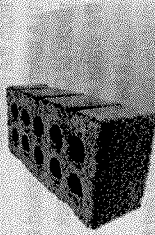


Bouquets & Bricks

Bouquets to the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra for asking its audience of highbrow music lovers to help the hungry. As part of the national Orchestras Feeding America food drive, the JSO is collecting donations of non-perishable food at its concerts through April 18. Concertgoers who participate will receive half-off the cost of a ticket to an upcoming concert. Donations will be given to the Downtown Ecumenical Services Council to distribute to people in need.



Brickbats to state Sen. Stephen Wise for advancing every possible agenda, except one that matters to his constituents. With massive education cuts pending, high unemployment and a housing market in the dumps, the Jacksonville Republican is cluttering the legislative calendar with bills ranging from the mean-spirited (eliminating salaries for School Board members) to stupid (forcing educators to teach Christian-based concepts of "intelligent design" alongside evolution) to unnecessarily divisive (prohibiting insurance providers from covering abortion services).



Bouquets to The Village residence hall at the University of North Florida for winning the RecycleMania Competition this year. The annual event, sponsored by UNF's Environmental Center, rewarded the residence hall with a plaque, a party and a screening of the environmental documentary, "No Impact Man." The hall has recycled 1,314 pounds since the event began Feb. 7.

