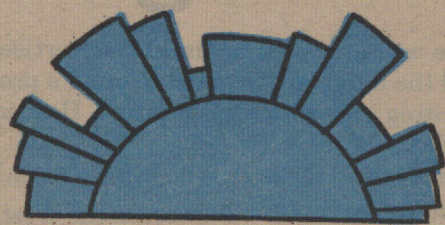


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FIU's only independent student newspaper

Tuesday
February 19, 1985

Volume 2
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The Sunblazer

An Independent Student Newspaper at Florida International University, North Miami/Miami, Florida

Coming up...

Gunter speaks at FIU

Bill Gunter, Florida's insurance commissioner and treasurer, delivers the keynote address at an insurance seminar at 9 a.m. Feb. 22 in SC 320 on the Bay Vista Campus. The seminar will provide information for consumers, seniors citizens and small business owners on how to select appropriate health care coverage. For information, call 940-5700.

Forum discusses U.S. policy in Central America

If you're still wondering which side the U.S. takes in Central America, attend a forum on U.S. policy in the region. Five speakers will discuss topics covering Soviet policy, military intervention and international law. The forum begins at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 28 in ACI 194 on the Bay Vista Campus. For more information, call 940-5960 or 940-5961.

Rotaract organized

Dr. Bhaskar Chaudhari, an FIU professor, and director and vice president elect of the Miami Lakes Rotary Club, wants to organize a club at FIU. The club is open to anyone between the ages of 18 and 28. Those interested should contact Chaudhari at 554-2764 or 554-3179. A committee will be formed in March with initiation in April.

Dine and unite

SGA is sponsoring a "Unity Dinner" in honor of Black History Week. The free dinner will begin at 7 p.m. Feb. 28 in SC 320 at the Bay Vista Campus. Call 940-5680 for more information.

Calendar

Tuesday, Feb. 19, Billiards Tournament, Grand Prix, UH 213.

Tuesday, Feb. 19-25, musical, "110 in the Shade," Ruth Foreman Theatre, 8 p.m., BVC.

Tuesday, Feb. 19 - March 7, Photo display - hand colored photographs by Gloria DeFilippis Brush, 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., Bay Vista Photo Gallery, Academic II room 105.

Wednesday, Feb. 20-24, musical, "West Side Story," 8 p.m. UH 100.

Wednesday, Feb. 20, Ash Wednesday Prayer Service, 11:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in SC 245 BVC.

Thursday, Feb. 21, Critics Lecture Series, Mark Stevens, Newsweek art critic, 8 p.m., AT 100.

Thursday, Feb. 21 movie - "Terms of Endearment," 1:30, 6 and 9 p.m., UH 140.

Friday, Feb. 22, CLAST Workshops - Math, PC 211.

Sunday, Feb. 24, Intramural soccer, 12:30 p.m. Tamiami Campus west fields.

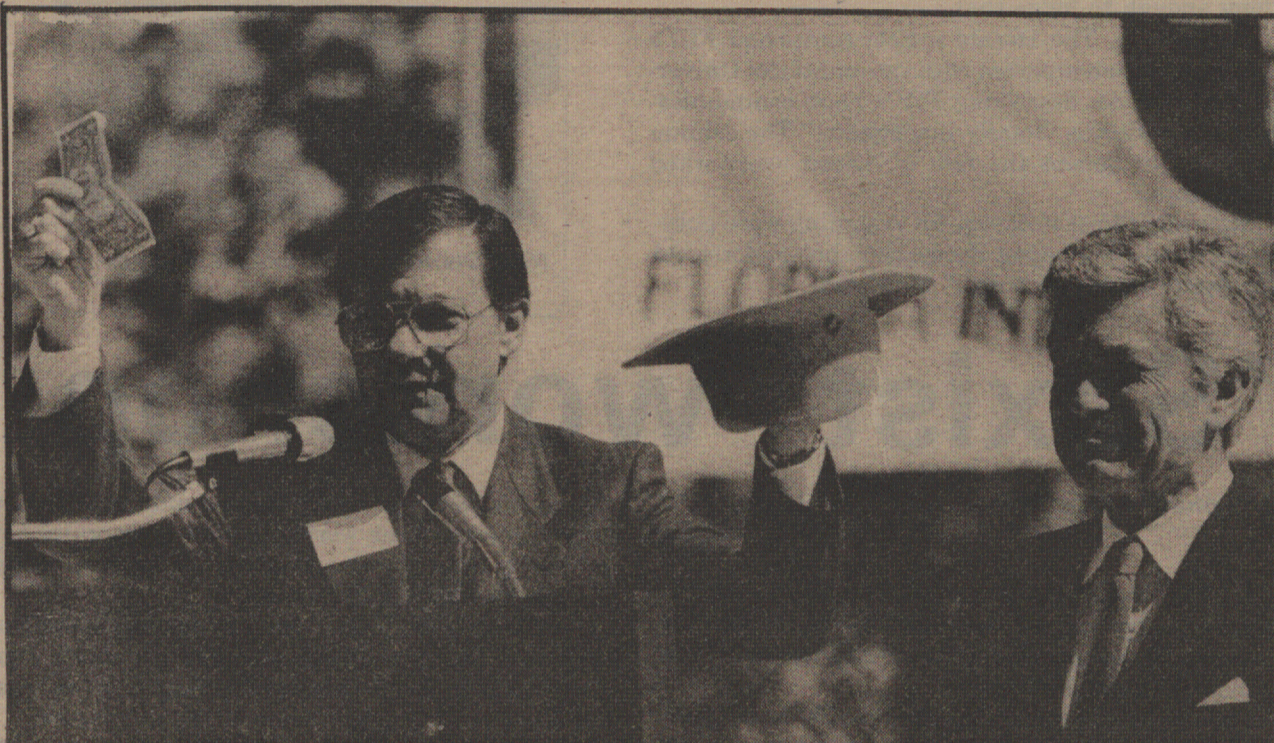


Photo by Gary Boisson

Passing the hat

FIU President Gregory B. Wolfe looks on as Terry Cuson, North Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce president, donates the first dollar to FIU's future diving platform at the opening of the Bay Vista Aquatic Center. (For more on the grand opening turn to page 7.)

Ex-professor has day in court

by Keith Donner

Staff Writer

Former FIU professor Bruce Hamersley was denied tenure because he was not qualified and not because of reverse discrimination as he contends in a federal suit, attorneys representing the state and FIU say.

But Hamersley's attorney maintained in closing arguments Feb. 11 that his client, who is white, was better qualified than a black male, a Hispanic male and a white female—all of whom were granted tenure while Hamersley lost his job.

The suit against FIU, 14 past and present college officials and the Florida Board of Regents contends that pressures to hire minorities and women and the administration's personal dislike of Hamersley were

the reasons for his denial of tenure.

In the suit filed in 1978, Hamersley, 47, is seeking at least \$400,000 in compensatory damages, \$100,000 in punitive damages—and his job back.

Bruce Minnick, an assistant Florida attorney general who is representing FIU, argued that Hamersley did not have what the university then considered an adequate degree for teaching.

The university, Minnick said, mandates which degrees are considered adequate for instructors to be granted tenure. Hamersley did not have what the university considered an adequate—or "terminal" post-graduate degree, he said.

"People without terminal degrees don't get tenure," Minnick said. "It may be harsh, but it is not discrimination."

Hamersley has a master's degree from the University of Miami.

Louis Jepeway Jr., Hamersley's lawyer, said there were no set criteria for degrees the university would accept for tenure in the newly formed criminal justice department. Only after Hamersley was denied tenure did FIU explain what was considered a valid degree, Jepeway said.

Jepeway argued that Hamersley was better

qualified than the other three who received tenure. Hamersley had fulfilled "The Holy Trinity," as the Board of Regents calls it, of scholarship teaching ability and community service, Jepeway said.

Jepeway said Hamersley was considered the best teacher in the department and was active in police and community programs. Hamersley was doing research at the time, he said.

The other three who were granted tenure: Robert Snow, Jose Marquez and Regina Shearn were lesser teachers and were not as well known in the field, Jepeway argued. None of the three, he said, had done any research.

Snow, Marques and Shearn are still at FIU. Marquez declined to discuss the case and Snow and Shearn did not return repeated phone calls.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Paul Gallagher, who is observing the trial for FIU, also declined comment. "Until the judge rules, we can't say anything," he said.

Minnick said Hamersley's research was not credible. Minnick also contended that Hamersley was not respected by his colleagues in the department. Faculty evaluations, Minnick said, showed that Hamersley was not considered worthy of tenure.

U.S. District Court Judge Joe Eaton said the tenure process seemed to be based more on an applicant's congeniality than on his academic record.

"Tenure has to do with personalities," Eaton said. "I wonder if people objectively evaluate applicants."

Jepeway argued that Snow, Shearn and Marquez were given preferential treatment, while Hamersley was sacked at the wishes of administration officials. Jepeway said the criminal justice department was under pressure to hire minorities and women, and granted tenure to those three. When Hamersley applied at the same time, Jepeway said, the administration used the opportunity to get back at him.

(continued on page 2)

Communication chairman resigns

by James Sprang

Staff Writer

The chairman of the communications department has resigned less than six months after coming to FIU, citing personal reasons for the separation. But a Feb. 9 Miami Herald column reported "he's resigning in part out of frustration with the slow pace of improvement."

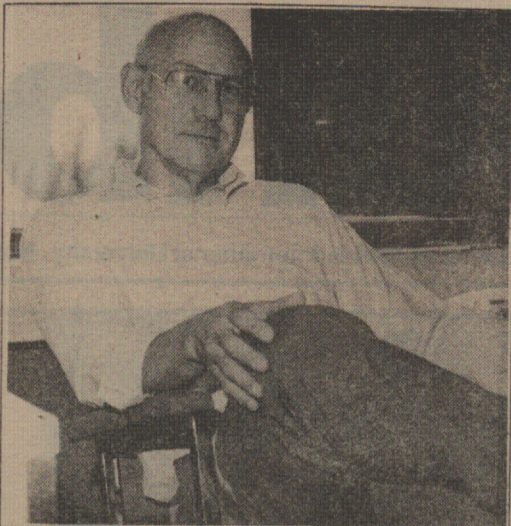
Mort Stern told The Sunblazer he resigned his job because he didn't adjust to Miami as well as he had hoped. "To be truthful, I became a bit impatient with the progress I made with this job," he said.

But Stern's boss, Dr. James Mau of the School of Arts and Sciences, said "Stern has hardly been here long enough to judge that."

Meanwhile, The Herald article contrasted FIU's communication program with the one at the University of Florida, describing FIU's mass communications facilities as "totally inadequate." The column went on to lament the fate of "seven overworked professors."

Mau said Stern's reasons for resigning were purely personal. "We regret his decision but understand his desire to return home," Mau said.

According to Mau, Stern's letter of resignation read: My decision was a personal one and does not in any way reflect a lack of faith that the professional communications program at FIU as great as everyone wants it to be. It is only a matter of time and the availability of resources," Stern wrote.



Mort Stern, communication chairman

Stern said he was attracted by an FIU advertisement that said the university wanted to build a program in an exciting area with a great future. He said he liked the idea.

"The desire exists and the area is no less exciting," Stern said. "But the fact is after 20 years in the West, I grew accustomed to open spaces--now I can't stand these glass canyons.

"It's not impossible to teach journalism without equipment. We're doing it well now with great results," he said. "But I want the best for the students and I am impatient."

Stern said the communications department lacks:

- flexibility of programming
- adequate staffing
- enough video equipment
- video display terminals
- graphics lab

"These are all key elements, prerequisites for the school's accreditation," said Stern. "In short, we need faculty, staff, equipment and space."

Stern has worked for UPI, the Denver Post and the University of Colorado.

'Sexist' workshop cancelled

by Jeffrey L. Kleinman

Editor

An FIU workshop featuring tips on how to improve employee appearances, was cancelled due to pressure from faculty members who thought the program was guilty of "blatant sexism."

The workshop, scheduled for Feb. 12, would have covered cosmetics application, skin care, color analysis and wardrobe coordination. Lea Haller, Inc., a Texas firm specializing in fashion, was scheduled to deliver the presentation.

Hilda Rodriguez, an executive representative with Haller, said she offered the service to FIU because she is an FIU student and it was "a way to give something back to the university." However, she said FIU told her to cancel because a few people at the university thought the workshop was "inappropriate."

Gene Pugh, the manager of FIU's employee training program, coordinated the workshop and distributed a university-wide memo advertising the presentation and praising the benefits of such a program.

When Robert Hann, chairman of the FIU philosophy department got the memo, he promptly wrote a memo of his own to Pugh saying he was "flabbergasted" that FIU would promote this type of workshop.

Hamersley sues for tenure

(continued from page 1)

Hamersley had been a member of a faculty search and selection committee and had opposed the nomination of Joseph Olander to replace retiring president Harold Crosby.

Olander did not get the presidency, and Jepeway argued that Hamersley's problems at FIU stem from that. The Board of Regents later appointed Gregory Wolfe as FIU president.

Crosby later overturned the department chairman's recommendation to deny all four tenure, and granted tenure to everyone except Hamersley. This act by Crosby, Jepeway said, shows that the administration was hostile to Hamersley.

After the hearing, Hamersley said FIU's argument about him not having a terminal degree is unfounded. "They never talked to me about terminal degrees back in 1973 (when he first started at FIU).

"We were told we would be measured on our contributions to the university," he said.

Hamersley said he has had six different jobs since being fired from FIU.

Judge Eaton is expected to rule on the non-jury trial at the end of March.

Hann wrote in the memo that he didn't think the subject matter of the workshop was appropriate for university time. He also attacked the topic as being an "outrageously sexist appeal."

Hann wrote: To suggest that one's professionalism is related to one's choice whether or not to use cosmetics is to insult many of the faculty members and other professional women of the university."

In a telephone interview with The Sunblazer last week, Hann stood by his memo to Pugh. "It seemed to be a strange thing to take time off from normal duties for a seminar on makeup," he said. Hann felt the whole purpose of the seminar was commercial, just an opportunity for a company to sell cosmetics.

"I think the promotional appeal is sexist, but I'm not accusing Mr. Pugh of being sexist," he said.

Hann expressed his concern that Pugh's appeal sounded as if it were made primarily to women. Marilyn Hoder-Salmon, director of the FIU Women's Studies Center agreed. She said she felt Pugh coordinated the workshop without realizing "that it was offensive to women."

But Pugh stood behind the purpose of the workshop all the way.

"Six people out of 1,500 misunderstood the purpose of the program," Pugh said. Pugh said the purpose was to make FIU employees feel good about themselves so they could better deal with their jobs and other people.

Pugh denied the workshop would be a commercial venture. But he said the fashion company would mention their products since it had offered to conduct the workshop at FIU at no cost to the university.

Pugh said he has received about as much support from the university as he has received criticism. "It's like the abortion issue or free lunch in the public schools," he said. "There are two sides."

Meanwhile, Hann said he doesn't like the whole idea of "image enhancement."

"I'm a man. I have a beard. I wear jeans. I have longer hair." He said the language of Pugh's advertisement implied that looking good enhances FIU careers.

"I am profoundly concerned that, at a time when we have become concerned about sexual harassment and about diminishing the effects of sexism within the university, that such an outrageously sexist appeal is being made with the university's authorization," wrote Hann in his memo to Pugh.

"It's not a problem to me," Pugh said. "I think people needed to understand the program before they reacted so hastily."

Pugh said he doesn't feel a fashion workshop promotes sexual harassment in any way. "A woman or

a man can look as dashing as they want to without promoting sexual harassment," he said.

"I have a defense," Pugh said. "It's just too bad that we didn't have an opportunity to come together and talk about it."

Minding your own business...

Q. I am thinking about investing in a franchise. Before I commit myself, what information can I expect to be given about the parent company?

A. I am thinking about investing in a franchise. Before I commit myself, what information can I expect to be given about the parent company?

The franchise seller has to give you a disclosure document. This document includes: a fully audited financial statement, the background and experience of key executives and officers, the responsibilities of both the parent company and the franchise in day-to-day operations, any pending or current lawsuits against the company or its officials, the costs involved in starting and running the business, and a list of other franchise owners.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, you must have the disclosure statement at least 10 days before you enter any legal agreements. Use this time to compare the franchise opportunity with other businesses, talk to the other franchise owners about their experience with the parent company, and seek advice from your lawyer, accountant or other business advisers.

Q. I have the choice of buying into one of two fast food operations. One is a pancake restaurant and the other serves Mexican food. Which offers the best potential for growth?

A. We think the Mexican food restaurant offers more growth potential than the pancake restaurant and here's why:

•Nationwide, the Mexican food market has sales of about \$1 billion each year.

•Recipes use only a small amount of beef, so the food costs are low.

•The ingredients (lettuce, tomatoes and cheese) are in step with the public's current preoccupation with health and fitness.

•If you get a beer and wine license, beer and sangria are natural add-ons for customers.

During the last recession, hot dog/hamburger stands, pancake houses, steakhouses and seafood operations all lost customers to the fast food outlets that sell Mexican food, chicken, pizza and sandwiches.

The authors of this column are Dr. Richard Hodgetts and Donna Schaeffer. Hodgetts is an FIU professor of management and Schaeffer is an FIU counselor at the Small Business Development Center.

Correction

Due to an editing error, The Sunblazer incorrectly reported the cost of an upcoming Student Government Association trip to Chicago. The estimated cost of the trip is \$12,000.

Senate: 'silence mini-concerts'

by Melissa Kroll

News Editor

When the College of Arts and Sciences asked one of its faculty senators to do something about noise and disruption caused by mini-concerts and other non-academic activities, Bruce Hauptli took action.

"The main problem was that many teachers were complaining about the noise that these activities caused, the inconvenience the crowd posed to people entering and exiting the buildings and the lack of consideration for the people in the buildings teaching, learning or doing research," said Hauptli, one of 15 Arts and Science senators.

Before Hauptli addressed the issue, people complaining were rebuffed with a lack of interest from anyone in the position to help. But when Hauptli made a motion to restrict any non-academic activity to beyond a 100 yards from the university, many students began to speak up.

"The difficulties these activities have posed are serious enough to be considered by the senate," said Hauptli. "I was expecting some feedback from people at this meeting."

And Hauptli received it.

Scattered among the faculty senate were 10 students including Student Government Association President Genish Chen-Shue and senator Ed Dorta-Duque.

Jorge Dominicus, an SGA senator took another point of view. "I have been sitting in this meeting for about an hour now and today we had one of the loudest mini-concerts we've ever had," he said. "And as far as I know, no one had any difficulty concentrating."

Judy Blucker, vice president for student affairs, said that a 100 yard barrier may be unreasonable because of a band's need to use university electrical hookups. Blucker said communication is necessary between the faculty senate and SGA.

Hauptli accepted Blucker's proposal and tabled the issue for a consideration at a future meeting. Meanwhile, a committee of three SGA members and Hauptli will meet to see if they could work out a compromise.

Tamiami gym to be ready for '85?

by Adrian Walker

Staff Writer

Delayed from the onset by labor and material problems, construction on FIU's Teaching Gymnasium on the Tamiami Campus is running more than a month behind its Aug. 31 deadline. It may not even be ready for the start of the 1985-86 basketball season, according to the contractor.

"The gym is 45 days behind," said Doug Thornton, supervisor for Shafer and Miller general contractors. "We were delayed on heavy steel."

Men's basketball coach Rich Walker remains guardedly optimistic. "As far as I know it will be ready," he said. "If not, I think there'll be a lot of disappointment students. It will be a great disappointment for our students and fans."

"The problem was that Shafer and Miller had men on other jobs that ran over deadline," said Wayne Rustad, of the Teaching Gym Advisory Committee. "When those jobs were finished, they came here," he added. "We were told that any labor delays could be made up."

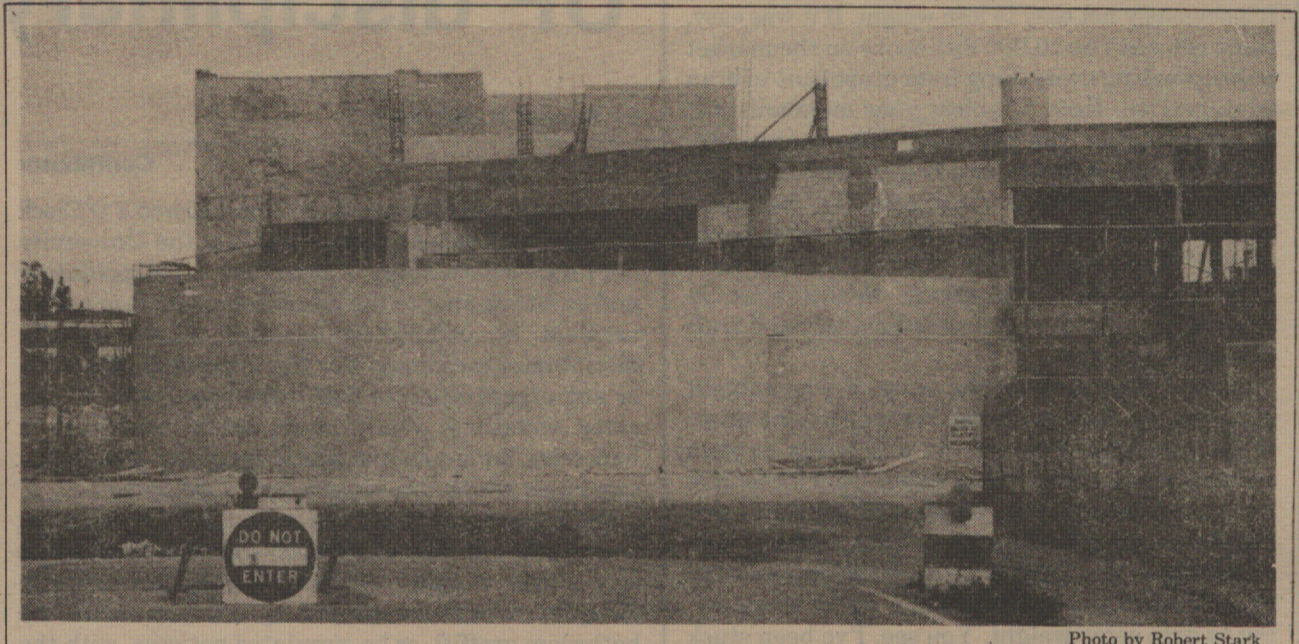


Photo by Robert Stark

"If the gym isn't ready for the start of basketball practice which begins Oct. 15, we still have the 'tin gym,' the abandoned warehouse FIU's basketball

teams now practice in," Rustad added. "As long as the gym is ready by the start of November, we'll be all right."

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AVENTURA MALL

Editor's Forum

by Jeffrey L. Kleinman



So many people I know are on diets. I know they're on diets because I see them carrying around their lunch of lettuce, cottage cheese and peaches in a four-year-old, yellowed Cool Whip container. No matter how they eat the rabbit food, they look the same: fat.

I guess some people were just born to be overweight. They could starve themselves for the next month and they'd end up gaining 5 pounds. It's obviously not easy to lose weight. If it was easy, there wouldn't be 10,000 diet books on the market recommending everything from grapefruit to bran to starvation. Face it, unless your metabolism is of a certain rate, you were born to be overweight.

I could go on and on about being overweight, but that's old news. Even the most perfect of bodies are on diets. Will America ever be satisfied at being perfect? Apparently not. Dieting Americans have kept bookstores in business, health spas in business, health food stores in business and fruit stands in business.

Instead of rehashing the woes of overweight America, I'm here to discuss the person who needs to gain weight. You say no one needs to gain weight? Wrongo fatso! They're just difficult to find. But as the enterprising young reporter that I am, I searched far and wide for a skinny subject. Me.

OK fatties, don't throw lettuce, tomatoes and diet French dressing at me, but I'm a rarity who's trying to gain some weight. You see, I've been stuck at 120 pounds since my 15th birthday. I'm now 20. No, I'm not anorexic; the doctor already ensured me of that. And yes, I eat three nourishing meals a day including a milkshake made with coffee ice cream, thick fudge syrup, creamy white milk and globs of whipped cream.

It doesn't help. I just don't gain weight.

My situation is not so rare where I'm the only person in the world who's tried to put on a few pounds. In fact, my dad entered the Army when he was 23 at 122 pounds. My mom slurped milkshakes everyday after school at the soda store so she could build on her 5-foot-8, 105 pound frame. It's simple. Skinniness runs in my family.

Oh sure there are drawbacks to being thin. Stray dogs love to gnaw on my leg, mistaking it for a rawhide bone. My clothes must be altered to fit my pencil-thin waist. I must eat heartily so people won't say "You should eat more." I eat plenty. And if they ate what I do, they'd gain 20 pounds within the week.

The secret behind my slimness rests with my metabolism. I've always been on the run. Always busy. Always nervous. Never relaxed. This burns up calories. Lots of them.

But I know one day there will be hope. My proof lives in the same house as me. My father, better known as a stick in his younger days, is now 185 pounds, slurping grapefruits, eating bran and buying those diet books in order to melt his spare tire. Ahh. I can't wait.

MAY WE INTRODUCE DR. FRANKENRONALD'S NEW CREATIONS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE



UF disciplinary actions unfair

by Stevan D. Mitchell

Contributor

Although the controversial "Uncensored 4 O'Clock Weekly" published by individuals of the University of Florida's Beta Theta Pi fraternity is disappointing and embarrassing to the administration, it is not an incident so completely isolated as to require disciplinary measures. For the university, the state or any organization to find these boys guilty of any rules violations would necessarily constitute a hypocrisy, for one cannot find them guilty of violating any rules which are satisfactorily enforceable.

My argument is that what occurred is not substantially different from that which slips by unnoticed at any college campus. Callous jokes and insults run rampant, whether conveyed by word of mouth, by bathroom graffiti, or be circulated noticeless—with the burden falling on the reader/listener to give the material the attention it is due.

In any case, at what point did this admittedly tasteless act become a violation, or, for that matter, something which is morally reprehensible on absolute grounds? Are these students accountable because they were ambitious enough to type and photocopy that which would otherwise remain a single manuscript; circulated door-to-door and receiving equally tasteless contributions as it "made the rounds?"

If this is the case, then fair application of a rule prohibiting such activity would require the policing of every photocopy machine in every university in the state, an extreme certainly more sickening than the observed alternative.

Should the students be held morally responsible for the content of that which was uncovered? If that is the case, fairness would demand others assume equal responsibility for their messages, even for those (like the student's booklet) intended solely for private audiences. Carried to extreme, this sort of reasoning would require the policing of every bathroom stall in the university system, where anecdotes of a more reprehensible quality insult and amuse thousands daily.

Is the University of Florida to find fault with the fraternity for distributing this material? If this is the case, they should demand the censorship of any document distributed hand-to-hand in the university setting (presumably including course syllabi); another absurd alternative.

Punitive action in this case is doomed to be hopeless and unfair. The best the university, or any individual

can do is to make it clear that behavior of this sort is a mistake in judgment, and that it has the potential to cause a great deal more grief than is justified by a few moments of cheap chuckling.

There remain skeletons in most every closet, and, in cases such as this, exposing them to light only serves to frighten people unnecessarily.

Letter

To the Editor:

In regards to your editorial on abortion, won't you agree that the wave of desperate fanaticism sweeping this nation is being directed by a bunch of narrow-minded bigots? I'm referring of course, to Jerry Falwell and his contemporaries.

There is nothing wrong with being conservative in this democratic nation, but according to Falwell, God for bid if you are a liberal who believes in freedom of choice. I understand that to many, our society is rather decadent and needs to appreciate moral values. However, I resent being told how to live my life!

I agree that there is a small minority of women who tend to have repeat abortions, but hasn't it occurred to the fanatical fundamentalists that this type of woman needs to be educated about her own body and as to what contraceptive to use? Besides that, how many women who have had abortions, enjoy the experience so much that they plan on having several more?

If abortion was declared illegal, Falwell and his cohorts would have a lot of explaining to do to the families of women who die at the hands of a backstreet abortionist. And what about the survivors who attempt to dislodge the problem themselves?

Falwell and his "pro-lifers" are so intent upon imposing their beliefs upon others, I shudder to think what these sickos could do to those of us who do not subscribe to their brand of religion. The issue here isn't just abortion, but the fact that today's fundamentalists led by Falwell are potentially dangerous to any minority in the nation.

Let's not forget that this beautiful nation is a collage of minorities and beliefs pieced together by a common bond—freedom. If those pieces were to become unglued, our nation would fall; no more United States of America.

It is possible to retain our values but only by being tolerant of differing beliefs and not by judging others.

Ellen H. Slavin-Medina

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A day in sun is better than 'Shade'

by Diana DeBarros

Features Editor

Under the best of circumstances the musical "110 In The Shade," would be lackluster, but when staged in the small confines of the Ruth Foreman Theatre at Bay Vista campus it was in kindest terms, disappointing.

The music by Harvey Schmidt and lyrics by Tom Jones were forgettable with the exception of "Another Hot Day," "Polker Polka," "Rain Song," and "Raunchy." The other eleven songs were monotonous and long, giving the effect of an operetta instead of a musical.

"110" also suffers from a great many distractions, ranging from music that at times overpowered the actors, to a set too big and clusmy for the stage, to an annoying design of having the musicians not-so-cleverly hidden behind a translucent window. A musical as arrid as "110" doesn't need technical problems also.

"110 In The Shade" centers around a mid-western farm family's pre-occupation with trying to marry off their sister, Lizzie. The sister's inability to snare one of the local boys is attributed to being her a sensible woman that tells it like it is. However, worse than being too honest, she's accused of being too plain to attract a man.

A musical built around a plain Jane too smart for her own good makes the material really dated (it opened on Broadway in 1963) but the subject today is one that doesn't transcend time well. However, Ruth Foreman doesn't worry about stepping on any ideological toes since a lot of her audience is comprised of retirees.



The good news is Steve Steiner is very convincing as the con artist Starbuck. Steiner is a vibrant actor and an exceptional singer, which goes a long way in keeping the musical from being completely dismal.

Warren J. Brown as the father H.C. is another fine actor and singer. Brown, a veteran Broadway actor whose credits include "South Pacific," "West Side Story," "Carousel," and "The King & I," brought life and much needed humor to "110."

Kay Brady as Lizzie, the old maid sister, is an excellent singer but her performance wasn't forceful enough. The part of Lizzie calls for a no-nonsense type and Brady was just too sweet.

Ken Tibeau as Jimmy, the optimistic younger brother, gave an engergetic performance which makes his mediocre singing ability forgivable. Louis Cutolo, as Noah the cynical older brother, is also more noteworthy as an actor than singer but in a role requiring as much cynicism as his it is fitting.

Theater Review

Noelle Christine is appropriately cast as Jimmy's giggling girl friend. Christine does a commendable job as Snookie and like Ken Tibeau add bounce and enthusiasm making her enjoyable to watch.

Overall, with some directorial tinkering "110" can be vitalized, but N. Richard Nash's musical was better in its original for as the play "The Rainmaker."

"110 In The Shade," the fourth show of this season, will be playing every night until March 10 at the Ruth Foreman Theatre.

UM speaker lectures on black education

by James Sprang

Staff Writer

A University of Miami program director told FIU students Thursday blacks need to develop positive support systems to supplant nagging negative emotions that obscure the educational process.

"Blacks must feel more and think less," said Anna Price, director of UM's Upward Bound Program.

Addressing a black symposium at the FIU's Bay Vista Campus, Price spoke on the topic, "Blacks in Education." "It's fine to take holidays like Martin Luther King's birthday to reflect on the cultural aspects," Price said, "but I'd prefer to use the such as periods of rededication and commitment to the positive ideals and aspirations of black people.

Price said a recent study by the American Council on Education reports that blacks are less likely to enter college than in past years. And those who do are prone to drop out. "Blacks have lost their coping skills," said Price. "That's why they're dropping out.

"We don't know how to maintain that support system. We don't have that urgency to be educated -- to learn what must be learned," she said.

Price urged the students to seek an understanding of blacks in education from a historical perspective. Shew said the Supreme Court decided in 1954 that separate could not be equal, and subsequently desegregated schools because of pressing national economic interests and not for humanitarian reasons. Price asked blacks to dispel any notions of being favored.

Price told the students that blacks in the early sixties demanded recognition and were given business support programs, home programs and study programs. "It's no accident federal programs are being cut in 1985," she said.

"In 1954 we all went together so we had the necessary support system. We had the coping skills because we had one another," Price said. "Look around at each other. All of you are going through the same thing."

Lines wrap around festival

by Mina Socarras

Ass't. Features Editor

Two weeks ago, I wrote an article in the Sunblazer encouraging students to attend the Second Miami Film Festival. I imagined that the festival would be difficult, but I did not anticipate that the Film Festival would be so difficult...

Feb. 1 - Today was the premiere of the Victor Nunez film "A Flash of Green." When I saw the price of the tickets, \$10.25, I had flashes of green...money just pouring out of my pockets.

Feb. 2 - I stood in line at Spec's for one hour waiting to buy my Film Festival tickets. The guy in charge of the tickets informed me that they had no tickets for the Film Festival at any other theatres but Gusman Hall. Those tickets at Gusman were \$10.25. I love film, but I am not wealthy enough to dish out that amount.

Feb. 3 - I did not even attempt to go. I saw the lines and I felt nauseated.

Feb. 4 - I told my friend Lily (a fellow film freak) I wanted to go and see a Dutch film called "The Lift," playing at The Arcadia in Coral Gables. When we arrived at the theatre (one and a half hours before the screening) about 30 people were already in line. "The Lift" was the most suspenseful film I've ever seen. And I thought the Dutch were allwooden shoes, tulips and windmills! They are incredible filmmakers.

Feb. 5 - Lily and I stood in line for only one hour tonight! The problem was we didn't get in. The theatre, The Cinemateque, was too tiny for all those film buffs. I could've fit more people into my parents' family room and shown home movies! My back was so sore from standing in line...tomorrow, I'll get in.

Feb. 6 - I was determined to get in to see these two great documentary films playing at The Beaumont.



Warner Herzog (his film "The Ballad of the Little Soldier" was the other film being shown) was answering questions from the audience. After the question and answer session was over, Tina, Barry and I walked outside. I informed Lily (whom by now had purchased tickets) to sell the tickets because we were going to track down Mr. Herzog. Alan Greenberg, a filmmaker from Miami, chatted with us and managed to tell us that he was in charge of Mr. Herzog's Miami visit. Mr. Greenberg told us that Mr. Herzog would indeed talk to us if we could coerce Mr. Herzog to shoot a few baskets with Tina's basketball. It worked! After the film ended, Mr. Herzog answered questions about his controversial film about young boys in Nicaragua who are trained to be soldiers from the age of nine. We were in awe. Mr. Herzog remained talking to us until everyone had left. (Some of the Herzog films include "Nosferatu" and "Fitzcarraldo.") In spite of waiting in line, being turned down on tickets and having backaches, the Film Festival turned out great for me. After all, I got to meet the only person that I really wanted to meet in the Film Festival.

Feb. 7, 8, 9, 10 - On the last four days of the Film Festival, I became ill. But so what, I got to meet Warner Herzog. Anyway, the Film Festival gets better every year despite of the complications. I truly hope more people take advantage of the Film Festival next year. And I hope the promoters for The Third Miami Film Festival will show the films at bigger theatres.

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Photos by
Gary Boisson



Aquatic Center has it's day

by Robert Stark

Sports Editor

With a diving splash, 1984 Olympic medalist Michele Richardson inaugurated the opening of FIU's Aquatic Center at the Bay Vista Campus.

Before about 200 dignitaries, guests and spectators, FIU opened the \$1.3 million project on a cool and brisk Feb. 14.

But before Richardson's ceremonial lap across the Olympic-sized pool, mayors from surrounding municipalities expressed their interests and praises toward FIU's newest addition.

FIU President Gregory B. Wolfe led off the ceremonies by saying, "We're offering the highest quality swimming facility in the state. But, we're looking for a Valentine - a Valentine who is willing to help put up the diving platform."

That platform, which FIU could not afford in the final stages of construction, will cost a donor or donors \$138,000.

But the guest speakers at the ceremony gave Wolfe assurance that FIU will have the platform soon.

Terry Cuson, President of the North Miami Chamber of Commerce, displayed his show of confidence by passing around a donation hat and donating the first dollar for the future platform.

During the remainder of the ceremony, mayors from North Miami, North Miami Beach and Hialeah spoke and made proclamations for FIU and the Aquatic Center for the day of Feb. 14.

Looking to the future of FIU aquatic sports, Wolfe said in his speech, "It (the pool) is going to help put, literally, thousands of young men and women in the forefront of America's competitive opportunities in aquatic athletics."

Student Government Association President Genish Chen-Shue lamented the same thoughts saying that another Michele Richardson could develop from FIU's new facility.

And as Richardson began to ready for her swim, Wolfe sheepishly said he would also take part in the inauguration swim. But instead of taking a dip he decided to throw a spare set of his own swimming trunks in the pool as Richardson dived in.

The grand opening also featured a performance by a synchronization swimmer and a barbecue afterwards for the guests.

As the day began, FIU student Joe DeWitt reserved his spot for the occasion by setting out his own lounge chair and soaking in whatever rays there were on that cold day. This will most definitely be a common sight at FIU's new facility.



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