

# BUSINESS The Florida Times-Union jacksonville.com

Logan Diving & Salvage was contracted to assist with the installation and burial of three 2" conduits for a total distance of approximately 4900 lineal feet. Airo Cable Construction, the prime contractor for Comcast, hired Logan Diving & Salvage and T.W. Blount Jr & Sons to provide marine equipment and diving services for the project.



Photos by JOHN PEMBERTON/The Times-Union

With the cable approximately 50 percent across the St. Johns River, a barge lays the sheathing for the fiber-optic cable. A damaged TV fiber-optic cable is being repaired or replaced and placed four feet under the St. Johns River bed.

## COMCAST TAKES A DIVE

Comcast is expanding the capacity of its fiber-optic network in the Jacksonville area by installing about one mile of cable across the St. Johns River near downtown. Divers are helping to install the conduit that will traverse the river bottom. Comcast officials declined to disclose the cost of the project, which will take several weeks to complete. Comcast has 110 high-definition channels in the metropolitan area and expects to bring that number to 135 by the end of the year. Comcast also plans to offer Internet service in the future at 100 megabits per second, doubling the fastest service it currently provides.



On the tender boat, an alternating diver waits listening to the diver underwater, and feeds the safety and air lines down to the diver. Divers work alternately to place the cable while the out-of-water divers operate the equipment on a tender boat near Riverside Avenue.