

The Sunblazer

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

Million dollar debts in FIU ledger

by Lourdes Rodriguez-Florida

Sunblazer Staff Writer

FIU has over \$1 million in unpaid student fees on its financial books, according to a state audit released on Oct. 10.

The amount has accumulated since 1972, when the university first opened, and consists of course fees, as well as added late payment charges, said James Ketzle, the university controller. Between 1983 and 1984 alone, more than \$400,000 in tuition checks have bounced.

FIU uses two methods to get students to pay their delinquent fees. The first and primary method is to withhold transcripts, grades and diplomas from these students. The second method, which was started in 1982, is to drop the students from classes they register for.

Ketzle said the university collects between \$80,000 and \$200,000 a year in delinquent fees. Most of these fees are collected from current students, or those who re-register. The older delinquent fees are more difficult to collect, he said.

Ketzle said the university has not considered the use of a collection agency for the older delinquent fees because it's not "cost productive."

"It's rather pointless for us to go after these delinquent accounts," he said. "The older it gets, the harder it is to catch them, especially after four or five years."

According to Ketzle, the university is considering writing off older delinquent accounts. "The president (FIU's Gregory B. Wolfe) has the authority to write them off. Many universities do this," he said.

FIU is also considering turning current late accounts over to a collection agency. Ketzle said the university does take into account that most students who don't pay their fees have a problem, some going to financial aid or foreign student services for help.

"We receive requests for deferments from these offices," he said.

Deferment is an extension of the time allotted for a student to pay his fees. Only one deferment is allowed per academic year. "There are almost as many reasons for delinquent accounts as there are accounts," said Ketzle. "Whenever it's within the rules of the state, we will allow a deferment."

Other items cited by the FIU audit were:

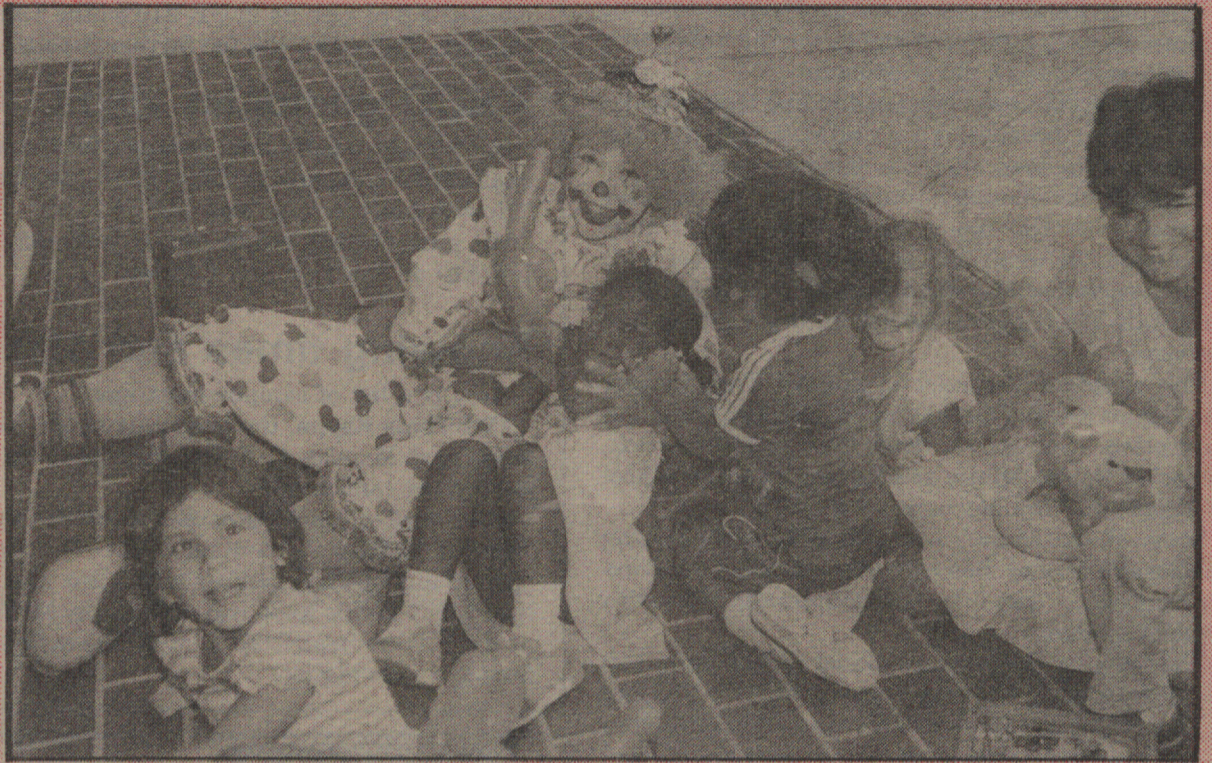
- FIU's use of \$50,000 collected from parking tickets as scholarship money instead of using it for financial aid or for the parking ticket program as required by law.

Ketzle said that the \$50,000 used for scholarship money was a "misunderstanding of the law." He said that the university was aware of the mistake before the audit, but that the problem arose because the law stated that the money could be used for either the parking program or financial aid.

"The school attorney told us that the money should only have been used for student loans, not scholarships," he said.

- An FIU employee making \$450 worth of personal long distance calls to California.

As for the FIU employee who made long distance phone calls, Ketzle said, "We have instructed an internal auditor to follow up on that case. We will seek restitution where possible."



CLOWNIN' AROUND

As part of Hispanic Heritage Week, future FIU students get into the act with a clownish visitor.

Science dept. receives big bucks

by Lourdes Rodriguez-Florida

Sunblazer Staff Writer

The National Institute of Health has awarded more than \$650,000 to four FIU science departments for the establishment of a Minority Biomedical Research Science Program.

The four departments -- biology, chemistry, medical laboratory sciences and physics -- will receive more than \$200,000 a year, for the next three years.

The money will provide continued support for ongoing research, as well as establish the program, in which students get paid to work as research assistants.

"The program emphasis is to get minority students into scientific research," said Martin Tracey, program director.

"The goal is for students to get advanced degrees. In order to continue scientific research you have to have a doctoral degree."

The science departments have been trying since 1979 to get funding for this program. The first three

proposals of the program were turned down, and finally, on Sept. 30, the fourth draft was accepted after changes were made in the research proposals.

The funding will be distributed in four ways: student salaries, student travel (to scientific meetings), seminar series, and research support. The research support will include the purchase of new equipment and supplies, as well as partial summer salaries for professors involved in the program.

"We have tried with a fair degree of success to get a reasonable balance between student salaries and research materials," said Tracey. The student fund will receive \$60,000 a year, he added.

The program's five areas of research are:

- Tissue Transplantation in Marine Invertebrates, Department of Biological Sciences, Assistant Professor Charles Bigger

- Identification of the Macular Pigment and Study of Carotenoids in Visual Systems, Department of Physics and Chemistry, Assistant Professors Richard Bone and John Landrum

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SGA paralyzed by poor attendance

by Valerie Greenberg

Sunblazer Staff Writer

It began at 4:02 p.m.
Twelve minutes passed.
It was all over.

"We are the few, the proud," Sandy Curtis, Student Government Association vice president, jokingly said to the handful of senators who showed up at the Oct. 16 SGA meeting on the Bay Vista Campus.

With only 9 of the 36 senators present, the Senate did not have a quorum and therefore could not conduct any official business.

"It is upsetting to see that so many senators did not make it to the meeting," said Curtis. "They made a commitment to the job and have a responsibility to fulfill. They should be here."

Curtis said that many of the senators were busy studying for midterm exams and could not spare time to attend the meeting.

Attendance at the Oct. 9 meeting also was low, according to Curtis, as senators were occupied with midterms and Spanish Heritage Week.

Curtis said the job of a senator requires several hours of work each week, "and they sometimes need a break."

Flag football
is serious stuff...
pages 6 and 7

Track runner
faces dilemma...
page 8

'Kuni Leml'
tastes great...
page 11

Alumni Association splitting into chapters

by Carolyn Salata

Sunblazer Contributor

FIU's Alumni Association is in the process of transforming its main organization into separate chapters.

The individual chapters will be designed to bring alumni back to help raise money for the university, as well as to renew old friendships.

Alumni leaders say they are dividing the umbrella organization because it's a difficult task for one association to keep all of its members active.

Through the chapters, alumni can keep in closer contact with the departments from which they graduated. "Alumni first associate themselves with their department, then their school, and finally FIU," said Kate Whittington, School of Public Affairs and Services.

Five chapters now exist on campus. They include the Department of Occupational Therapy, School of Education, College of Business Administration, School of Public Affairs and Services and the School of Hospitality Management.

Some of the chapters are involved with raising scholarship money. Some are also involved in organizing activities that bring the alumni together with current students.

The College of Business Administration chapter will be sponsoring a Halloween party on Oct. 25. The School of Public Affairs and Services chapter is planning a speaker series featuring prominent local leaders.

"Up until now, there was not as much involvement as there could have been," said Christopher Bishop, director of the Alumni Association.

Coming up...

French professor to speak

Germaine Bree, professor of humanities at Wake Forest University, will speak on the critical debate between gender differences. The lecture will take place at 3 p.m. Oct. 24 in UH 210 on the Tamiami Campus. Call 554-2408 for further details.

ARCO geologist visits

Sunit Addy, a petroleum geologist for the ARCO exploration company in Dallas will speak about "How to Look for Gas and Oil."

His presentation will be at 6:15 p.m. Oct. 21 in UH 210 on the Tamiami Campus.

Knowing times and places

Here is a list of campus meetings.

•Phi Theta Kappa, the academic honor society, meets each Monday. Call Kurt Himler at 227-6110 for further information.

•The newly-formed Forensic Association Debate Team is looking for new members. The team is open to any faculty member or student who is interested in public speaking. Call Cathy McManus at 665-2270 or Dean Clair T. McElfesh at 554-2009 for more information.

•North Dade Hillel have several things in the works. There will be a discussion on "Anti-Semitism and How it Affects You," at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 22 in SC 245 on the Bay Vista Campus. The discussion features Allen Grossman from the Anti-Defamation League. For more information, call Marcy at 932-4200.

•The Faculty Senate will meet at 12:15 p.m. Oct. 29, Nov. 12 and Nov. 26 in PC 432 on the Tamiami Campus.

Learning to cook more than frozen dinners

Those enamored by fine wines, chocolate pastas, American seafood and delicate pastries can indulge their fantasies -- as well as their palates -- during a course that offers a look at food preparation.

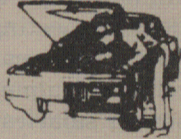
The university's division of continuing education has recruited chefs from the Omni, Seasons Catering, the Fontainebleau Hilton and the Mayfair House Hotel to teach a five-week course titled "Miami, A Fine Dining Experience."

The class started last week and runs through Nov. 13. For more information, call 940-5669.

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'Thursdays': something to do on Thursdays

by Sanda Kurtz

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Arthur Dent, the unlikely hero of Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, could never quite "get the hang of Thursdays." Poor guy probably didn't go to FIU.

On the Bay Vista Campus, Thursday is possibly the easiest day of the week to get the hang of things since the start of Thursdays on the Bay.

Myles Barchas, Student Government Association senator, came up with the idea and started the ball rolling. "We (Bay Vista) never had anything like 'Live at the Rat' (which takes place on the Tamiami Campus)," he said. "The 4000 students here just needed somewhere to go."

Thursdays on the Bay started Oct. 3 and was attended by 125 people. It takes place every Thursday from

9 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the cafeteria, with no cover charge for admission. The tables are shifted around so there is plenty of room to sit and talk between dancing and mingling.

Barchas said there was nowhere that FIU students could go to meet and mingle without dealing with the crunch of people at places like Raffle's and G. Wizz, two North Miami nightclubs.

Walking toward Thursdays, you can here the heavy bass lines of some of your favorite songs blaring through the sound system.

You can see your friends, acquaintances, next door neighbors and infatuations dancing, laughing and having a good time. Plus, the beer is only 50 cents until 11 p.m.

The sound system was purchased from Ace Music, and several knowledgeable students volunteered their time and effort to DJ the event. The 99 albums in the

collection range from rap to punk, and take side steps to reggae and slow, romantic songs as well.

A \$1,000 lighting system and hot food will be added soon to the Thursday night event.

It may be a little warm inside, but that's because students are saying Thursdays on the Bay is the hottest thing to happen to BVC in a long time.

Halloween night falls on a Thursday and SGA is pulling out all the stops. A costume contest with cash prizes, free food until it runs out, and green beer is in the works.

Thursdays will occasionally take on different themes. There will be a Miami Vice night so everyone can wear those expensive outfits they bought. And if you have any suggestions on future theme nights, SGA members say they would love to hear them.

Series emphasizes health knowledge

by Flora M. Schule

Sunblazer Contributor

What do your feet, your leisure time, and your anxiety about tests have in common? These are a few of the subjects that have been discussed this year as part of the Wellness Series at FIU.

What exactly is the Wellness Series?

The coordinator of the FIU Wellness Center, John Bonanno, describes the program as an effort to help students achieve the health people crave. "Look around you," he said. "More and more people are exercising."

The one-hour workshops discuss all aspects of personality, as well as physical fitness.

"People are more health conscious and we're just trying to fit in with that movement so that when they graduate from FIU, they will be more reformed and well-rounded, as well as intellectually knowledgeable," he said.

The basis of the health workshops is simple. The more you know about yourself, the healthier you will be. The workshops emphasize prevention rather than cure.

With the increasing cost of medical care, Bonanno said that knowledge of one's state of health can be beneficial.

"We're not trying to make people their own doctors, but the more you know about certain topics such as colds, injuries and stress, it can increase prevention," he said.

Topics in the past have ranged from, "What You Should Know about Cults," to "Breasts: Self Examination." The Wellness Program schedules a wide variety of topics in order to reach as many students as possible.

Sometimes the results are surprising. During a recent birth control workshop, one-half of the participants were male.

Wolfe seeks streamlined fundraising

by Stan Butler

Sunblazer News Editor

To alleviate uncertainties over fundraising, President Gregory Wolfe's recent memo will help the FIU Foundation and the development office to become the steering offices for all outside fundraising activities.

The memo asks that all faculty and staff members seek prior concurrence with the Office of the Vice President for Development before seeking outside contributions.

According to Frances Koestine, assistant director of development, the memo restating the school's

policy "has been needed for a long time."

"The FIU Foundation is the centerpiece of the university's development machinery. The Foundation exists to encourage, solicit, receive and administer contributions from private sources for educational and charitable purposes that will advance FIU," said Wolfe in his memo.

"The development office staffs the Foundation and serves as the point of contact with the university community," said Wolfe.

"The policy will help us (development office) keep complete donor records of all alumni, non-alumni, associations and civic clubs," said Koestine.

By streamlining the fundraising process into one office, FIU avoids "having several units of the university knocking on the doors of the same major corporations asking for contributions," said Koestine.

Chancellor Reed visits FIU

FIU News Bureau

When newly-appointed Chancellor Charles Reed decided to visit the nine state universities, he selected FIU as his starting point.

He visited FIU last month with Board of Regents Chairman Robin Gibson.

Both Reed and Gibson spent most of their four-day visit in meetings with FIU President Gregory B. Wolfe, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, academic deans and the executive council of the Student Government Association.

Reed also visited FIU in the midst of heated meetings over the university's minority hiring practices.

At his meeting with SGA members, Reed also spoke with Giovana Welch and Jorge Dominicus, the first two FIU students to be named to the Board of Regents and the Postsecondary Education Planning Committee.

Reed replaced Barbara Newell as chancellor. He was formerly an aide to Florida Gov. Bob Graham.

Students to celebrate U.N.

The Black Student Union and Florida Public Interest Research Group (FPIRG) will co-sponsor a "Campaign For Life" Oct. 22 as part of National Student Campaign Against Hunger.

The proceeds will go to USA For Africa to benefit world hunger.

Guest speakers for the carnival will include FIU alumnus Howard Salzman and Lisandro Perez, chairman of the FIU sociology department.

This fall marks the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. To celebrate U.N. Day, Oct. 21, FIU students will examine three major U.N. agencies, their history and their future.

The keynote speaker for the event will be Thomas Dube of Zimbabwe who is a public affairs officer at the United Nations. The lecture will be at noon.

--Adrian Walker

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AWARD <<<<<continued from page 1

- Synthesis of Nitrogen-Containing Heterocyclic Compounds, Department of Chemistry, Associate Professor Leonard Keller

- Lactoferrin Structure, Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, Associate Professor Janet Lineback

- Molecular Mechanisms of Sex Reversal, Department of Biological Sciences, Professor Martin Tracey, Lecturer Peter Pechan, and Associate Professor Case Okubo.

Admission into the program is restricted to full-time students. Students must fill out an application and be interviewed by a professor working in the program.

The professor will review the student's academic record and decide if the student has the time to do research. If he does, the professor will prepare a work schedule. The information will be forwarded to Program Director Tracey, who will review and submit the report to a committee for admission.

There are nine undergraduate and three graduate positions available the first year.

Editor's Forum

by Jeffrey L. Kleinman



I don't drink. I'm a freak.

When people unpack their coolers at the beach to down a few Buds, I'm snapping the lid off of a can of Sprite.

It's not that I'm opposed to six-packs, wine coolers and margaritas. It's just I don't like the taste. I can't say I haven't tried to like beer. A few weeks ago I had a rough day at school. I went home to watch a Dolphin exhibition game and relax. And then I did it. It was just sitting there. I popped the top of a beer that had been sitting on the refrigerator shelf for months.

I took a sip, washed it around my mouth and then ran to the sink to spit the foamy acid out. I removed the horrible taste with a can of Cherry Coke.

So I remain a non-drinker. I remain a freak.

But not drinking puts you in a spotlight. It's the same as not liking hamburgers, pizza or chicken. I can't go to a nice restaurant without feeling like a criminal for deflating the waitress's tip by not buying alcoholic beverages. I order water or a soda. Then I'm turned into someone who doesn't deserve to be served.

At parties, I'm an instant hit. When I politely refuse a drink, I automatically become known as an outcast. Whenever I see the same people in a different setting, they often kid me about them stocking up on milk to be prepared for my next visit. I laugh. What I'd really like to do is stick needles up their behinds. There's no reason for them to make me feel abnormal.

I enjoy other things. I just haven't developed the taste or the need for alcohol.

Most of my friends don't drink, either. I don't seek them out. There are plenty to choose from. The only thing that keeps non-drinkers hidden is the poor attitude of those who do drink. But the temptation hasn't been there for me. I'm still a teetotaler. Still a freak.

Liquor is in abundance in my household. Don't get the wrong idea. Many of the bottles were bought for parties and many have come as gifts. The labels look luscious. Cocoa, pineapple and almond are some of the flavors of the liquors. These things rival the flavors produced by my favorite ice cream company. I poured some of the pineapple flavored liquor on some cake one day. Yucky-poo. I'm back to chocolate syrup. And still a freak.

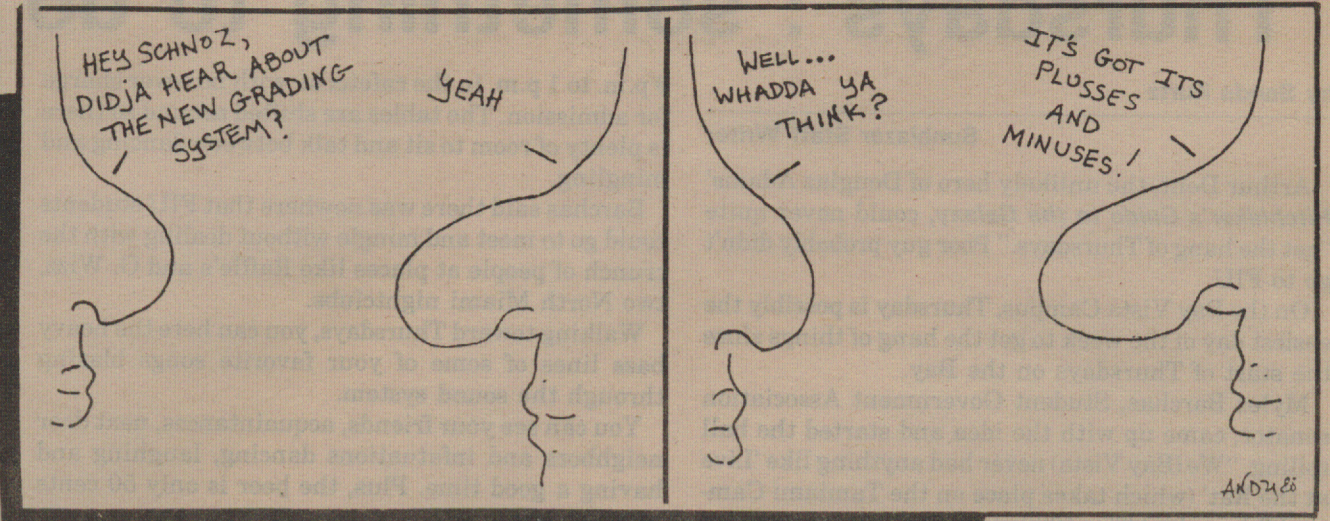
I'm not asking anyone to stop drinking. I'm just asking for them not to treat non-drinkers as, you guessed it, freaks. I still don't drink. I'm still a freak.

Letters policy

The Sunblazer welcomes your views on the basis of timeliness, interest, clarity, taste and space.

Letters must be signed with the writer's name and their relationship to the university. Telephone numbers must be included so we may verify your letter.

We may condense and will correct errors of spelling and grammar. Please address letters to: The Sunblazer, FIU Bay Vista Campus, SC 253, North Miami, FL 33181.



SGA insensitive at special lectures

To the Editor:

On Sept. 29, 1985, I attended the lecture given by Ted Koppel on the Tamiami Campus. The lecture was advertised as an activity sponsored by the Student Government Association for the benefit of the students. Tickets were offered free of charge to students. No difference in the rights of paying ticket holders was announced other than that payment was for the privilege of non-students to attend the lecture. This was confirmed to me when I picked up my ticket. I was assured that seats would be available on a first-come basis.

On that basis, I arrived at the lecture two hours in advance in order to make sure I could secure a good seat. However, at the entrance, we were told that paying ticket holders would have priority over the students, and that we students would get whatever seats were left over.

To add insult to injury, we were kept outside of the building until the very last moment in order to insure that those paying ticket holders who arrived late would still get preferred seating.

I thought that the educational activities offered by this university were offered primarily for the benefit

of the students. Students pay a fee for the right to participate in these activities. We are not freeloaders. Non-students on the other hand, pay for the privilege to get a better seat. If, however, the cost of an activity is too high to be defrayed entirely from our fees, and tickets are going to be sold carrying preferential rights in order to cover our costs, then the SGA and FIU President Gregory Wolfe had a duty to inform students so that we would have the choice of whether or not to pay for tickets. As it was, we were denied that choice, and in the process, we were humiliated.

Letters

Let's face it, students are the reason, and not the excuse, for holding educational lectures and activities. To the same extent that it is President Wolfe's duty to guard the overall interests of the university, it is the duty of SGA to protect the students' interests. However, these members of SGA prepared to consider the fundraising interests of the university and the interests of outsiders who paid to attend the lecture, over and above our interests. They are not fit to call themselves our representatives. They owe the students an apology.

Lilliana Torreh-Bayouth
FIU student

Clarifying a point on obscenity

To the Editor:

The opinion piece by Valerie Greenberg -- "Restricting lyrics is unconstitutional" (The Sunblazer, Oct. 15) -- requires some clarification. Ms. Greenberg, as I read her argument, suggests that the report issued by the majority of the members (12 of the 17) of the Commission on Obscenity and Pornography carries the weight of law. That simply isn't true. Whether one agrees or disagrees with what is found in the majority report, it is fact that its recommendations were never adopted.

More to the point, the U.S. Supreme Court, in decisions announced since the commission published its findings, seems at times to have adopted the rationale put forward by the minority of that same commission. Pember, in a book required in my media law class, notes that Chief Justice Warren Burger feels that "there need not be conclusive proof of a connection between antisocial behavior and obscene material for a state legislature to reasonably conclude that such a connection exists or might exist." Additionally, the Chief Justice has stated that "we do not demand of legislatures 'scientifically certain criteria of legisla-

tion,' for unprovable assumptions underlie much lawful state regulation of commercial and business affairs."

In short, while Ms. Greenberg has certainly touched on one of the most controversial areas of First Amendment law, she errs when she cites the Commission on Obscenity and Pornography as a definitive source of the law. Furthermore, again whether one agrees or disagrees, Ms. Greenberg is not correct when she says that "censorship cannot be applied to obscene material within the boundaries of the Constitution." That argument received an explicit answer in Roth vs. U.S. (1957), when the Supreme Court said that obscenity is not protected by the First Amendment.

David L. Martinson
Associate Professor
Department of Communication

The Contests of the Year

Name the song and the group in the *K Column on the back page of The Sunblazer and win \$10. If there is more than one correct answer, the winner will be picked from a hat. Mail your answers to the paper at BVC, room 253, North Miami, FL 33181.

Sunblazer staff members are ineligible. The contest will be featured every two weeks.

The Sunblazer

Bay Vista Campus
SC 253
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(305) 940-5684(85)

Tamiami Campus
UH 313B
Miami, Florida 33199
(305) 554-2315

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School should never have been at BVC

Business school belongs at Tamiami

by Robert Stark

I have been at FIU for almost five years. I have spent two and a half years at the Tamiami Campus and two and half years at the Bay Vista Campus. So I consider myself as someone who has seen both sides of the argument involving the university's business school.

The original argument to move that school to BVC was a ludicrous one that held no weight. But somehow, a certain minority (BVC professors and students from the north area) appeared to be the only ones with opinions.

Nobody ever realized that there are about 13,000 students at Tamiami (yes, BVC community, Tamiami is the main campus). Their opinions were hardly ever heard. Instead, small trivial reasons were given for the proposed move to BVC.

The following is a list of the arguments for BVC and a common sense reply to each one:

- Tamiami has no more room -- Well, if you consolidate the school at BVC, you'll have the same problem all over again. But then again, the school would be lucky if they could get half the students that now go to Tamiami. So, ultimately, you move a school and enrollment goes down. Very smart indeed.

- BVC needs to be built up for the future -- Whether the BVC community wants to believe it or not, Tamiami has been and will always be FIU's future. Just because BVC is considered a "white elephant" by some, doesn't give ample reason to move the entire business school from a success to a mess.

- There is a great deal of student population untapped in North Dade and Broward -- That's baloney. The business school attracts many students (probably its bulk) from the south (especially Latins) who go there for that sole reason. Move the school to BVC and they'll take their futures elsewhere. FIU rose successfully due in large part to the business school at Tamiami. How can any rational person, with an interest in FIU's future support such a crazy idea?

After these arguments there are still more trivial ones. Take the BVC student who wants pity because he or she lives in North Dade and might have to travel to Tamiami or even move down there.

Well, I hope they're ready for the world's smallest violin, because I, as a communication major, have had to travel to BVC for two years because not one single communication course is offered at Tamiami. And I live five minutes from Tamiami. But the communication department's consolidation on one campus is

totally ignored. I'd be willing to bet if that department moved to Tamiami, its enrollment would at least double. But hey, BVC needs to be saved and it needs some departments.

Speak Back

No matter how many letters The Sunblazer may receive criticizing my opinion printed here, there is just no sane reason to move the business school to BVC, period. I'm just glad, for the sake of FIU, that the administration thought rationally at the end and decided to stay at Tamiami.

And one last note says it all. In the Oct. 8 issue of The Sunblazer, SGA Senator Myles Barchas was quoted as saying, "Just when all of us have been working so hard to make this campus (BVC) bigger and better, they pull the rug from underneath us."

Well, Mr. Barchas, in mine and I'm sure many, many other people's opinions at FIU, that rug shouldn't have been put there in the first place.

(Robert Stark serves on The Sunblazer editorial board.)

Social Security has no benefits

by Herb Slocumb

Sunblazer Contributor

Now that we've finished celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Social security system, we should reflect on the many blessings it has, and will bestow upon us. Just one real life example will be enough to convince anyone how truly wonderful our system is.

Consider Ida Fuller, who retired and began receiving benefits in 1940. She paid \$22 into the system through payroll taxes, and before her untimely death in 1975, she managed to reap more than \$20,000 in benefits! Ida received many generous blessings, indeed. But how do her other retired brethren fare?

They have been blessed, too, although not quite so abundantly. Average Social Security recipients get benefits equal to only five times the amount they paid into the system through payroll taxes. The system has also been pouring its blessings onto more people each day, because the elderly are the fastest growing segment of our population.

The number of people receiving Social Security benefits has increased almost 100 percent since 1960. But the number of working people -- those who pay Social Security taxes -- has grown 27 percent. Today there are only 3.2 workers supporting each retiree, which is quite a drop from 42 workers per retiree as it was in 1945. Since Social Security is a pay-as-you-go type of system, these trends have forced workers to lose ever increasing proportions of their paychecks to support retirees.

If it is more blessed to give than to receive, American workers may soon be blessed to an uncom-

fortable degree. At least one expert has forecasted that it won't be long before Social Security payroll taxes will take 40 percent out of our paychecks just to keep the system from collapsing.

Bring the good news of this blessing to the low income workers struggling from week to week to support themselves and their families. To them, this blessing will translate into the ultimatum: "Your money or your life." They will lose control over both. They will also be interested to learn that some of their hard earned money will be going to upper and middle income retirees who may have absolutely no real need for it.

Tell them that the benefits now promised them in return for their payroll taxes will represent a return of 1 percent, or in many cases, a negative return. If they were allowed to invest what they pay in payroll taxes, and received just 6 percent annually, they could have a retirement income 300 percent higher than what Social Security will pay.

When they understand these "blessings" they won't rejoice. But workers suffer from a basic constraint when they attempt change through the political process. Most of their time is spent trying to earn a living.

In order for the oppressed American working class to liberate themselves from exploitive payroll taxes, they must discover the true state they are in. The state they are in now was supposedly abolished in the bloodbath known as the American Civil War. But it still exists in many subtle forms and to varying degrees.

The worker's awareness of his true condition will grow as his chains become heavier.

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FIU runner stopped in his tracks

by Jeffrey L. Kleinman

Sunblazer Editor

One of South Florida's best runners has run right into a brick wall at FIU.

Julio Valdes, who ran track and cross country at Coral Park High and ran for two years at Troy State in Alabama, is now training at FIU under Coach Bob Zell. But because FIU dropped its track program this semester for financial reasons, Valdes says he may transfer to another school that has a program.

This semester Valdes is running cross country unattached to any university in order to save a year's eligibility in case he decides to leave. NCAA Division II athletics allows only one transfer without sitting out a year and losing a year of eligibility. Valdes used that when he transferred from Troy to FIU this semester.

"His primary purpose was to come here and run track," said Zell. "Julio may want to transfer (to another school). I would not blame him at all."

Valdes successfully competed at Troy State before he came down with an eye infection. He came back to Miami to recuperate. That's when Zell said he contacted Valdes about coming to FIU.

Zell coached Valdes at Coral Park. When Zell moved to FIU last year, he had his eye on his former star. Zell sold Valdes on the FIU track and cross country team. Two months after Valdes decided to transfer, track was dropped from the FIU sports menu.

"I was very surprised track was dropped," said Valdes, who excels in the 5,000 meter run. Zell said the only hope for FIU involvement in track next year is if he starts a track club and raises funds himself.

Valdes said he would stay at FIU if the club gets off the ground. "If FIU doesn't run track at all, forget it," said Valdes, mentioning that the University of Miami and the University of Mississippi are interested in him.

So for now, Valdes is playing the waiting game. He enters cross country tournaments without wearing FIU blue and yellow. But despite being the man without a college, he still is winning right and left.

He recently won the Stroh's Run for Liberty II, even though his victory wasn't official since he runs unattached. Last month he won the FIU Invitational against runners from the University of Miami and other local schools.

Because he is not linked to FIU, he said he is lacking the winning spirit. "If I was wearing FIU colors, I think I would try more," he said. "There's nothing to run for now."

Valdes said his decision to transfer if FIU doesn't offer track next year is the only way for him to go. "You don't get any recognition nationwide unless you're a good track runner."

Sunblazer spikers on a roll

by Irene Secada

Sunblazer Contributor

The FIU women's volleyball team captured the University of Central Florida Invitational Tournament Oct. 12 by defeating the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

The team (6-0 in the tournament and 11-3 overall) was ranked 15th nationally in Division II play after the 15-10, 15-6, 15-11 championship win.

Sue Anderson, the team's leading pointmaker this season with 79, and Sylvia Cantin were named to the All-Tournament Team. Anderson recorded 12 blocks and 10 aces during the tournament and Cantin led the team with a .498 spiking percentage.

Coach Linda Mikovic said she feels the her team displayed a good all around effort. "All players are seeing action and there has been a total team effort at...tournaments this year."

The team's next tournament will be Oct. 25 and 26 in Jacksonville. The Sunblazers will face Florida Institute of Technology, C.W. Post, Rollins, Jacksonville, Tampa and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Player point totals as of the UCF tournament:

- Leading blocker: Sue Anderson (23 pts.)
- Leading spiker: Robin Enciso (55 pts.)
- Leading server: Robin Enciso (18 aces)
- Leading pointmaker: Sue Anderson (79 pts.)

UCF Invitational Results

Oct. 11 FIU d. Ala.-Birm. 14-16, 13-15, 15-6, 15-9, 15-10
 FIU d. Stetson 15-10, 15-9, 15-5
 Oct. 12 FIU d. Ala.-Birm. 15-10, 15-6, 15-11
 FIU d. Central Fla. 15-3, 19-17, 15-8
 FIU d. South Alabama 15-10, 15-3, 15-12
 FIU d. Clemson 15-3, 15-4, 15-7

Biathlon race to test the tough and rugged

For all of those real in shape athletes out there, the Bay Vista Biathlon on Oct. 26 may be for you. And in shape you better be.

The biathlon consists of a 900 meter swim in the Aquatic center and a four mile run after that.

The event is open to all FIU students, faculty, staff and alumni association members. Two divisions will be contested: Male and female students as well as male and female faculty, staff and alumni. T-shirts will be awarded to each division winner.

There will be a mandatory meeting for all participants on the morning of the Saturday race at 8:45 a.m. The race starts at 9 a.m. Entries, which are accepted at either the Bay Vista or Tamiami Fitness Center, will be allowed until the participants meeting on race day.

Intramural Flag Football League



STANDINGS
 Through Oct. 12

★ CANADIAN DIVISION ★

Team	W-L	PF	PA
* Rat	4-0	77	24
* Walk-Ons	3-1	69	51
No Names	2-2	58	55
PineSiskins	2-2	107	75
Hosers	1-3	42	96
Turtles	0-4	24	76

★ U.S. DIVISION ★

Team	W-L	PF	PA
* Goombazoo	4-0	128	12
* R. Raiders	4-0	106	12
AGO	3-1	76	67
Steroids	2-1	56	71
Warriors	1-3	39	71
Surf Nazis	0-3	25	54
Destroyers	0-3	41	82
Hawks	0-3	39	71

★ NATIONAL DIVISION ★

Team	W-L	PF	PA
* Force	4-0	118	0
* Columbus	3-1	65	36
SigEps	3-2	49	92
Terrorists	2-2	38	50
Ex-Gators	0-5	0	73

* = Clinched playoff spot.

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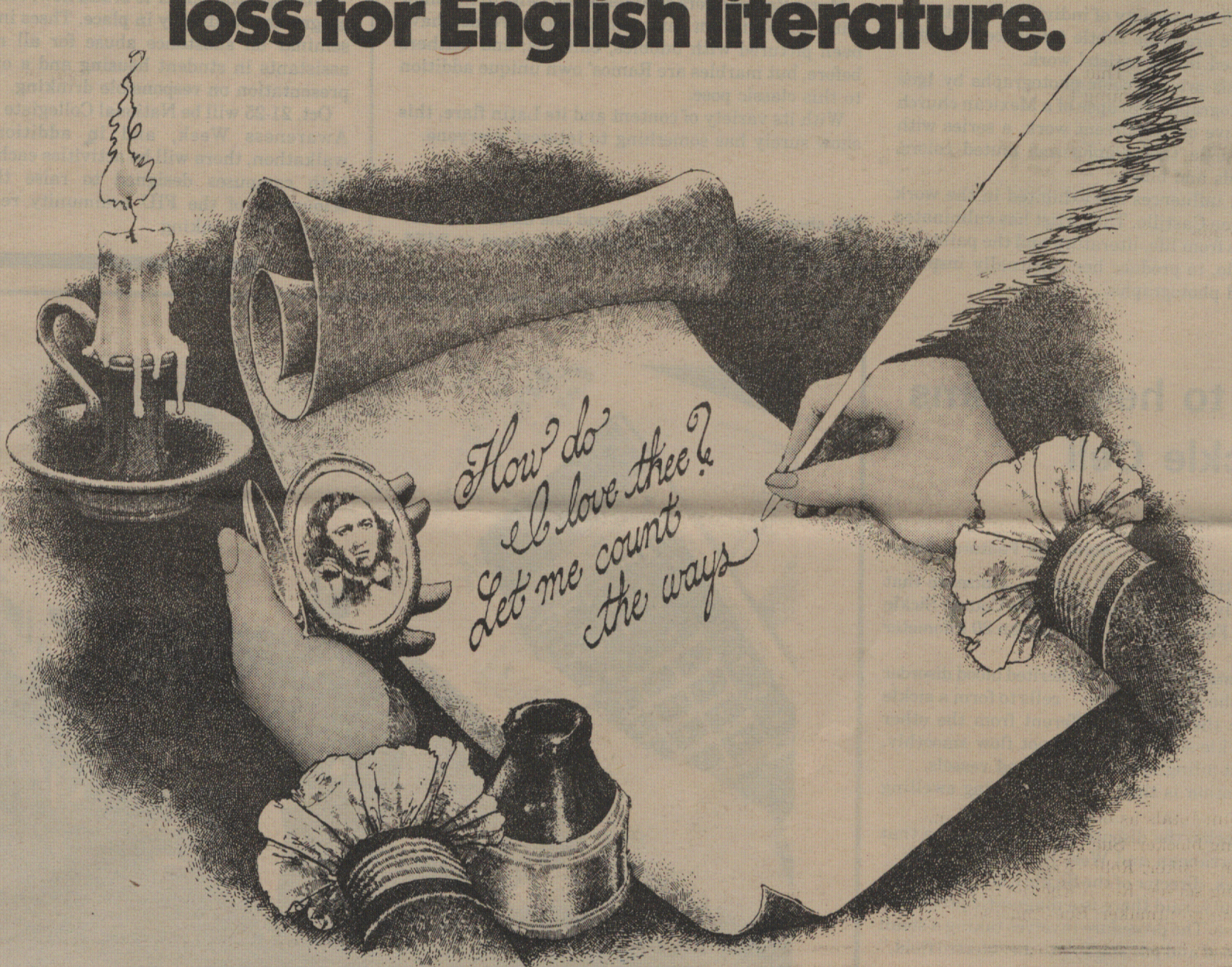


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Student exhibit shows Latin flair

by Susan Cafolla

Sunblazer Contributor

Young and talented Latin artists are displaying their work at the North Dade Regional Library. The show is entitled, "Latin Views From the Bay Vista Photography Club" and the contributors are FIU student members.

This collection of work was brought together by photographers Mirta Gomez and Ed Del Valle to help commemorate Hispanic Heritage Week.

This show offers a variety of individual artistic expression. There are some subtle influences of Latin culture reflected in the artists' work.

Noted for this are the color photographs by Igee Font. His photograph of an apse of a Mexican church is representative of his current work, a series with a religious theme that emphasizes muted colors, especially golds and blues.

Other Latin influences are exhibited in the work of Nina Firmino-Castillo. This artist has culminated her influences from life, literature and the paintings of Frida Kahlo, to produce her spiritually inspired paintings and photographs.

Len Furman's photos, entitled "Infinity I and II," show another of Latin influences. These nightclub scenes are a lively example of this artist's work. The unusual spacial relationships add curiosity to this personal look inside "Infinity."

The black and white photographs of Lillian Cano offer the viewer humor and surprise. Most noted is her photo of a whale and a porpoise. Upon first inspection, the viewer will see an abstract image of reflected light, and unusual shapes. Gradually, the true image will appear.

Photography Review

Mario Ramos offers an interesting twist to the show with his Victorian nude photographs. Nudes have been pictured with bubbles, balloons, and feathers before, but marbles are Ramos' own unique addition to this classic pose.

With its variety of content and its Latin flare, this show surely has something to interest everyone.

The show opened on Oct. 2 and will close Nov. 29. The North Dade Regional Library is located at 2455 Northwest 183 St.

Alcohol, drug centers open on campuses

FIU News Bureau

FIU has received a grant from the University of Florida to open a student Alcohol and Drug Resource Center on both campuses.

Located in UH 319 on the Tamiami Campus and SC 256 on the Bay Vista Campus, the center will distribute brochures, present workshops on responsible drinking and establish a student assistant program.

Gema Hernandez, director of special projects for student affairs, will be the center's administrator. She will be assisted by Kathy Trionfo, assistant director of counseling at BVC, SGA President Jorge Dominicis, and another student who has not yet been named.

Although the center is brand new, some of its programs are already in place. These include a seminar on substance abuse for all resident assistants in student housing and a one-hour presentation on responsible drinking.

Oct. 21-25 will be National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, and in addition to a walkathon, there will be activities each day on both campuses designed to raise the consciousness of the FIU community regarding responsible drinking.

Walk to help victims of Sickle Cell

by Mina Socarras

Sunblazer Features Editor

To help battle Sickle Cell Anemia, a disease that predominantly affects blacks, the Dade County Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation is sponsoring a 20 kilometer walk.

The often fatal disease is an inherited blood disorder that causes the normal red cells to form a sickle shape. Since the shape is different from the other cells, the sickle-shaped ones do not flow smoothly, tangling and piling up into tiny blood vessels.

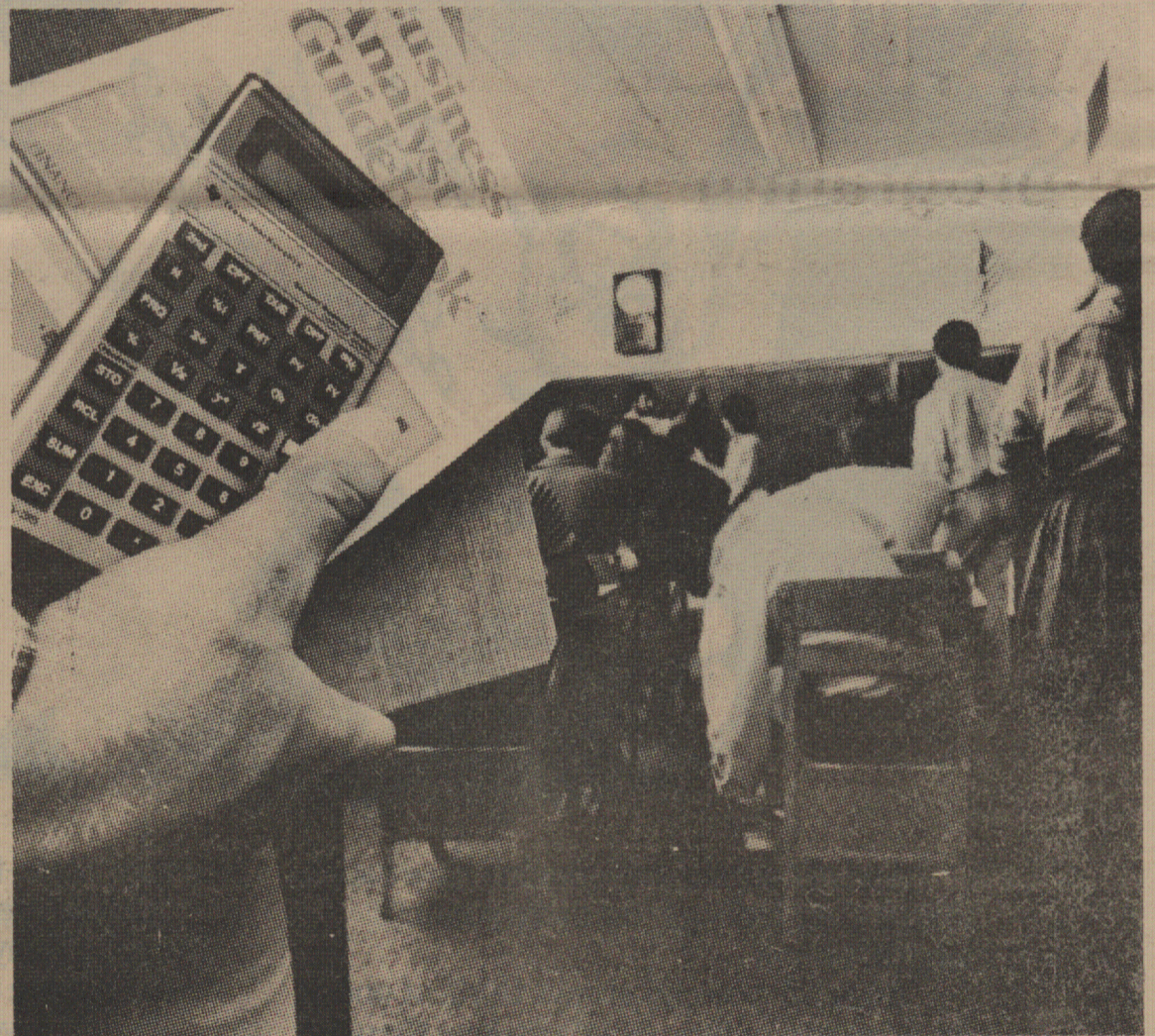
The circulation is then blocked, causing swelling and pain.

Besides blacks, the disease also afflicts those that have Mediterranean and West Indian ancestries.

Astrid Mack, director of the Sickle Cell Foundation of Dade County, said there is a diagnostic procedure for the disease. The procedure involves taking a small sample of blood and putting it into an "electro field," said Mack.

Since Sickle Cell Anemia is a genetic disease, Mack advises those who belong to vulnerable ancestries to seek genetic counseling before getting married. "We are not telling carriers not to have children, but rather that there are precautions and alternatives you can take," he said.

For more information on the walk to help wipe out the disease, call the Foundation at 547-6924.



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'Kuni Leml' has a tasty recipe

by Holly Manheim

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Combine one adamant rabbi, one love-sick rabbi's daughter, one plum matchmaker, one Hassidic husband, two drinking and dancing scholars, another two dancing friends, one handsome love-sick tutor, and add another Hassidic husband for flavor.

Then mix well.

Dress them in authentic looking 19th Century outfits, surround them with a simple but useful set. Then season them with a tight, well-written script, operetta-style melodies, and clever, succinct lyrics.

Then set under lights for two hours. The end product? The makings of a delicious musical comedy called "Kuni Leml."

"Kuni Leml" is a celebration of life. The play's major ingredient is the relationship -- father and daughter relationships, romantic relationships, unwanted relationships, and self relationships -- all within a traditional Jewish culture.

The relationships, however, as in reality, do not blend easily. There are a lot of lumps that are constantly being stirred and mixed to promote smoothness in the end.

"Kuni Leml," the current performance at the Ruth Foreman Theater on FIU's Bay Vista Campus, is a

celebration of people and their most simple and basic wants: the desire for a family filled with love and lots of little tots. But first, there comes the trials and tribulations of finding that special person to love and hold. That is what "Kuni Leml" presents to us in a hilarious, whimsical, musical and simplistic way.

This theme is universal, and can be enjoyed by all regardless of their religion or age. The play's relationship with the audience is steadfast, bonding its hearts and minds together with songs, that through exaggeration and sarcasm, emphasize the positive spirit the play exudes.

Stage

"Kuni Leml's" uplifting power is created by its pot-pouri of talented, well-cast actors. This power is so strong that in the end, it will lift you out of your seat to applaud this funny, yet moving farce.

If you are wondering what the word Kuni Leml means, well, you'll just have to go in and take a taste of it for yourself.

"Kuni Leml" serves 325 people per show, has zero calories and is 100 percent worthwhile.

"Kuni Leml," with music by Raphael Crystal and lyrics by Richard Engquist, plays through Nov. 10.



Elaine Evans star in "Kuni Leml."

Cheap Trick isn't 'pre-programmed Madonna crap'

by Rob Vesschermolt

Sunblazer Contributor

Cheap Trick is a band obsessed, and its obsession is with the same thing of your average college student is obsessed with: S-E-X.

Never has its obsession been more obvious than on its newest release -- "Standing on the Edge." Surprisingly, it works well on its newest batch of songs. This is its best album since "Dream Police."

The "hit single" (you know, the one on the little sticker pasted on the album cover even before the song received any airplay) is "Tonight It's You." It was played for a few weeks on some of Miami's rock stations but has already disappeared.

It's a very nice slow song. But since it isn't any of that pre-programmed Madonna crap that Miami stations like playing to death, it vanished quickly.

The rest of the album is about 80 percent straight rock, which is what Cheap Trick does best. Robin

Zander, the band's lead singer, has a distinctive voice that is perfect for the type of rock Cheap Trick plays.

"She's Got Motion" is a great song if you're still not sick of ZZ Top's "Legs." It uses the same background music with some pretty clever lyrics. I especially like the way they use the words, "don't stop."

"Love Comes" is a ballad that is a familiar song for Cheap Trick. It's also a pleasant song to listen to.

"How About You" uses an almost punk base line (slowed down of course because punk doesn't sell). The lyrics are pretty forgettable, but I can't get enough of Zander when he screams the song's title.

"Rock All Night" ties for the "Stupid Lyrics Award" with Loverboy's "Friday Night."

The rest of the songs are pretty good. With titles like "Cover Girl" and "Wild, Wild Women," how could they go wrong?

As a whole, I give the album an 8½. It is definitely worth checking out.

Lone Justice music rocks Button South with country twang

by David Colodney

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Desperately seeking Maria...

Nice journalistic type seeks nice vocalist from Lone Justice rock band.

"Hey, let's rush the stage!" somebody shouted as Lone Justice blew into the Button South last Sunday night.

And the crowd of about 800 flocked to the front of the stage, jumped, danced and sang along with the L.A. based band critics have been hailing as the "next big thing."

Most of the attention given Lone Justice centers around their 20 year-old lead singer Maria McKee, a gorgeous, green-eyed blonde with a soaring voice that sounds like a cross between Janis Joplin and Dolly Parton. There aren't too many concerts where the audience literally gasps at the vocals of the lead singer, but McKee pretty much held everyone transfixed for the next hour and a half.

McKee is far and away the focal point of the group. She wraps you up with her looks and then takes you home with her voice. She's sexy, but has a down home innocence that you

can almost picture her emerging from a slat cabin with a cast iron kettle screaming "Dinner! Supper's ready!"

As the lights dimmed, guitarist Ryan Hedgecock strummed the slow intro of "You are the Light," a ballad that closes their self-titled debut album and opens this show. McKee, decked out in a powder blue housedress and work boots, stepped toward the mike, licked her lips and began to sing. "You are the light/ in my dark world/ you are the fire that will always burn."

The fire burned through their next numbers, "After the Flood," "Working Late" and their two singles, the Tom Petty-Mike Campbell composition "Ways to be Wicked" and Steve Van Zandt's "Sweet, Sweet Baby (I'm Falling).

All of Lone Justice's music has a country flair to it, so it is not surprising that they do Creedence Clearwater Revival's classic "Fortunate Son" midway through the set. It is a ferocious three-chord rock song that McKee belts out with the same spirit as John Fogerty's original intended. CCR was about the most country a rock band could get, so the comparisons to Lone Justice are inevitable. What makes "Fortunate



Son" probably the most significant song of the set is the connection it makes with country music and with the '60's based rock that it combines with to make Lone Justice's sound.

What was surprising was the Lou Reed medley they did for the second of their three encores. "Sweet Jane" and "Walk on the Wild Side" brought the Button to a standstill with McKee's vocals and the tight harmony on "Sweet Jane" chorus between McKee, Hedgecock and bassist

Marvin Etzioni.

Great things are predicted for Lone Justice in the future. Hopefully, their success won't spoil the raw intensity and excitement that they have during live performances.

There aren't many feelings like seeing a new group in a small hall playing their hearts out to make a point. Lone Justice did. And when you get right down to it, isn't that what rock and roll is all about?

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I hear your heartbeat
But you're never there
Like a mirage
You haunt me everywhere
All day long
I burn for you, lonely in the night
I tried to live alone
But I just can't get it right

Ya know that
this town's like a painted desert
Dead heat
Movin in the city
I'm lost in a painted desert
In a painted desert without you

I've done some thinkin
Now that you're not here
I know your reasons
And they're still not clear
All I'm sure of is what I got to lose
I tried to be a better loser
But it's just no use

See page 4 this week for details on **The Contest of the Year**. If you want to make some fast money check out the rules.

AD DEADLINES: The Sunblazer is a weekly newspaper (bi-monthly in the summer) which serves the Tamiami, Bay Vista and Broward campuses of FIU which has an enrollment of more than 16,000 students. The paper is published on Tuesdays. Please reserve advertising space by the Wednesday before publication.

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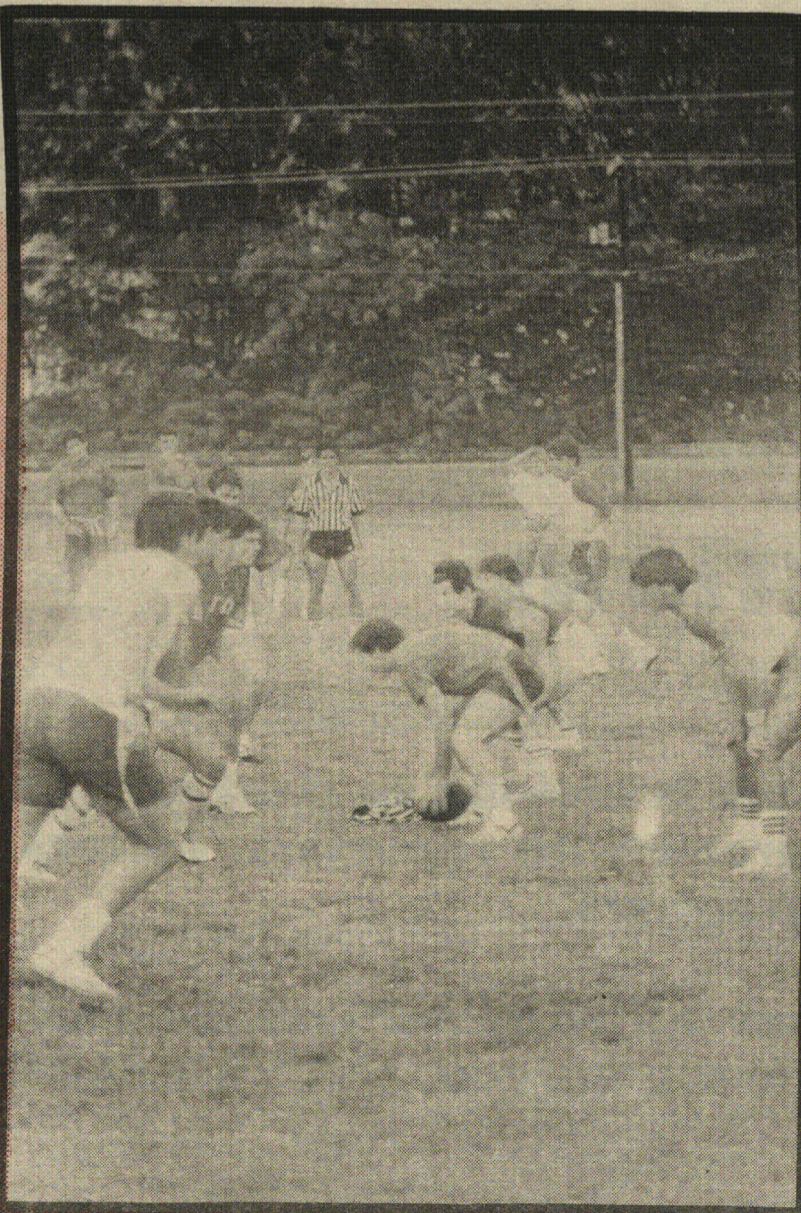
Flag football at FIU; Intramurals taken seriously

It's a game of catches...



Flag football is a game of close calls. AGO receiver Jorge Maas demonstrates his stretching ability to a Steroid defender. Passing and receiving make up at least 90% of the offensive attacks.

Photos and story by Robert Stark



Many key plays depend on the front lines. Sacks, center passes as well as off-sides, illegal motion and holding are often called at FIU games.



THE HUDDLE. "Awright, Angel, you do a slant-in on the five and Bob, you do a down and out to the end zone. But the rest of you, BLOCK," as quarterback John Pederson of the Steroids appears to be saying.

Some arrive early at the Tamiami fields on the west side of campus. Their only practices are for no more than 20 minutes before gametime. Then they take to the battlefield with determination in their eyes.

The flag football players -- fraternity brothers, weightlifters, FIU groundsmen, high school alumni and many just plain walk-ons pulled together -- take their games seriously.

There are 20 battalions with an average of 10 soldiers on each one. Some are organized and some are not. Their gameplans are somehow thought up in the dreadful huddle. "Somebody, PLEASE block that big guy," pleads the quarterback to his teammates. "How about if we send everybody out deep?," asks the center.

They have no more than 30 seconds to draw up their offensive attacks. Whether the plans are actually run through correctly doesn't matter. Broken plans score big just as much as the original ones.

The officials, paid very little to keep this chaos together, are often the scapegoats at games. "He's outa bounds!," yells one player to the sideline referee. "...!," says another. If there were red cards (which eject players in soccer) in this event, there would be about three players left on the field at the game's end.

As far as spectators go, these guys would love it, but they don't get it. Sometimes, girlfriends and sorority sisters are seen cheering their heroes. However, one team was so desperate for fans they brought out a blow-up, human size doll, dressed in appropriate colors and, of course, pompons.

Competition varies greatly. Some teams score very little. One team, the Ex-Gators, hasn't even scored a point all season. Another team, Goombazoo, scores so much it's scary. And another team, The Force, hasn't given up any points at all. But most of the squads hold their own and upsets could happen on any given Friday or Saturday.

At the end of each battle, the players forget all of their complaints against their opponents as well as the referee, and shaking hands is a common sight.

This week marks the end of the regular season. Most of the players will have to sit and watch their opponents in the playoffs.

But, as the Tampa Bay Bucs and the Houston Oilers often say, "Wait 'til next year."

...and misses



But sometimes stretching isn't enough as Steroid receiver Alfred Landin finds out during his team's 25-20 victory over AGO.

Intramural standings on page 8.

Quarterback Raul Gastesi of AGO quickly finds out that his job in the backfield isn't all it's cracked up to be. Mobility as well as a quick arm play a big factor in flag football. Blocking just doesn't hold up too much.

