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the INTERNATIONAL

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

April 27, 1983

Editors

On May 4th The International will publish its last edition of the year. At this time virtually all of the editorial board and staff of the newspaper will be terminating their association with The International and embarking on new careers and developing new interests. This is where you, the members of the university community, are important.

Traditionally the editors and the majority of the staff are comprised of FIU students or recent graduates. At the present time no acceptable candidates for these positions have been found to assume control of the newspaper for next year.

What most people do not

realize, is that The International is a privately incorporated, totally independent student newspaper. To our knowledge we are the only major student newspaper in the country with this status.

It would be a tragedy if FIU lost this independent student voice. Therefore, we ask all interested persons to send your name, address, phone number and brief biographical sketch to:

**The International
Florida International University
University House 212A
Tamiami Campus
Miami, Florida 33139**

We particularly urge journalism students at the Bay Vista Campus to apply for these positions.

Volunteer Program

Students wishing to become involved in a volunteer program this summer now have a unique opportunity.

Saturday, May 14th, is the date for the ninth annual Citizen Advocacy Picnic sponsored by the Association for Retarded Citizens, Dade County. From noon to 4:00 p.m., Robert King High Park in Miami will be abuzz with activities for mentally retarded children and adults.

The Citizen Advocacy program trains and then matches volunteers from the community as advocates for retarded individuals. The advocate, who must be at least 18 years old and willing to spend the time to be a friend, companion and

advisor, acts as a support to improve self-esteem and confidence and insure that the person's rights are protected.

The Citizen Advocacy Picnic is an opportunity for volunteers who think they might be interested in such a program to spend the afternoon with other advocates, ask questions and meet some of the more than 400 people in need of an advocate who are on ARC, Dade's waiting list.

Game coordinators, food servers, and "advocates for the day" are needed at the park which is located at 7025 W. Flagler Street. Please call Allen Levy at ARC, Dade, 593-0807, for reservations or more information.

Wolfe Takes Umbrage

APRIL 1983



Gregory B. Wolfe

The following is a memorandum issued by Gregory B. Wolfe, President of F.I.U. in the interests of the University community, it is reprinted here in its entirety.

Recently, the afternoon Miami newspaper, the News, gave considerable space to coverage of the External Degree Program at this University. The articles focused attention on several individuals and some lenient academic practices that were corrected internally some time ago. The newspaper neglected, however, to place into perspective either the External Degree Program or its relation to overall University affairs.

To alleviate misunderstanding of the situation and the program, I am providing you with some history and statistics — presenting that perspective which the newspaper failed to show.

- The External Degree Program was unanimously approved as a statewide program by the Board of Regents in 1972.

- The FIU Program has graduated 738 students — 3.1 percent of the 23,545 students who have been graduated in the history of the University.

- The 11 persons whose names were mentioned in the News reports represent less than 2 percent of the total number of External Degree graduates in the history of the University.

- The News articles involve mostly cases which are more than six years old.

- In 1979, the University administration changed the guidelines, making 15 hours the maximum credit possible for life experience toward a degree. No more than that amount has been credited to any student since that time.

- All the rules and regulations of the Program were completely rewritten last year.

- An internal audit of that Program was completed more than a year ago. At that time, 15 separate recommendations were made. All have since been addressed. There are currently only 64 students in the Program and no one has been accepted in the Program for some time, pending an evaluation which was begun last year.

The purpose of the External Degree Program was to assist persons whose ability to pursue formal education was limited by work activity or

distance from the campuses of the nine Florida State University System institutions. It has also been a characteristic of such programs to award some credit for relevant life experience. Most External Degree Programs facilitate individually-tailored contracts under faculty guidance in independent study.

The News' coverage, and their rancorous editorial which maligned the entire University and all its degree holders for the infinitesimal number of alleged lenient practices in the University's early history, have prompted the Chairman of the Board of Regents and the Chancellor of the University System to request a report from the administration.

This review is currently being conducted and will be reported by me to the Chancellor within the next week. Until that time, the Program will be conducted as usual for those 64 students registered. The no-admission policy which is already in effect will continue. The Program continues, as in recent months, on indefinite suspension, pending the completion of the ongoing evaluation and the BOR's report.

Local Hero "Unusual"

By ROBERT HEALY

Several months ago, in these hallowed pages, I reviewed a little gem of a Scottish film entitled *Gregory's Girl*. *Gregory's Girl* was directed by Bill Forsythe, who showed great promise. Forsythe has a new film, *Local Hero*, and it confirms his status as a director of the first rank.

Local Hero is a very difficult film to categorize. It centers on a small Scottish fishing town. Unbeknownst to the townspeople, a large oil concern based in Houston has targeted the town and its beautiful cove as the site for a new oil refinery. Knox Oil sends a young hot-shot acquisitions agent to literally buy the town. He is accompanied by an oafish yet charming Scottish assistant. They appoint the local accountant, who is also the proprietor of the only hotel, as their representative to the townspeople. The people realize that they are about to become very rich people; eke-

ing out a precarious existence will soon be behind them.

Although Forsythe starts with relatively straight forward narrative, he enjoys throwing in a few zany touches. He likes to point out that a small town is as capable of producing misfits as any large city. Their accountant hotelier would like to be in bed round-the-clock rather than work at all. The local minister is an African who came as a seminarian and never left. There's a motorcyclist who periodically roars through town—we never know who he is. Even punk has its representative in one local girl with multicolor hair and leather jacket.

The Americans are just as peculiar. Mr. McIntyre, the oil agent, has been picked partly on the strength of his Scottish surname. Unfortunately, Mr. McIntyre is of Hungarian extraction and is about as Scottish as an eggroll. Mr. Hepper, the head of Knox Oil, is no

hard-boiled exploitative capitalist, but rather a frustrated astronomer. Instead of instructing his charge on leases and options, he beseeches him to "keep an eye on Virgo." Mr. Hepper's analyst is a quasi-EST sort who constantly berates him, even to the point of making obscene phone calls to his home.

Forsythe manages to keep the tone rather comical, yet coherent. About my only complaint about *Gregory's Girl* had been its rather mechanical pace. *Local Hero* is seamless and the smooth directoral flow shows increasing technical and artistic mastery. The cinematography is breathtaking, focusing on the beautiful Scottish countryside. The evening scenes are especially memorable, complete with shooting stars and the Aurora Borealis. The characters come off as flawed, yet deserving of respect. The film ends on a high note, yet not without an underlying warning.

The acting is excellent all round. Mr. McIntyre is played effectively by Peter Riegert, who some viewers may remember from *Animal House*. Mr. Hepper is played by Burt Lancaster. Those who only remember him for swashbuckling or histrionic roles are in for a pleasant surprise. As he proved in *Atlantic City*, and now in *Local Hero*, Lancaster has mellowed with age and he has improved immeasurably as an actor. Lancaster no longer plays Burt Lancaster, but shows real depth and pathos in difficult roles. The Scottish actors are all very good, several of them are recognizable from *Gregory's Girl*.

Local Hero is an unusual movie. It is deceptively simple in some respects, and it is one of the best films to play Miami in the last few months. Chances are that it will not be here for long, so hurry and see it.

Hot Time In The Summer Time



Letters!

Dear International,
Columnist Bill Rich,

Congratulations on the fine job that you are doing in terms of writing sports stories for the *International*. The coverage is quite extensive and reflects real quality in terms of your writing ability. We appreciate the fine job you are doing. Keep up the good work.

Nancy Olson,
Director of Intercollegiate
Athletics & Recreational Sports

Dear International,

Now that the Student Government elections are over with and new leadership has been installed, I just wanted to take some time and recognize someone who has been an outstanding leader and representative from your university.

Student body president Jorge Espinosa has done an excellent job in representing Florida International University on the state wide level. His expertise in state legislative matters had helped immensely in formulating legislation that will improve our quality of education. Especially this year when areas such as tuition, financial aid and the activity and service fee laws are being drastically altered, it's nice to have such a knowledgeable and polished spokesperson like Jorge Espinosa around.

As a student body president, your main concern is obviously with the local campus, but becoming effectively involved on the state wide level is imperative. Jorge Espinosa has been such a president.

Sincerely,

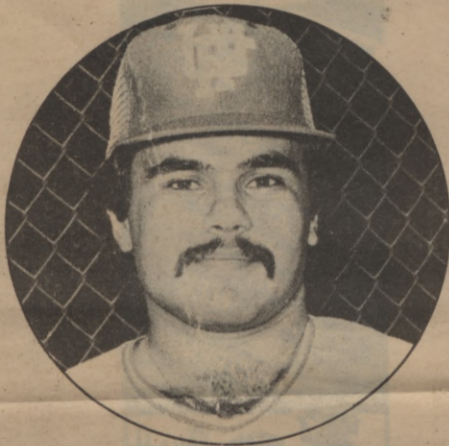
Dave Hilfman
Chairman
State Council of
Student Body Presidents

Baseball:

By BILL RICH

Another difficult week for the Sunblazers baseball team. Difficult not only because of the competition, but also because of the results. On Tuesday FIU lost 7-2 to national champion, Miami, then dropped a 10-2 verdict at home on Friday to Florida Atlantic, a team on the way up fast.

In the Miami game the Sunblazer's one brightest star, center fielder Oriol Perez, staked FIU to a 1-0 lead with a first inning home run. Then host Miami promptly tied the game with the run scoring, as three had the week before between these teams, on a wild pitch. Rick Ames started this week and, like Steve Pettit the previous week, had trouble getting the Hurricanes out. Ames did last into the fourth inning, but finally exited hav-



Oriol Perez

By BILL RICH

The Sunblazer softball team wrapped up its 1983 season last week finishing out of the money in the state tournament. However, for the most part, head coach Linda Miscovic has a smile showing when reflecting on the completed campaign.

FIU finished with a 29-17 record in the most ambitious schedule yet undertaken. This year's squad broke four school records while equalling another. Miscovic rates this team only below last year's in quality of play.

The Sunblazers were strong at the plate. Stefanie Gibson scored the most runs over (47) and punched out the most hits (66). Mardie Cooper had the most runs batted in since FIU

ing surrendered four runs and five hits.

One of those five hits was probably the death knell; a lead off home run by Frank Russo in the second. Three more hits and two more runs followed before there was an out. Miami's center fielder, Doug Shields finished the Miami, scoring off reliever Don Sphar, in the fifth, with a three run homer. Perez accounted for FIU's other run with a double, in the seventh, that scored shortstop Nene Delgado.

It was an evening to forget for FIU followers. Among other problems head coach Danny Price was ejected from the contest by plate umpire Juan Pasqual. It was Price's first early shower of the year.

The Owls of Florida Atlantic have a record in 1983 of 42-8. They hold dual membership in

The Week In Review

the NCAA and NAIA. Next year they will be full fledged NCAA Division II. Florida Southern and the other Division II teams in this area are in for a tough new addition to their ranks. In fact the state's Division I programs should be on the lookout. This is a coming baseball school. Steve Taylor's troops have already beat Miami this year and their win over FIU Friday enhanced the Owls reputation more.

FAU pounded out a dozen hits against a pair of Sunblazer hurlers. Tony Arias got the start for Danny Price's team and did not pitch too poorly for the first six innings. But the junior right-hander tired in the seventh allowing the rejuvenated Owl's three runs. At that point the Owls lead was only 3-2.

FAU scored two in the first and held that lead until FIU

equaled the count in the fourth. FAU's third tally came in the sixth. The visitors then finished the rout with one in the eighth and three more in the ninth. The last four runs came off Ozzie Alfonso who has struggled considerably as of late a fine season's start. Steve Pettit pitched long enough to get the last FAU out.

A busy week ahead for FIU. Monday means FAU again in Boca Raton. Tuesday is game four with Miami, this one at Sunblazers Field. Wednesday is the final 1983 home game against Biscayne before a trip to Stetson Friday and Saturday. FIU is now 31-15. It has turned into a difficult campaign despite the good record. An NCAA bid is virtually out of the question. Forty wins is still a possible goal. Pride is at stake at this point.

Softballers Shine

started playing softball (52) and set the mark in sacrifices with nine. Though not a record Cooper also led her teammates with a .508 batting average.

FIU's offense came from the top four hitters in the order. Martha Falcon hit .446 and drove in 31 runs. Gibson batted .425, Cindy Chaisson was at .336 and Karen Purpura hit .338.

Shortstop is supposed to be the position vulnerable to the most errors. Not on this team. Purpura was the top fielder with a sparkling .916 mark.

FIU's biggest success this year was in winning the FAU invitational for the second straight season. With all these positives why wasn't the total season more successful? According to Miscovic the ironic

Softball Association is holding a senior college national tournament this year and next. However, they have not committed themselves beyond that point. What this means is without anywhere to go, collegiate slow-pitch softball may fade into oblivion.

Surprisingly, though, Miscovic does not anticipate a big problem in recruiting players for what could be a lame-duck season. First there is a wealth of local junior college players looking for senior college opportunities. Many look to FIU. Secondly, Miscovic hopes if the softball program is dropped the athletic department would continue these players' scholarships. The head coach cited the discontinuation of wrestling a few years ago as an example.

answer was lack of offense. Despite the above figures FIU had no power. In softball one needs power to balance an offense and keep the defense honest. By not having power opponents brought in their outfielders to, in essence, add extra infielders. Outfielders were throwing out batters at first.

Two other weaknesses pointed out by Miscovic were lack of speed and weak hitting at the bottom of the order. The fourth year head coach feels many games got away because of these weaknesses. FIU played seven one run games in 1983. They won four and lost three.

1984 will be a testing year for FIU softball. The NCAA does not conduct a championship in slow-pitch softball (FIU plays slow-pitch). The American

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