

## Matthews emphasizes voting, not certain candidate

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ACT, an anti-Bush grassroots organization.

In the middle of the band's performance, Matthews refrained from mentioning a particular candidate but said

it would be nice if everyone votes "for who I'm going to vote for."

Matthews entranced as well as energized the crowd throughout the night, and violinist Boyd Tinsley's talent for speed created the illusion that the cloud of smoke lingering

in the air came from burning violin strings.

At about 10:40 p.m., after Matthews teased the crowd with his goodbyes and performance of "Stay," the band walked off and left more than 10,700 concertgoers in the dark.

Football fever swept over the crowd when cheers for an encore turned gameday style. A "Lets go Dave" clapping cheer erupted in the stands. When that didn't entice the band, a roaring "Orange" and "Blue" cheer did.

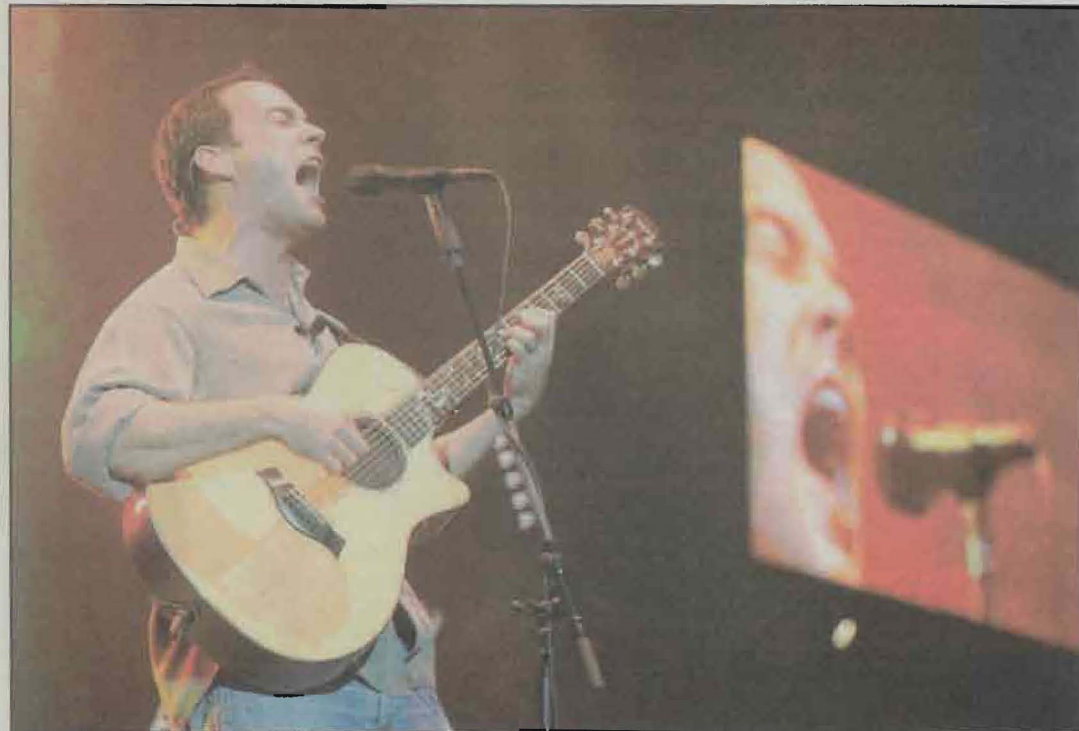
Backstage during the cheers, Melissa Filipkowski, UF junior and O'Connell Center usher, said Matthews asked her what the crowd was saying. After she explained they were chanting UF's colors, she said Matthews replied, "Those were my school colors, too."

With a smirk on his face, Matthews came back to play "Everyday" and concluded with a powerful solo-infused cover of Jimi Hendrix's "All Along the Watchtower."

"The energy he brought to the concert is an analogy of the encouragement he brought for everyone to go out and vote," said UF junior Jared Blackburn.

An additional 200 tickets were released and sold at the O'Connell Center box office the evening of the concert, Dunn said.

The first of concert merchandise to sell out were T-shirts that read "Better Karma...Vote Kerry."



Megan V. Winslow / Alligator Staff

Dave Matthews belts out the words to his hit song "Don't Drink the Water" on Friday evening at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. The concert, part of the Vote for Change Tour, also showcased acts Jurassic 5 and Ben Harper and the Innocent Criminals.

## Local action still years off

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Mark Mills, a spokesman for the repeal campaign, said Tuesday that opposition had been expected.

"But we're confident that Florida voters will see the folly in wasting \$25 billion when we have other vital needs such as education, transportation and health-care," Mills said.

Walton argued the true cost was \$75 million a year.

The first phase of the project will run from Orlando to Tampa-St. Petersburg, with construction costs estimated at \$2.3 billion.

The Florida High Speed Rail Authority plans to take the train through Gainesville, but has yet to set any dates. It is unlikely anything will happen locally before 2010, rail authority records show.

Construction estimates jumped from \$1.2 billion to \$2.3 billion in the past few years, according to the High Speed Rail Authority. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference said canceling the train would save Florida up to \$25 billion over 30 years, information that will be included on the ballot.

*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*