**Special Report**

**Where will the witching hour leave us?**

Will Y2K put us at the threshold of a new millennium, or throw us back to the dark ages of 1900?

By Adam Smith
Managing Editor

As a new millennium approaches, experts in Calhoun County are doing their part to ensure a smooth transition.

The Y2K problem is a concern for many because of the possible failure of many systems people rely on due to a computer glitch. The problem was discovered when computer experts realized that when clocks turn over to the year 2000, computers would read the date as 1900 instead. However, since the discovery of the problem companies have been working diligently to fix any possible problems.

Utilities companies in Calhoun County are ready for the challenge, and supposedly, will have no problems for the New Year. The Southern Company, which owns Alabama Power, is sponsoring a website designed to answer questions about possible failures related to Y2K. The site reports “service interruptions related to Year 2000 are unlikely.”

The site also goes on to say that if interruptions occur, they will “be isolated and short in duration, similar to a loss during a thunderstorm.”

The Y2K transition has prompted many systems people rely on to do an accounting of possible problems for the New Year. The Southern Company, which owns Alabama Power, is sponsoring a website designed to answer questions about possible failures related to Y2K. The site reports “service interruptions related to Year 2000 are unlikely.”

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By Don Killingsworth and Amanda Mitchell
Guest Writers

How hopeless has JSU enrollment become since the introduction of the HOPE Scholarship in Georgia?

For many years students from Georgia have crossed the border into Alabama to attend JSU. In 1992, Georgia began awarding its HOPE Scholarship to students who maintained a B-average the HOPE Scholarship requiring the students attend a college or university within the state of Georgia.

What effect has HOPE had on the number of freshmen from Georgia enrolling at JSU and exactly how many Georgia graduates have decided to be “HOPE-less”?

In 1992, a total of 174 freshmen from Georgia enrolled at JSU, according to a study. By 1999, that number had dropped to 129. Although a decline in apparent, the change in number of Georgia freshmen has been cyclical. The year 1992 was the year of highest enrollment. Please see HOPE-less, page 3

**Georgia students cross the line, turn their back on HOPE for JSU**

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**Athletics Director resigns**

From JSU Sports Information

Jacksonville State University Athletic Director Joe Davidson recently announced that he would resign his position, effective Jan. 3, 2000.

“I’ve enjoyed the time that I’ve spent working at Jacksonville State University,” Davidson said. “They have a fine staff that has been great to work with.”

“At this point in my career, I am planning on getting out of college athletics and try a new path in my life,” said Davidson.

Davidson joined the JSU staff on March 1, 1998, after spending 14 years as either an Assistant or Associate Athletic Director at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

During his tenure at JSU, Davidson was responsible for the hiring of second year basketball coach Mark Turgeon and more recently, the naming of Jack Crowe as head football coach.

“Under the leadership of Dr. (Bill) Meehan, I know that JSU will continue to excel not only in athletics, but in all areas,” Davidson said. A search for a new athletic director will begin immediately, according to Dr. Meehan.

Debby Bishop, an associate athletic director at JSU, will be named acting athletic director until a replacement is named.

**North Pole sends cold temperatures for City’s annual holiday parade**

Jacksonville children let their excitement for the holidays beat down the chilly weather as they looked intently for a little, round man with a white beard wearing a red suit.
**Campus Crime**

- The Campus Crime Docket is never, and will never be, edited unless an incident report involves a minor.
- Items in the Campus Crime Docket are obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department.
- JSU students have the right to view these public records.
- If any information is incorrect, please contact us at 782-5701 or call the JSU Police Department at 782-5050.

- 12-1-99: Andre Green, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported trespassing to JSUPD occurring at Dixon Hall.
- 12-1-99: John William Dodson, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring in the lobby of Dixon Hall.
- 12-3-99: Kunte Kinte Welch, of Talledega, Ala., was arrested on charges of theft of services by JSUPD.
- 12-5-99: JSUPD reported assault occurring outside the Kappa Sigma fraternity house.
- 12-5-99: Justin Vice, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported criminal mischief to JSUPD occurring at the Kappa Sigma fraternity house.
- 12-6-99: Melissa Carol Jones, of Lithia Springs, Ga., reported burglary to JSUPD occurring at College Apts. Hall.
- 12-6-99: Kimberly P. Wright, of Jacksonville, Ala., reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at Dixon Hall.
- 12-7-99: Derdre Michelle Thomas, of Florence, Ala., reported theft of property to JSUPD occurring at Sparkman Hall.

**Announcements**

**SGA helps students take a break from studying**

By Buffy Smith
JSU News Bureau

Finals Week means one thing to all JSU students—stress! So the SGA is hosting a study break on Thursday night to give students a chance to unwind from the pressures of studying. JSU President Bill Meehan and other administrators and faculty members will serve breakfast foods at Jack Hopper Dining Hall from 10 p.m. until 12 a.m. For only $3, students can enjoy bacon, eggs, sausage, grits, biscuits, gravy, waffles and more. Students with a meal plan eat for free.

While enjoying their meal, students can participate in, or just be entertained by, live karaoke.

"During finals week, students need a break from studying," said SGA President Don Killingsworth. "It's a time for them to relax and take a break from studying."

For further information on the study break, contact the Office of Student Activities at 782-5491.

**Free HIV testing: Nursing Center Clinic.** Tests done the last Friday of each month. Testing done by a representative of the Alabama Department of Public Health. For more information, call 782-5432.

- **Students who have lost or accidentally thrown away their student handbook:** not to worry, most of your questions can probably be answered on JSU’s website. For a complete handbook visit www.jsu.edu/department/handbook/.

- **Emotional Development Study:** Have a child between eight-months and 30-months-old? JSU's Center for Child Development needs you for a study on emotional development in infants. Call Sherri Restauri (492-0927, e-mail--st4472@sm.jsu.edu) or Jennifer Benefield (435-9997, e-mail---st2179@sm.jsu.edu).

- **Need your flu shot?** The student health center is giving Flu shots. The cost is $10 available to JSU students and employees only. Shots will be given Monday and Wednesday afternoons between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. and Friday mornings between 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Please call for appointments and remember your JSU ID card.

- **Applications for JSU Peer Counselor** will be available in Room 201 of Bibb Graves. All applicants must have a 2.25 GPA and must have at least 24 semester hours. Applications are due Friday, Dec. 10. For more information contact Eric McCulley at ext. 5278 or mcculley@jsuc.cc.jsu.edu.

- **Dauphin Island Sea Lab:** All students wishing to take Marine Biology or Marine Geology/Geography courses at Dauphin Island Sea Lab during Summer 2000 may now register. Please see Dr. Romano, Room 202, Ayers Hall or call at 782-5038. All Dauphin Island Sea Lab courses are listed in the Spring 2000 bulletin on page 29.

- **New Directions offers counseling to students at JSU.** New Directions is a Counseling/Prevention program that serves the students of JSU. The program has a three-fold purpose: 1) To provide counseling services to any student that needs a mental health issue addressed; 2) To help promote and provide the campus prevention programs; 3) To help educate the JSU community through educational classes and programs. If you have any questions concerning: alcohol, drugs, anxiety, stress or simply coping with college life you can contact Ricky Naugher of New Directions at 782-5815 or find them in Room 146 of Daugette Hall.

- **The JSU Clarinet Choir** will give a performance Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. in Mason Hall’s Performance Center. The performance is free and open to the public, the concert will include works by Telemann, Templeton, Uhl, W.C. Handy and Schickele.

**JSU Area Events Calendar: Dec. 9 - 17**

- **Thurs 14:** Final exams
- **Tues 15:** Final exams begin
- **Wed 16:** Graduation
- **Fri 17:** Final exams

**The Chanticleer Staff** encourages, or rather thrives, on reader feedback. If you have an opinion about anything, drop us a letter or e-mail. We are located in Room 180, Self Hall. Our e-mail address is jsu_chanticleer@hotmail.com, thanks.

**THE CHANTICLEER is the student newspaper of Jacksonville State University, is produced by the students. The Editor in Chief has the final decision on all content. Editorial staff are the opinions of the editorial staff unless otherwise stated. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for content and space. Our funding is received from paid advertisements, and our production facilities come from university appropriations.**

**Our office is Room 180, Self Hall --782-5701 or 782-5703.**

**For our Advertising Director, please call 782-9712.**

**Please deliver press releases via e-mail or campus mail.**

Thank you for reading The Chanticleer.
Mike Bobo Joins JSU Football Staff

UGA star quarterback joins the Gamecocks offensive coaching team

From Sports Information

Jacksonville State University head football coach Jack Crowe announced the addition of Mike Bobo to the Gamecock coaching staff.

Bobo, who played at the University of Georgia from 1994-97, will coach quarterbacks for Jacksonville State.

"Mike comes from a family of outstanding coaches," said Crowe. "At a young age, he will provide a lot of leadership for our players and continue toward the development of our offensive strategy."

Bobo, 25, led the Bulldogs to a 10-2 record as a senior and was named the Most Valuable Player after Georgia defeated Wisconsin in the Outback Bowl. He is ranked second all-time in Georgia history in yards passing (6,334), attempts (766), completions (445) and touchdowmns (38) behind Eric Zeier.

Bobo, the Thomasville, Ga., native, coached tight ends for the Bulldogs last season as a graduate assistant.

HOPE-less

HOPE-less.

Not as many Georgia students cross the border these days to attend JSU now that there is HOPE, though some do turn their back on the scholarship, according to the study. A combination of factors influences a student’s decision as to which college to attend, and further research must be completed to find out what JSU is doing to pull these students from Georgia. In years to come, if JSU discovers what brings these students here, the campus may become increasingly “HOPE-less.”

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Jacksonville State University Bookstore

TMB/Across from the Food Court
FAA spokesperson, said there is nothing to worry about. “We’ve tested and re-tested our systems,” said Wagner. “An FAA administrator will be on a flight out of Washington D.C. during the rollover time to demonstrate the safety.” Wagner also said rollover tests were conducted in April and without incident. She said the FAA spent approximately $340 million to fix the problems.

Another common concern with the start of the millennium is the fear of mass panic or riots. “We’re not anticipating any problems,” said Anniston Police Chief Wayne Chandler. “We have an emergency plan to mobilize all of our officers. Those officers will patrol for 24 hours, working two 12-hour shifts.” Chandler said that should Y2K glitches arise, they should be few and far between. “If everybody has prepared their computers for Y2K, there shouldn’t be a problem.”

from front page Y2K

plants and nuclear facilities.

Most of Alabama’s utilities rely on having power to function properly. “If everything else is in order with the power company, we shouldn’t have any problems,” said Dwight Mitchell, Calhoun County Water Works Superintendent. “We received information from the power company, and there shouldn’t be any downtime.”

Mitchell said the Water Works Board relies heavily on the Power Company to pump the water that goes into Alabama homes. He also said that if problems do arise, the Water Works Board will have the back-up generators they need to pump water.

The start of the New Year will also bring concerns about travel safety. However, Cathleen Wagner, an
Light-hearted Christmas

By Christopher Lauer
Assistant Features Editor

"...it's for the community and Jesus Christ. It's just an outreach type thing to give some of the kids a little more pleasure than they would normally have."

Neal Estes and his wife have been decorating their house, located a mile or so behind Stone Center, for the past 13 years. What started as a present for their grandchildren has grown into an amusement park complete with Christmas music, carousels, trains and a Santa workshop.

The sight of Mr. Estes' yard is awe-inspiring and leaves the viewer wondering, along with many other holiday ponderings, "How fast is the little silver disk on their power meter spinning?"

"It's all miniature lights and I spent a good bit of money on buying [ornaments] but as far as the power and so forth, it doesn't cost much money," said Mr. Estes.

He admits contemplating the addition of a donation bucket once, but states, in a true holiday parable, "About two days after I thought about it, this old rattle-trap car pulled up with four or five kids in the back. One of them said, 'Daddy, can we get out?'

'No I don't think so.'

'Well the sign says we can get out.'

'Well it probably costs money.'

And I heard them; I said, 'No it doesn't cost nothin' and it won't ever.'"

Mr. Estes had 3,300 signatures in his guest book last year. "But," he says, "I would say that would be a quarter of the people that pass through. Because a lot of people don't even get out of their cars and some that get out don't sign."

But some of the ones who have signed have been from as far away as Bogota and Wales and mainland states as far away as Arizona.

With all the visitors over the years, Mr. Estes remembers only a few problems and the majority of those were just blocked driveways. Margaret Bennett, Mr. Estes' neighbor, says that her and her husband have never had any real problems related to the display and says of Mr. Estes, "He's so concerned and if we have any problems, he wants to be sure it's all right."

Mr. Estes' Christmas decorations are far from a nuisance for his neighbors and have even become a holiday tradition for the Bennetts. "It's part of our Thanksgiving tradition," says Mrs. Bennett. "All my grandkids come for Thanksgiving and we have wall to wall children...then the big event of the day is to go over there in the early evening and watch. The kids get so excited about it and we enjoy it too."

Mr. Estes keeps his ornaments aglow until 9 p.m. during the week, and as Christmas grows closer, he will extend the hours until 10, "but I don't ever turn it off if there's someone in the yard."

He keeps coffee and cider handy for visitors in the holiday spirit. "Everybody's welcome to come in."

Mr. Estes usually begins taking down the decorations on New Year's Day. "But this year," he laughs, "we might leave it up on New Year's Day. If there is still a world, you know."

In closing, Mr. Estes asked, "Do one thing for me: Tell them to remember Christmas is Jesus Christ's birthday."

I will, Mr. Estes. I will. Thank you and Merry Christmas.
Allow me to jump on the bandwagon and give you my take on the end of days, the turn of the century, a new millennium or whatever else you may call it and how the human condition is involved. Many have prophesied technological turmoil at the turn of the clock on New Year's Eve. Computers are to shut down, sabotaging the world's water and power supply, in turn sabotaging life as we know it for a week or two or at least until someone can figure out how to correct the Y2K glitch.

So what happens when the world as we know it comes to a screeching halt? Television is gone. The banks are shut down. Standard commerce de-evolves to an Oregon Trail trading post. Transportation can only go for so long until we are drawn by horse and buggy again. Surgeons operate by oil lamp or flashlight. The newspaper medium shuts down indefinitely because everyone's forgotten how Gutenberg did it. At least the Amish will be OK.

What happens to society? Do we riot, loot and rape? Is there to be war until the world as we know it is stripped of our aforementioned perks? Would we survive? Could we survive?

I think in an America where society has jumped on a skateboard and is steadily and more rapidly racing, teetering unsteadily, down the steep hill of culture and being, a quantum leap backwards into a realm of simpler times couldn't be that bad.

I've only read about times when husband and wife were too busy tending crop and livestock to ensure survival for themselves and their children to have a mid-life or depressive crisis. There were no random shootings at the sheep auction or church. And their children were too preoccupied with educating themselves by candlelight so they might enrich their minds. People wanted to learn. There was no worry of hate crimes or getting shot by the poor, dirty, inbred kid named "Boo" with the misfiring musket at the watering hole. At what turn did living life get lost in the past 100 years? Y2K could bring honesty back to America. Starting from scratch in this situation is something we all dream of as individuals. The famous phrase "If I knew then what I know now" could avert major historical repeats of atrocities such as slavery, religious persecution, barbarianism, black and women's civil liberty infringements, genocide and the use of the Hardees Star as a vehicle decoration.

What if we go forward? Does the madness stop? They say, "it will only get worse before it gets better." If that is so, we are on a continuous spin into worse. When we arrive at the worst, life doesn't get better because we must then endure a worse than worst. Think about that while 'under the influence.'

Where are those glorious days Gene Roddenberry promised us when man's prime directive is to explore our universe and mankind is at harmony? I know it sounds very trekkie in a comic-book-store-management kind of way, but Gene had a vision and built a dream upon it. Man lived for knowledge in his world. Famine, disease and hostility were a barbaric consequence of ages passed and peace was the only means of existence.

At the paranoid threshold of destruction, we need to make a choice as a society to take a giant bound forward or a giant fall back. We have been given an out, an opportunity. Unfortunately we are a race of procrastinators who have sat in our armchairs and sofas while we poison our minds with someone else's imagination and are far from improvement. Once again we will passively watch the world as it changes us instead of us changing it. Whether it be God, Odin, Allah, Buddha or Fate, whatever happens New Year's Eve should be accepted as a beginning instead of an end, a blessing instead of a sanction and a way of life instead of a mode of death. Maybe man will be less naive at Y3K.
JSU grants honorary doctorate to Rep. Bob Riley

By Jacksonville News Bureau

Jacksonville State University will confer an honorary doctorate on Congressman Bob Riley during fall graduation ceremonies at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 17 in Pete Mathews Coliseum.

Riley, who will deliver the commencement address, was elected to the United States House of Representatives for the third District of Alabama on November 5, 1996, at age 52. As a businessman for more than 30 years, this was his first race for state or national office.

Since the election, Riley has been appointed to serve on the House National Security Committee and the Banking and Financial Services Committee. Riley was also appointed by House Majority Whip Tom Delay to serve as an Assistant Whip. In August of 1997, House Speaker Newt Gingrich named Riley as a House-Senate Conference on the FY 1998 Defense Authorization bill.

The Third District of Alabama contains 14 counties. Riley comes to Congress from Clay County, where his family has lived for six generations. He attended Clay County High School and graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in business administration.

In 1965, at age 20, Riley and his brother began a small business selling eggs door to door. The small operation grew to become one of the largest totally integrated poultry and egg operations in the Southeast.

Over the past four decades, Riley has been involved in a variety of successful businesses. Currently, he owns a trucking company in Ashland. Riley has also owned a car dealershop, grocery store, a local pharmacy, and has been a cattleman for 25 years.

Riley has been active serving his community as both a Shriner and a Mason. He has served as the Finance Committee chairman for the Ashland County Hospital, a past member of the Board of Directors of SouthTrust Bank, and is past president of the Ashland Jaycees. He and his family are members of the First Baptist Church of Ashland, where he teaches the men’s Sunday school class and serves as chairman of the church Board of Trustees.

Riley is married to the former Patsy Adams. The Riley’s have four children: Rob, Jenice, Minda, Krisalyn, daughter-in-law Leslie, and granddaughters Rebecca Anne and Elizabeth Ruth.

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Turn of the century plaza

By Dave Sharp

Editor

The following list was compiled over an exhausting investigative trek into Hollywood that got me thrown out of many studio lots, offices of top-notch executives, bars, clubs and movie star hot spots. After weeks of dedicated work and seven restraining orders, I present to you: The latest edition of “Turn of the Century Plaza.”

In the year 2000: Tim Burton will bring us “X: The Man with the X-Ray Eyes.” Arnold Schwarzenegger returns to sci-fi in “The Sixth Day,” a movie about a man stumbling into a clone of himself and then into a plot of clones taking over the earth.

M. Night Shyamalan will be directing somewhat of a reunion movie. He and Bruce Willis will team up again, this time in Shyamalan’s supernatural thriller “Unbreakable.” The movie will also feature Samuel L. Jackson as the lead role in “Shaft,” that’s right.

Don’t be scared, but Sylvester Stallone is directing himself in “The Hunter.” Stallone plays a rich recluse, arguably the best tracker and big game hunter in the world. Stallone has been drafted by the CIA to track a biological weapon on a mission.

James Wan is of course bringing us the second installment to the “Mission Impossible” saga. Little explanation necessary, it’s just pure unadulterated action.

Brian De Palma directs a full cast including Tim Robbins and Gary Sinise in “Mission to Mars.”


Robert De Niro will star in “Navy Diver” with Cuba Gooding Jr. Gooding will also star in “Blaze of Glory” as OJ’s old man.

Quentin Tarantino returns after a three-year hiatus in “How the Grinch Stole Christmas,” a big budget remake of the cartoon classic directed by Ron Howard.

Steven Spielberg will dazzle us with the prophesized top grossing film of 2000 “Embryo: Jurassic Park.” Along with two other projects that are virtually unknown, Spielberg will be directing Tom Cruise in “Minority Report,” a film about a cop of the future who is able to arrest criminals before they actually commit the crime.

Clint Eastwood directs himself, Tommy Lee Jones and James Cromwell in “Space Cowboys,” about three retired Air Force pilots who want to return to space for one last look around.

Bryan Singer directs the long awaited comic book

movie that pits a college professor against ghosts on campus. Jim Carrey will get dumb and dumber again with the Farrelly Brothers in “Me, Myself and Irene,” the latest installment of hilarious, toilet humor from the Farrelly comedians. Carrey will also take on the role of a lifelong bachelor in “How the Grinch Stole Christmas,” a big budget remake of the cartoon classic directed by Ron Howard.

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*THE CHANTICLEER • December 9, 1999 • Page 7*
Useless Quiz

1. What direction does the west wind blow?
2. What are the main two constituents of bronze?
3. Who held the major League baseball record of substance abuse suspensions, with seven in by 1995?
4. Who coined Maxwell House’s slogan of “good to the last drop”?
5. What Irish New Age artist was born Eithne Ní Bhraonain?
6. What name was the last word uttered by Napoleon?
7. What grungelss Seattle band’s name is affectionately abbreviated “PMT USA”?
8. What term for a traveling preacher comes from a Greek word meaning “welcome message”?
9. What’s the common term for epinephrine?
10. What’s known in China as pingpang?
11. What Beverly Hills 90210 star led the Pledge of Allegiance at the 1992 Republican convention?
12. What bean provides the colored ink used in most U.S. daily newspapers?
13. What is Lota for “in the year of our Lord”?
14. What Canadian was dubbed the godfather of Grunge?
15. What Major League Baseball team did Walt Disney Company assume operational control of in 1996?

Answers to the Quiz

1. California Angels
2. President of the United States
3. Kyoto
4. Madison Square Garden
5. Great Wall
6. The Big One
7. A Tuna Named Sam
8. Emphasis
9. Amadeus
10. Frog

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Bar employees called police, who confirmed that one Ryan Murtha was who he said he was. The other Ryan Murtha - who had an expired North Carolina driver’s license - was actually Ryan’s younger brother, Michael, age 19, police said. Authorities charged the older Murtha with trying to pass a minor as an adult. The real Ryan Murtha got the same treatment and two counts of disorderly conduct. His brother was charged with trying to use false identification.
Gamecocks take early lead in TAAC

After claiming 57-52 road win

By Erik Green
News Editor

Mike McDaniel scored 11 points and Rashard Willie and Jarrod Greer each chipped in 10 to lead Jacksonville State (3-2, 1-0) to a 57-52 win over Stetson (2-2, 0-1) in the Trans America Athletic Conference opener for both teams.

"I'm extremely happy with this win," said JSU head coach Mark Turgeon. "Anytime you can get a win on the road, your thrilled."

After leading by 10 points midway through the second half, the Gamecocks were able to make a couple of shots to hold off a Stetson rally.

JSU's Josh Bryant gave the Gamecocks a 45-35 lead on a 3-pointer at the 9:23 mark, but the Hatters cut the lead to 45-44 after Ravii Givens scored six straight in less than a minute.

Willie nailed back-to-back 3-pointers to push the lead to 51-46 at the 5:31 mark. JSU then bumped the lead back to 10 points, 57-47 after McDaniel scored on a lay-up with 1:16 left.

"We won today because of our defense" said Turgeon. "Our post guys did a heck of a job on the defensive end of the court."

The Gamecocks held Stetson to shooting just 21 percent (5-of-23) in the first half and held the Hatters to under 30 percent for the game.

Meanwhile, the Gamecocks shot almost 54 percent in the second half, hitting 14-of-26 from the field.

Stetson held a 6-5 lead at the 13:28 mark of the first half, but Willie scored on a lay-up to give the Gamecocks the lead for good. JSU went on a 15-4 run to build its largest lead of the half, 20-11 at the 3:36 mark, but the Hatters cut the lead to 22-18 at the intermission.

Tide rolls over Gators in 34-7 victory

From CNN

The Crimson Tide completely dominated fifth-ranked Florida for a 34-7 victory in the Southeastern Conference championship game, clinching its first title since 1992 by scoring two touchdowns 18 seconds apart in the fourth quarter.

The Gators managed only 114 yards in the worst offensive performance of the Steve Spurrier era.

Alabama, which defeated Florida in the first SEC championship game seven years ago, likely earned a trip to the Orange Bowl to meet Michigan. Florida will probably have to settle for the Citrus Bowl against Michigan State.

"That was a pretty thorough beating they gave us," Spurrier said. "Our offense is about the worst we've ever had at Florida. We're a bad offensive team."

Freddie Milons broke loose for an electrifying 77-yard touchdown run with 11:54 remaining, pushing Alabama (10-2) to a 22-7 lead. On Florida's next play from scrimmage, defensive end Reggie Grimes picked off a deflected pass and returned the interception 38 yards for another TD.

The 288-pound Grimes tried his version of the "Lambeau Leap" into the end zone stands at the Georgia Dome. Unfortunately, he couldn't jump quite high enough to reach the grasp of delicious Alabama fans, but that was about the only flop for the Crimson Tide on this night.

Florida (9-3), on the other hand, suffered its worst defeat since a 62-24 loss to Nebraska in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl. There was nothing fun about the "Fun 'n' Gun" offense, which managed only 114 yards and six first downs in the worst performance since Spurrier arrived on the SEC scene in 1990.

The previous low for total yards by a Spurrier-coached team was 194 against Tennessee, way back in his first season. As for first downs, the previous low was 12 in a loss to Florida State a year ago.

Alabama snapped the Gators' 30-game winning streak at The Swamp on Oct. 2, winning 40-
from page 9, Tide Rolls

39 in overtime. The game transformed the Tide’s season, which had been marred by personal turmoil surrounding coach Mike DuBose and a shocking loss to Louisiana Tech at Legion Field.

Florida yearned for another shot at Alabama, believing the loss was nothing more than a fluke. The Tide proved otherwise, controlling the ball for nearly 40 minutes in a stunning replay of their first victory.

“With that kind of adversity, one of two things are going to happen,” DuBose said. “You either split up or you come together. We came together.”

While Alabama dominated throughout, finishing with 300 yards rushing and 462 yards in all, the championship game didn’t become a rout until the final quarter.

Milons, a receiver who frequently lines up in the backfield, took a snap at the Alabama 23 and ran left, finding nothing but Florida players. He headed the other way, broke a couple of tackles in the backfield, escaped the grasp of Daryl Dixon along the right sideline and ran untouched the rest of the way.

Milons finished with 116 yards rushing on six carries and was named MVP.

“The play by Freddie Milons was just unbelievable,” DuBose said. “He may start at quarterback the next time.”

Alabama clinched the victory on the next play from scrimmage. Jesse Palmer, who went most of the way at quarterback for Florida, had a pass tipped at the line by Jarret Johnson. The ball fell right in the arms of Grimes, who took off the other way for the clinching touchdown.

Shaun Alexander, who had 97 bruising yard on 30 carries, finished the scoring with a 12-yard touchdown run.

Alabama rotated quarterback Andrew Zow and Tyler Watts on every series. Zow completed 10 of 17 passes for 134 yards, while Watts was 3-of-7 for 21 yards.

Palmer was 7-of-20 for 80 yards, with three interceptions. Doug Johnson, the starter most of the season, played only one series, failing to complete his two passes. At the end, the Gators put up a white flag by sending in third-stringer Kevin McKinnon, who threw another interception.

In all fairness to the quarterbacks, they got no help from the running game. Florida managed only 31 yards on 20 carries and fell dismally short of capturing their sixth SEC title of the 1990s.

The Gators had 55 yards on their opening drive, needing only four plays to take a 7-0 lead. Tailback Earnest Graham stunned the Tide by throwing a 3-yard touchdown to Erron Kinney just 1:40 into the game.

After that, Florida managed only 59 yards.

“It’s surprising that the whole game we could not get anything going,” Spurrier said. “It was a poorly coached offense, you’ve got to say that, too.”

92J and The Chanticleer mustered up enough tolerance to pose for a group photograph after the game.

Photo by Amy McElroy
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