

Thomas Morrell

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

August 2008 --- May 2012

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

- Major Academic Courses: Advanced Reporting; Magazine Management and Publishing; Editing; Entrepreneurial Journalism
- Minor in Education

Saint Augustine College Preparatory School, Richland, NJ

September 2004 --- May 2008

INTERNSHIP HISTORY

Gator Country, Gainesville, Fla.

September 2011 --- May 2012

Editor and Feature Writer

- Began with Gator Country as a beat writer covering various athletics associated with the University of Florida.
- Interviewed coaches, players, fans, etc. for material on the website and within the magazine.
- Promoted to Editor and Feature Writer after four months.
- Responsible for editing daily content for website and monthly-distributed magazine.
- Edited material and posted directly to website.
- Wrote headlines and handled Search Engine Optimization (SEO) for website

Alachua County Today, Gainesville, Fla.

January 2011 --- June 2011

Reporter

- Hired to cover all high school sports for all high schools within Alachua County. Met with students regarding college scholarship offers, individual and team performances and future plans.
- Wrote game stories, interviewed coaches and players and handled features.
- Promoted to the paid position of Sr. Intern after five months
- Covered city commission, politics, events, feature stories, and anything related to Alachua, Fla.

Independent Alligator, Gainesville, Fla.

August 2010 --- December 2010

Freelance Reporter

- Covered breaking news stories associated with Gainesville and the University of Florida.
- Worked with editing department to help ensure the highest quality of articles.

Recommendations available upon request

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Laguna Grill & Rum Bar, Brigantine, NJ

May 2006 --- Present

Server

- Employed as a busboy during the summer of 2006. Promoted to food runner and eventually the position of server.
 - Established communication skills by regularly speaking with dozens of customers each and every day.
 - Multi-tasked in a high-stress environment by combining service, casual conversation and mediation of customers.
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PUBLICATIONS

- **Alachua County Today, “John Spence: Breaking down walls; building up people”**
 - Known by many as the “Human Cliff Notes,” John Spence’s practice of condensing thousands of pages of information into one page of key notes helps his clients understand the essentials of business strategies.
http://alachuatoday.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1563:-john-spence-breaking-down-walls-building-up-people&catid=102:local&Itemid=426
- **GatorCountry.com, “Rosario not welcome home”**
 - When Mike Rosario walked into the arena, the intensity in the stadium was more of a pulse than a noise. A person could actually feel the sense of betrayal in the air. It was a single, ecstatic, arena moving and screaming in the exact same way at the exact same time toward the exact same person.
http://www.gatorcountry.com/basketball/article/mike_rosario_not_welcome_home/13103
- **Alachua County Today, “Santa Fe baseball takes District Championships”**
 - The Santa Fe High School baseball team snagged the District 5 Championship after defeating the Suwannee Bulldogs. The exciting finish to the game kept players and fans on the edge of their seats until the very end.
http://alachuatoday.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1500:santa-fe-baseball-takes-district-championship&catid=104:sports&Itemid=496
- **Gator Country: The Authority on Gator Sports, “The Lendl Sisters: Talented, Competitive, Ready”**
 - A feature story within Gator Country magazine helped explain why daughters of tennis great Ivan Lendl chose a different path than their father.
http://issuu.com/gatorcountry.com/docs/gc_0212_layout_lowres
- **GatorCountry.com, “Different doesn’t mean bad”**
 - During Tim Tebow’s first season as a starting quarterback in the NFL, the criticism seemed to be unlimited. A column written about why Tebow has what it takes to be a success in the NFL might change a couple of minds.

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

Journalism Communication Ambassadors, University of Florida
Ambassador

September 2010 --- May 2012

- Assisted undergraduate students within the College of Journalism and Communications in regards to classes, internships, clubs, careers, majors and schedules.
- Revised resumes, essays, stories, cover letters, job applications, and helped prepare students for phone and face-to-face interviews.
- Represented the College of Journalism by giving tours, handling events and organizing presentations for students.

VOLUNTEERING

Marine Mammal Stranding Center, Brigantine, NJ

June 2012 --- Present

- Worked in museum handling tours and informing citizens of the marine life in the area.
- Organized seining trips with children on a weekly basis to help children become more familiar with what can be found around the island of Brigantine, NJ.
- Maintained an observation tank for viewing to allow people to get a closer look at what some of the fish in the surrounding waters look like.

Baby Gators, Gainesville, Fla.

January 2012 --- May 2012

- Encouraged children to grow and learn in a safe and stress-free environment.
- Assisted in the classroom, orchestrated inside and outside activities, and read to children on a daily basis.
- Supervised children to help maintain healthy relationships and good, open communication between one another.

St. Francis Homeless Shelter, Gainesville, Fla.

January 2011 --- May 2011

- Served food, cleaned and supplied basic hygienic supplies to those who lived in, and visited, the shelter.
- Worked the front desk and handled deliveries and donations to the shelter.