

THE SGA PRESIDENT IS  
MICHAEL BROMFIELD

CANDIDATE:	BAY VISTA CAMPUS	TAMIAMI CAMPUS	TOTAL
MICHAEL BROMFIELD	78	349	427
EUGENE RIGBY	328	45	373
TOTAL VOTES PER CAMPUS	406	394	

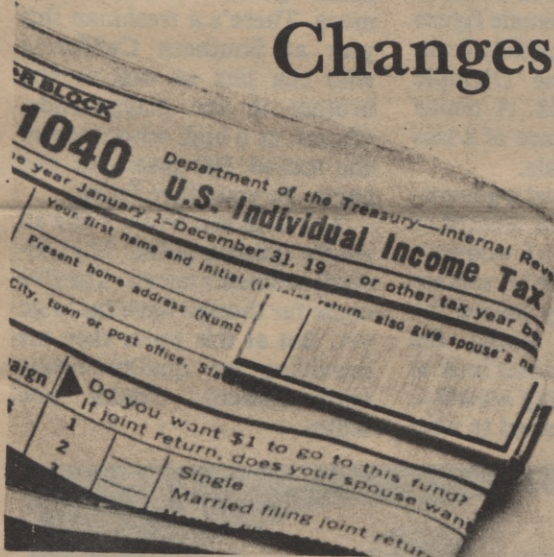
# the INTERNATIONAL

The Independent Student Newspaper of Florida International University, Miami, Florida

MARCH 30, 1983

## Your Tax Return

### Money-Saving Tax Law Changes



Many changes have occurred in the tax laws for 1982 as a result of the Economic Recovery Tax Act passed by Congress. This tax act has been hailed as the most sweeping tax-reduction legislation in the history of the nation. As a result, virtually every American taxpayer, regardless of income level, as well as American business and commercial enterprise, will be affected by the Congressional action.

The tax rates for 1982 are about 10 percent lower than those for 1981. In addition, the top tax rate has been reduced from 70 percent to 50 percent.

Families who incur child care expenses while working or attending school full-time will now benefit from increased tax credit. Both the maximum amount of expenses eligible for the child care credit and the percentage range used to compute the credit have been increased. The percentage of expenses eligible for the credit, which now ranges from 20 to 30 percent, is determined by household income. Families with lower income will be able to claim a higher percentage of the eligible expenses than families with higher incomes.

When husband and wife work, many married couples pay more tax on a joint return than they would pay if they were allowed to file two single returns. To partially relieve this "marriage penalty," married couples filing a joint return may deduct 5 percent of the earned income of the spouse with the lower earned income. Only the first \$30,000 of earned income may be taken into account, and the earned income must be reduced by expenses deducted on the return that are related to the earned income. Two examples of such expenses are IRA contributions and employee business expense. The maximum deduction for 1982 is \$1,500.

All taxpayers who receive earned income are now eligible to establish an individual retirement arrangement (IRA). Formerly, taxpayers who were covered by a plan at work were not eligible. The maximum allowable contribution has been increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000, and up to 100 percent of earnings may be contributed and deducted, if this amount is less than \$2,000. For taxpayers who contributed to spousal IRAs, the maximum contribution has been increased from \$1,750 to \$2,250. Investments in collectibles (e.g., gold or silver coins, antiques) are no longer permitted.

For 1982 and 1983, the law will allow a deduction of up to \$25 for charitable contributions made by individuals even if those persons are not able to itemize deductions.

Taxpayers who purchase property that is eligible for the investment credit may elect to expense up to \$5,000 of the cost of such property instead of depreciating it and claiming investment credit. The election to expense the cost of such property will be advantageous for some taxpayers but not for others, and taxpayers should figure their tax both with and without the election to determine what is best for them.

The \$200 (\$400 on a joint return) exclusion of qualifying interest and dividends that was available in 1981 has been repealed. For 1982, there is no interest exclusion. The exclusion of qualifying dividends will be \$100 (\$200 on a joint return).

All-Savers Certificates are available through December 31, 1982. Interest earned on these certificates up to a lifetime maximum of \$1,000 (\$2,000 on a joint return) is exempt from federal income tax (unless cashed before the one-year maturity date). The interest is also exempt from state income tax in some states.

Gifts up to \$10,000 per year may be given to an individual without paying gift tax. (The gift tax is a separate tax from the income tax. Gifts to individuals cannot be deducted on your income tax return.)

You are now allowed two years (either before or after) the sale of your principal residence to replace it with another home to defer taxation of all or part of the gain.

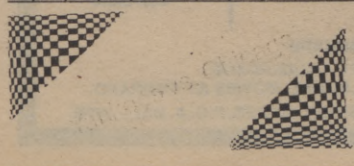
If you are age 55 or over on the date of sale of your principal residence that you have owned and lived in for at least three years out of the last five years, you may exclude (never pay tax on) your gain up to a maximum of \$125,000. This is a once-in-a-lifetime election.

A four-month automatic extension of the due date for filing your tax return may be requested by filing Form 4868. If you need the extra time, you will have until August 15 to file your calendar year tax return. Interest will be charged on any tax balance due.

Up to \$1,500 of qualified expenses, such as court fees and attorney fees, to adopt a child with special needs are deductible.

**Win a Trip on Eastern to New York to see the Yankees vs. Orioles on TV!**

Just complete the entry blank and drop in the entry box at any Sunblazers game. Entries must be completed by 8 pm, April 16, 1983 as the drawing will be held that evening during the seventh inning at the F.I.U. Sunblazers vs. Stetson game.



One lucky person can win a trip for two to New York to the Yankees vs. Chicago. Prize includes two roundtrip coach tickets Miami-New York, hotel accommodations for 2 nights, and tickets to the game. Prize also includes visit to broadcast booth.

Just complete the entry blank and drop in the entry box at any Sunblazers game. Entries must be completed by 8 pm, April 16, 1983 as the drawing will be held that evening during the seventh inning at the F.I.U. Sunblazers vs. Stetson game.



# Women's Sports

by Bill Rich

Perhaps the three greatest interests in my life (in no particular order) are journalism, sports and women. I have been fairly lucky with the first two and there's still time to have success with the third. Actually because of the first two interests I have been able to observe the third in competition for years. Therefore, conclusively, I can declare that I enjoy watching the ladies playing their games about as much as I do the men.

Women's sports has, indeed, come a long way in a relatively short time. The watershed was considered to be the success and outspoken efforts of tennis player Billie Jean King. She said out loud what other women athletes, coaches and administrators were only thinking; "We're fed up with second class status in sports and we're not going to take it anymore." Opportunities seemed to spring up everywhere for the female athlete.

In tennis and golf there were more tournaments and much more money. For a while there was an attempt a professional basketball. A gymnastics boom began because of a young female from the Soviet Union. There have seemed to be more quality American female figure skaters since a young lady from Colorado won the Olympic gold medal in 1968. A tennis boom sprung because of a lass from Ft. Lauderdale.

At the college level a governing organization was created to further the cause of women's sports. The AIAW's success was such that they caused the men's governing body, the NCAA, to take a closer look at this aspect of varsity athletics. The AIAW has ceased to exist

because of the NCAA's interest but their work left its mark.

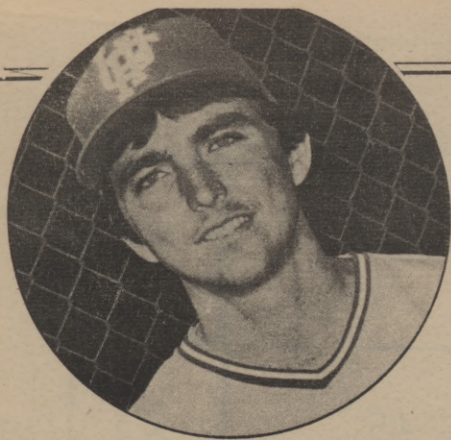
Then there was the issue that really did more than anything, at the scholastic level, to bring women's sports out of the dark ages. Title IX, in brief, would deny federal funding to any school denying equal funding and opportunities to both women and men. It was not written and passed solely as a sports bill but oh what an impact Title IX has had on athletics.

The law probably has gone a bit too far in its letter. But, perhaps, a bill this strong was needed to make sure it a young girl wanted the chance to be an athlete this would allow her that chance.

As I see it Title IX, Ms. King, Olga Korbut, Peggy Fleming and Chris Evert Lloyd have allowed all of us to enjoy a wider dimension of sports competition. It has made all these sports better and more appealing to audiences.

For example when I first started watching women's basketball in the early seventies it was very often like watching paint dry. In fact paint could then dry faster than some games finished. No more. There's a freshman this year at Southern California who can jam as well as any brother in the playgrounds. Oh yes, as a high school senior she scored 100 points in one game. In your face fellas.

As stated last week, I like all sports (except polo). That include women's sports. They've come far though have far to go yet. But at this point they are providing me quality viewer entertainment. Thank you ladies.



Bill Conner  
RHP

## March A Good Month

by Bill Rich  
Sports Columnist

The month of March is traditionally the busiest for collegiate baseball. Much of the character of a club comes to the fore in these thirty one days. February is the springboard while April and May establish the final credentials. But March is usually where the fortitude of a team is tested.

The Sunblazers had a good if not spectacular second month of the season. With just three games left before the dawning of April FIU has a 20-5 mark for March and an overall mark of 26-7. Highlights included an eight game winning streak and two shutouts. The drawbacks were a solid drubbing and key injuries. The sunblazers are still ranked 30th in the national major college poll but their confidence seems to ride with the results on the scoreboard.

The winning streak, began on the 15th as Mark Brown pitched his best game to date in downing Fordham 7-3. The biggest surprise was on the 21st when junior Tony Arias hurled a six hit shutout against the University of Illinois-Chicago 4-0. Arias otherwise has had

difficulties on the mound all season. The solid drubbing came on the 11th when Southern Illinois romped 20-8 in the worst defeat since a 17-3 pounding recieved from Texas A&M in 1980.

One positive, if not freakish, statistic to the entire FIU campaign is the number of grand slam home runs. Sunblazer swingers have hit seven round trippers with the bases loaded. Nene Delgado and Orlando Lolo have each hit two while Oriol Perez, Raumar Hernandez and Ed Barreda have each turned the trick once. To date there has been no national figure kept in this category. However with FIU's prodigious nature, in this area, this may be a new category in the record book.

Denny Murray leads the pitching staff with a 6-1 record. Don Sphar has served the role of long reliever well fashioning a 5-2 mark along the way. Ozzie Alfonso has done well as the short bullpen man having picked up 5 saves to date. Oriol Perez still possesses hot aluminum at the plate hitting at .423 while Rick Cecil is on a steady course for a new team stolen base record. The mark is 51. Cecil has 30.

Bill Conner was rolling along with a 4-1 pitching record an at that time holding down the number one spot in the pitching rotation. He then had a bad outing and was relieved by Head Coach Danny Price. Conner, a competitive player, didn't feel he should leave at that point. Upon arriving in the dugout the young man known as "E.T." took out his frustration on a metal door. The result, two broken bones in his right throwing hand. He's expected to miss from four to six weeks.

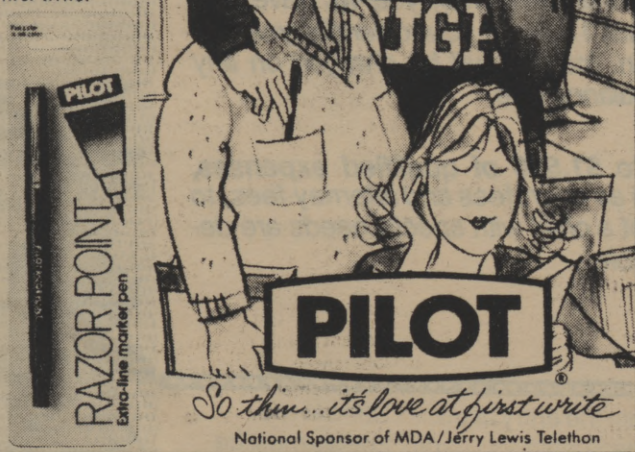
Other walking wounded include catcher Nestor Valiente (hand), right fielder Doug Carpenter (elbow) and Oriol Perez (ankle). Two pitchers who had been on the shelf all season finally logged some time, Rick Ames and Leo Armada.

Visions of an NCAA regional bid still dance in the heads of FIU players and coaches. The toughest part of the schedule is ahead. However having survived it's first March as a Division I team the Sunblazers have learned why the month of March is so important for those who dream of June in Nebraska.

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# Studies Abroad

## Features

### How to Read Study Abroad Literature

By Lily von Klemperer

This is a reading lesson. Our text is an advertisement for a summer program abroad.

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This advertisement never existed in its entirety. Its components, however, exist in many advertisements, posters, and brochures. Advertisements and posters may have to be somewhat flashy and overstated to catch the eye. Brochures, on the other hand, have to be factual, realistic—and totally honest. Let us analyze the components of the sample ad. This will remind us how to read, interpret—and write—descriptive literature on study programs abroad, and what questions to ask ourselves and others.

1) Is there a name of a responsible person or just a title—or not even that? A covering letter ending "Yours truly, Director of Studies" (no signature) makes you wonder. If you then search the "fully illustrated brochure" and find no board of advisors, no trustees listed—no names whatsoever—what conclusions would you reach?

2) Is there an address or just a P.O. box number? How can one get hold of them in an emergency? Wouldn't parents expect to see an address? (And a P.O. box number in Ann Arbor does not necessarily imply University of Michigan sponsorship.)

3) Is the institution abroad identified or is it referred to as "famous university," "recognized academic institution," or "accredited university"? Why don't they give the name of the institution? Foreign universities, we know, suspend their regular operation during the summer months. Do they possibly refer to a special course for foreigners at one of the universities? Might the "famous university" be Oxford in summertime, when its colleges are available to anyone willing to pay the rent? If they use the terms "accredited" and "recognized" — accredited or recognized by whom?

4) If they say "earn X semester hours credit" or "credit available," who makes it available? Have you

looked to see whether your institution is listed among "the following institutions have in the past given credit to students who have attended our program"? Does anybody recall the circumstances under which a student at some time or other may or may not have been given credit?

5) If we read "outstanding faculty" or "famous professors," why are we not given their names, rank and affiliation? Who are they? Where did they get their degrees? Where do they teach? What do they teach?

6) If you see the professor's name in large print and that of the U.S. university in small print, and if the advertisement or the brochure is 'crowned' by TWA or a similar commercial identification, whose program is it? Does PAN AM give the credit? Is anyone getting a free trip?

7) If they say "all ages eligible" or "congenial student body," how homogeneous is a program "open to college students, high-school students, teachers, professors, and professionals"? Does "credit optional" make for a cohesive group? Some work for credit and many don't?

8) If they indicate "limited enrollment," why is there continuous publicity and the suggestion to "call collect"? Why do they send a form letter in March saying that the May deadline has been extended to June? Doesn't limited enrollment presuppose selectivity? Does "your application will be reviewed as soon as it is complete, and you will be promptly notified of your acceptance or rejection" bespeak selectivity?

9) If an "international student body" is advertised, let us look a bit more closely at the roster of students in the back of the brochure. Is Joe Doe from Brussels a Belgian? Is Mary Smith from Ankara a Turk? Are they swelling the ranks of "international students" by listing—you guessed it—the children of U.S. parents who are serving abroad?

10) "Spend your summer in sunny Spain," "learn Spanish." Sun and fun? Learn while you sun? Have fun while you learn? Learn what? You certainly have to look very carefully at the balance there. How prominent is the learning part, how convincing is the curriculum? How many hours of what? Who teaches what, where and when?

11) How romantic!—"a medieval castle"! But is it near that "famous university"? Is it near inexpensive eating places? Are there adequate rooms or six people to a room in the former servants' quarters? If family living is suggested, is it a family that likes to have foreign students stay with them or is it a crotchety old lady who likes their dollars? Is whatever housing offered close to the center of town and cultural events? Is there



transportation after 6 p.m. or do students have to rely on expensive taxis?

12) A crucial question is: What is meant by "inclusive charge"? There are almost as many variations as there are programs. The most important thing for you is to find out what is not covered. Read the small print. How big is the non-refundable application fee? Do you pay for a three-week program including the first and last weekend? What happens during vacation time? Is there an estimate of total expenses?

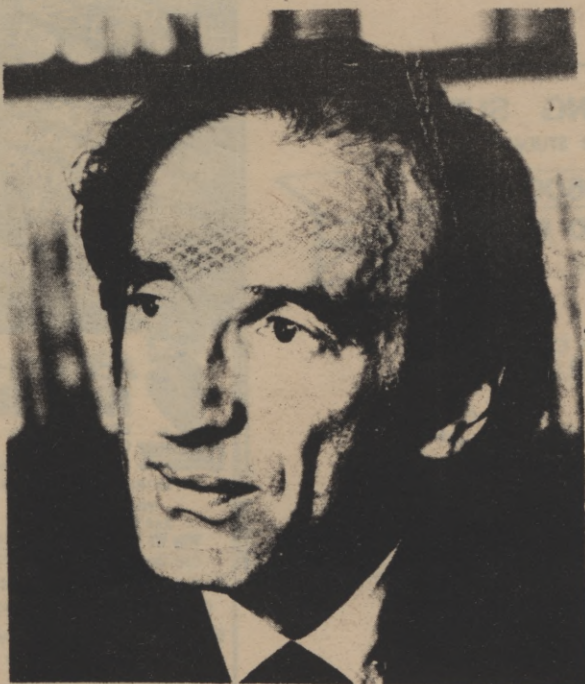
13) This gets us to the last item, the "fully illustrated brochure." Organizers of high-quality programs do not normally publicize them with snow-topped mountains, bathing beauties, flamenco dancers, the spires of Oxford plus a breezy travel folder text.

What have we learned in our reading lesson? I know, much of it has been said before, but, believe me, I have clear indications that it needs repeating. I have been asked to state what I would like to see included that usually is not. There is something, but it is something no one can afford—for obvious reasons: I would like to see a thumbnail sketch of the type of student for whom the organizers have built their program. Wouldn't it be helpful to know that a given program wants to attract the independent, self-motivated, self-confident student and that the student who has to rely on much guidance would not fit in? A group might even admit that there would not be enough challenge for a top student, whereas they have had good experience in raising the sights of the slow developer. But that is a pipe dream. Can anyone prove me wrong?

In the meantime, let me say that all my remarks—negative and positive—are a bid for honesty. Descriptive literature on foreign study should reflect the serious intent of the organizers. It should reflect quality, selectivity, and effective academic control. A meaningful and solid program cannot accommodate all tastes, all needs, all levels of social maturity. But whatever it is meant to represent should be stated with honesty.

For further information on study, work and travel abroad, read the *Whole World Handbook*. This 324-page paperback is available for \$5.95 from CIEE, 205 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017.

#### NEXT WEEK: Florida International University Studies Abroad Program



**ELIE WIESEL**  
noted author, lecturer and  
Chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council  
will be appearing at

**BOOKS & BOOKS**  
on Wednesday, April 6, 1983  
from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## landlord tenant \*

### \* the law

#### WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM (F.S. 83.60)

If the landlord is not in compliance with local building, housing or health codes, or is not maintaining the premises as required by law, or is violating other provisions of the rental agreement, the tenant should gather evidence regarding the violations and report them to the appropriate authorities. The tenant should check with the local health department in the event of what he considers a health code violation. Additionally, the local city or county building department and the Division of Hotels and Restaurants should be notified for possible code violations. If there are no local agencies that can investigate the violation, then the tenant can gather evidence by taking pictures, gathering physical evidence, and interviewing witnesses. All of this evidence can be used in court in the event the tenant elects to seek relief in this manner. Under the Landlord-Tenant Act, the remedies for violation are:

- A. If the violation is material, the tenant may write a letter to the landlord stating what the problem is, and that if it is not corrected, the tenant will end the rental agreement. This letter should be sent Certified Mail to the landlord, and the tenant should retain a copy of it. The landlord should then be given 7 days from receipt of the letter to correct the problem. If it is not corrected in the 7 days, the tenant may consider the rental agreement ended and move out.
- B. If the violation is material, the tenant may write a letter to the landlord stating what the problem is, and if it is not corrected that the tenant will withhold a portion of his rent. This letter must be sent Certified Mail, and the landlord must receive it seven days prior to the time rent is due. Again, it is recommended that the tenant retain a copy of the letter. The tenant should outline all of the problems to be corrected. On the day rent is due, if the problem has not been corrected, the tenant may withhold a portion of his rent. It is very important that the tenant at this point place the unpaid rent somewhere readily available, because in the event the landlord takes the case to court, the tenant will be required to pay all withheld rent to the court while the matter is being resolved. If the tenant wins in court all or part of the money may be returned.
- C. Civil action may be filed in the county court to enforce the law and to recover any and all damages caused by the violation.
- D. If the rental unit is damaged so badly that the use of it is substantially impaired, the tenant may end the rental agreement immediately. The tenant can do this only if the damage is not a result of his own negligence.

There are many unclear areas within the law pertaining to this section, therefore it is recommended that before a tenant brings any legal action against his landlord that he discuss the situation with an attorney or a legal services office before action is taken.





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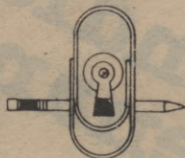
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