



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES FOR THE

JOHN E. MATHEWS, JR.

COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING

AND INAUGURATION OF THE JOINT

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

University of North Florida

Jacksonville, Florida

Saturday, March 14, 1987

3:00 P.M.

University Green

JOHN E. MATHEWS, JR.

That the University of North Florida's new computer and information sciences building will be named for John E. "Jack" Mathews, Jr., is fitting tribute to the man whose vision and determination is credited by many state and area leaders as responsible for UNF's creation some 21 years ago.

Jack Mathews was a freshman senator when he surveyed the educational landscape in his home district and found it to be "the most educationally starved community of its size in the nation."

Such a situation was untenable for Mathews, who had compiled an outstanding record in Duval County public schools, winning many scholastic and athletic honors, among them, valedictorian and president of his class at Robert E. Lee Senior High School.

He attended Emory University in Atlanta on scholarship, graduating first in his class in 1942. At Emory, Mathews presided over the student body, honor society and Sigma Chi fraternity, and chaired the Phi Beta Kappa rules committee.

Upon graduation, Mathews was commissioned into the U.S. Navy and during World War Two, spent 26 months overseas



aboard the USS Kidd. He assumed command of the Kidd after the ship's captain was killed during a kamikaze attack and earned a Bronze Star for bringing the badly damaged ship safely into port.

Mathews entered Harvard Law School shortly after his discharge in 1946 and received his degree two years later. He joined the Jacksonville law practice of his father, John E. Mathews, Sr., in 1948. The senior Mathews, for whom the Mathews Bridge is named, was a successful attorney and former chief justice of the state supreme court.

The younger Mathew's public service career began in 1956 with his election to the Florida

House of Representatives. He was re-elected twice before winning a seat in the Florida Senate in 1962. Re-elected to the senate twice, he was selected by his colleagues as senate president for two consecutive terms in 1969 and 1970. Mathews was honored repeatedly for his service in both the house and senate and was voted each body's most outstanding member.

Mathew's campaign for what eventually would become UNF began with the introduction of a senate bill to authorize a four-year college in Duval County.

In 1968, during a special legislative session on education, his quest was rewarded when a bill authorizing planning money for the new university was passed and signed into law.

Jack Mathews active political career ended on an ironic note in 1970 when he resigned his seat -- in compliance with legislation he helped create -- to seek the Democratic nomination for governor. It was his second unsuccessful gubernatorial bid. He returned to law practice in Jacksonville until 1979 when he was stricken with cryptoccal meningitis. Since then, he has remained hospitalized in Gainesville.

PROGRAM

Dr. Curtis L. McCray, President
University of North Florida
Master of Ceremonies

Invocation Mr. Arthur I. Jacobs

Inauguration of Joint UF/UNF Baccalaureate
Electrical Engineering Program

Remarks President Marshall Criser
University of Florida

John E. Mathews, Jr., Computer Science Building
Ground Breaking

Participants President Curtis L. McCray

Members of the Family
of John E. Mathews, Jr.

Special Guests

A Reception for Ceremony Participants and Guests
will immediately follow on the University Green

Special thanks to

Watkins Engineers & Constructors

and

The Jack Tamul Ensemble

for assisting with the reception

THE JOHN E. MATHEWS, JR. COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING

The John E. Mathews, Jr. Computer Science Building will consist of three buildings encompassing 50,000 square feet. Two three-story towers will hug a one-story complex housing a pair of 200-seat auditoriums. Teaching and research labs will occupy the towers' first and second floors, with faculty offices located on the third floors. Covered walk-ways will connect the second floors of Buildings Eight and Nine to the Mathews Building's second floors.

The building will have the same architectural appearance as other campus buildings: brick walls, exposed concrete frame and outdoor walk-ways. It is described as a straightforward, utilitarian building, with nothing "flashy" outside. The "flash" will be found in the equipment it houses and the programs taught inside.

Some of the "flash" began in February, 1986, when the University accepted a state-of-the-art computer system valued

at \$300,000 donated by AT&T. The AT&T gift of five computers included a multi-tasking machine that uses the innovative UNIX operating system.

"There's a lot of demand for UNIX because it permits the use of richer, more powerful programs," said Dr. Kenneth E. Martin, director of UNF's Division of Computer and Information Sciences. "The trend in operating systems is going to be more like UNIX."

UNIX uses "C" language, a modern, extremely powerful language which permits fine, higher level computer programming and manipulations, Martin said. Last fall, all system software instruction was performed exclusively on the UNIX system. Because instruction is no longer tied to the IBM system used by the rest of the University, the AT&T system can be taken "down" for instructional purposes without inconveniencing the rest of the university com-

munity. AT&T emulation equipment was later added to the system to permit the division's computers to interface with the University's IBM system.

Also during the fall, three computer scientists with Ph.D. degrees were hired, bringing to 14 the number of faculty in the division.

On Jan. 30, the Florida Board of Regents approved a master's degree program in the computer and information sciences fields for UNF. The master's degree program consists of 36 hours, 15 hours of which focus on one of two major tracks of study. Major components consist of five courses supporting tracks in either computer science or information systems.

Graduate instruction in this discipline is already underway here, and UNF should award its first master's degrees in computer science and information systems this summer.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA

The University of Florida and the University of North Florida have joined forces to bring an engineering degree program to Jacksonville.

At UNF, University of Florida instructors will begin this fall semester to teach courses leading to a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

"The numerous inquiries we've received from qualified area students about an engineering program indicates a great demand for this program here," said UNF President Curtis L. McCray. "As was the case for advanced degree studies in computer sciences, there are a number of people in the Jacksonville area who, for numerous

reasons, are unable to enroll in engineering schools elsewhere. Adding the prestige of the University of Florida's College of Engineering to a program taught on the UNF campus benefits both schools and the community."

Students in the program will receive their degree from the University of Florida and will be enrolled by that institution. The program will be offered under the auspices of UF's Electrical Engineering Department. The academic program will be identical to that now taught at the UF campus, with the same high standards that have made UF's Department of Electrical Engineering one of the top 20 in the country.

About 30 junior class level students are expected to enroll in the two classes that will launch the program this fall. Thereafter, an increasing number of courses will be available each term, building up to a steady offering of nine courses per term. Enrollment in the program is expected to approach 200 within two years.

"The electrical engineering field is particularly relevant to the developing industrial base in the Jacksonville area," said Dr. Hansford W. "Bill" Farris, a UF professor who will teach and administer the program at UNF.