as Emmitt Smith was honored at halftime of the 2003 Orange and Blue Spring game.

FLORIDA PLAYERS ON 2002 NFL REGULAR SEASON ROSTERS (42)

DE Trace Armstrong-Oakland
 OT Lomas Brown-Tampa Bay
 DE-Alex Brown-Chicago
 WR-Reche Caldwell-San Diego
 OT-Cooper Carlisle-Denver
 LB-Travis Carroll-New Orleans
 DE-Kevin Carter-Tennessee
 K-Jeff Chandler-San Francisco
 OG-Mo Collins-Oakland
 LB-Andra Davis-Cleveland
 WR-Chris Doering-Washington
 WR-Jabar Gaffney-Houston
 WR-Jacquez Green-Washington
 DT-Buck Gurley-Tampa Bay
 WR-Ike Hillard-New York Giants
 WR-Willie Jackson-Atlanta
 RB-Terry Jackson-San Francisco
 WR-Darrell Jackson-Seattle
 NT-Ellis Johnson-Atlanta
 QB-Doug Johnson-Atlanta
 DE-Jevon Kearse-Tennessee
 TE-Erron Kinney-Tennessee
 S-Marquand Manuel-Cincinnati
 QB-Shane Matthews-Washington
 C-Jeff Mitchell-Carolina
 QB-Jesse Palmer-New York Giants
 OT-Mike Pearson-Jacksonville
 LB-Mike Peterson-Indianapolis
 OG-Zach Piller-Tennessee
 LB-Johnny Rutledge-Arizona
 CB Lito Sheppard-Philadelphia
 RB-Emmitt Smith-Dallas
 CB-Jimmy Spencer-Denver
 RB-Fred Taylor-Jacksonville
 WR-Travis Taylor-Baltimore

OT-Kenyatta Walker-Tampa Bay
 DT-Jerard Warren-Cleveland
 CB-Fred Weary-Atlanta
 QB-Danny Wuerffel-Washington

SCHOOLS WITH THE MOST PLAYERS ON NFL 2002 OPENING DAY ROSTERS

1. FLORIDA	39
Florida State	39
3. Michigan	38
Notre Dame	38
5. Georgia	35
Miami	35
7. Tennessee	32
8. Nebraska	30
9. Southern California	29
10. Ohio State	28
Texas A&M	28
Wisconsin	28

SEC AND NFL 2002 OPENING DAY ROSTERS

1. Florida	39
2. Georgia	35
3. Tennessee	32
4. Auburn	22
LSU	22
6. Mississippi	19
7. Mississippi State	18
8. Alabama	17
9. South Carolina	14
10. Arkansas	10
11. Kentucky	9
Vanderbilt	9