

# The Sunblazer

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

## Kate closes university, wrecks registration

by Lourdes Rodriguez-Florida  
and Jeffrey L. Kleinman

Sunblazer Staff Writers

The threat of Hurricane Kate prompted FIU President Gregory B. Wolfe to shut down the university last Monday night and Tuesday.

The hurricane, which never showed its force in Miami, left FIU unscathed, according to Harvey Gunson, director of FIU public safety. "We went into emergency mode, but nothing came of it," he said.

Wolfe's order cancelled classes, closed the library, student computer labs and suspended registration for the spring term. The university reopened Wednesday morning after being closed since 5 p.m. Monday.

Tuesday's closing of FIU wreaked havoc on registration. The registration office lost a day and a half of time after being forced to close at 4:30 p.m. last Monday. The time lost left a backlog of students scheduled for Monday night and Tuesday, to register when school resumed on Wednesday.

Lourdes Meneses, director of registration records, said her staff was prepared for the onslaught of students. "Everything was decided over the phone on Tuesday," she said. "We (the staff) wanted to come in, but because the school was closed, we couldn't."

Meneses said the full staff worked on Wednesday to handle the load, including several volunteers.

On Wednesday, registration in the PC building on the Tamiami Campus looked chaotic. At 8:30 a.m. there had been a "disturbance" involving students arguing about registration, according to Rob Ulrich, an FIU police officer who worked crowd control. Eight other employees also kept the lines in control.

Despite the potential for a madhouse, all of the workers kept everything in order.

The floor was packed with long, winding lines. Outside of PC, there were students sitting on the sidewalk behind signs which had specific registration times printed on them.

On Tuesday, workers decided to set up a system that allowed students who were supposed to register Monday and Tuesday to do so first. People scheduled for Wednesday were sent outside. Not everyone was pleased.

"It's hell," said junior Jose Ibarra, sitting in the 11:30 line. Ibarra said he had been outside for two hours already.

"I'll grant them the hurricane, but even without it, you're looking at an hour or two wait," he complained.

"I feel it should have been done on a first come -- first serve basis," said Tania Mantecon, a computer science major.

"The system they have now backs up the lines."

Mantecon said she had been in the 12:30 line since 11.

Registrar Bill Younkin said the wait was a necessity. "I understand the students' frustrations, but it was only fair to allow those who had earlier appointment times to register first," he said.

At 3 p.m. on Wednesday, the registration office did catch up, according to Meneses. When they closed at 3, the office had registered students up until the 2:30 Wednesday appointment time.

"All in all, students were pretty good, considering," a tired Meneses said. Not she, nor any of her staff had taken a break on Wednesday.

The system didn't hurt everyone. Thirty minutes is all it took for senior Sharon Hall to register. "It wasn't bad; I thought it was going to be much longer," she said. "I got all six classes I needed."

The day before, the hurricane threat transformed the third and fourth floors of the PC building on the Tamiami Campus into an evacuation shelter.

Red Cross spokesperson Sonia Cohen said the shelter -- used for the first time -- had a capacity for 1,500 people, but only 28 people reported.

There were 36 volunteers at the shelter, Cohen said, ready to help in first aid and in distributing cereal, canned food and sandwiches.

"It was just a matter of people in that area not wanting to evacuate," Cohen said.

The threat of Kate also postponed Student Government Association elections scheduled to start Tuesday. SGA Elections Commissioner Howard Swerdlhoff said elections have been rescheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

Physical plant personnel on the Bay Vista Campus braced for the storm by covering bayfront windows with metal barriers, picking up loose equipment around the pool and pulling down the shutters on the academic buildings, according to BVC administrator Brad Biggs.

Biggs said because the brunt of the storm missed Miami, the campus suffered no damage.

Two A-1 sightseeing buses waited outside of the BVC dorms in case of a mandatory evacuation. Their services weren't needed to evacuate dorm student to the North Miami High School shelter, said Acting Housing Director Tom Riley.

Riley said even though some students expressed fear of the storm, most stayed on the premises.



Photo by Gary Boisson

**A FRESH CELEBRATION** J.T. Taylor, lead singer for Kool and the Gang, belts out one of the group's top 40 hits during the Homecoming Concert Nov. 17. Coverage on page 4.

## Rally message: 'No nukes'

by Lourdes Rodriguez-Florida

Sunblazer Staff Writer

While President Ronald Reagan met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during last week's Geneva summit, two FIU political groups banded together to send a message to the students.

The message was "no nukes," and it was sent out loud and clear at a rally held Nov. 20 in the UH building on the Tamiami Campus in front of about 50 people.

"We want to send a message to Washington and to our leaders at the summit," said Manning Salazar, Student Government Association senator and president of the Progressive Democrats, a newly formed political organization at FIU. "We want to stop the arms race. This is about death, destruction, total destruction," said Salazar.

The Progressive Democrats and members of FIU's Students Against Apartheid carried anti-nuke signs and chanted slogans during the rally.

"Truly, it is your life," said Brenda Meyerson, chairperson of the South Florida Peace Coalition, and one of the four featured speakers. No one is going to consult you when the nuclear weapons are going to be used.

Meyerson said that the nuclear arms issue is a personal one, but that most people feel it is an unchangeable situation because "it's so big, so terrifying."

Meyerson believes the nuclear arms issue can be resolved. She compared the struggle to that of the abolitionists during the days of slavery. The abolitionist lived in a world where it seemed that everyone supported slavery; still, they were able to end slavery.

Another speaker, SGA member Pamela Douglas -- who is president of the FIU Students Against Apartheid -- spoke out against the Reagan ad-

ministration's assistance to South Africa in its development of a nuclear stockpile.

Referring to the development as the "apartheid bomb," Douglas said this nuclear stockpile would only strengthen Botha's racist government, and leave the world powerless in efforts to impose sanctions against South Africa.

The two other speakers were Tom Brooks, president of the Center for Peace Education at Florida Atlantic University, and Jack Lieberman, of the Latin American and Caribbean Solidarity Association (LACASA).

Brooks spoke on the Star Wars strategic defense system. He told the audience that the so-called perfect shield of protection was a fallacy. He said the shield was useless against the cruise missiles and bombers.

Brooks said that Star Wars could cost up to \$1 trillion to develop, money which would be taken away from human needs, such as disease research and welfare.

Lieberman spoke of the link between U.S. foreign policy and nuclear weapons. After the rally, Lieberman said that although LACASA works against U.S. military intervention in Central America and the Caribbean, he was glad to have an opportunity to speak at the rally.

"It's the same struggle, the same issue. It's for peace; whether you're talking about the nuclear arms race or war in Central America."

After the rally, tables were set up by the different organizations. They sold books, t-shirts, pins, and bumper stickers, as well as giving out pamphlets of information concerning their causes.

"Basically what we want to do is target issues of concern, and present them to the students. In general we just want to raise student awareness of politics," said Salazar.



**Wolfe meets the press**  
Interview with FIU head, page 2

# Wolfe battling 'difficult year,' proud of minority hirings

Sunblazer staffers Stan Butler, Valerie Greenberg and Jeffrey L. Kleinman interviewed FIU President Gregory B. Wolfe about the university's progress and problems during the past year. The following is the first of two parts of excerpts from the two hour meeting.

FIU President Gregory B. Wolfe possibly has faced more decisions in the past year than at any other time in his six-year reign.

Wolfe must deal with questions concerning the university's rate of growth and the lack of minority professors and administrators at FIU.

"This has been a difficult year," Wolfe said. But despite his realization of "chronic problems" at FIU, Wolfe said he thinks the university has a bright future beyond its growing pains.

## Do you think FIU program development has grown too fast or not fast enough?

The growth that you have is the growth that you have, and you make accommodations for that.

## Is FIU feeling growing pains?

It's a rapidly growing institution with a relatively young faculty with experience levels somewhat thin and a terrible stretch on the educational dollar. I'm not saying it all depends on money, but a large part does. You see very similar problems at other universities both young and old. Because we see acne on the academic face we must not assume it's confined to ours.

## Is the university being pushed to grow as fast as it is by the South Florida legislators?

I think the university's growth is in response to a lot of things. One is that they waited so very long to have a university here. So I would say that part of our need to grow is to take up the slack before it's too late and before the already competitive disadvantage of the lack of facilities is compounded.

## Are you saying that University of Miami has stagnated our growth?

No, I think for a long time it was assumed by the public and some of the politicians that this area didn't need any other universities because we had University of Miami. But we found that its costs and its locations -- as strong as it is and it's a good place -- just were inadequate. This is the largest county, the largest population density in all Florida, comprising one-third of the state's population. Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties are the size of twenty-seven states. So we are a state down here. Where other states would have maybe four universities, we have one, well two, with Florida Atlantic, which is about half our size. We have a community college, in Dade alone, that has over 75,000 students. And we have a Broward Community College at least the size of ours. Yet we still only have two modest sized state universities, which only in the last five years offered four year programs. This is what I call arrested development, not even normal development. So, first we were doing all the running we could to stay in the same place, and now we are doing a certain amount of running to help grow so that the economic and cultural bases stand up to the absorption capacity of our area.

## Miami is a dynamic city made up of three distinct ethnic groups. If FIU was located in Gainesville or Tallahassee, do you think hiring minority professors and administrators would be such a major issue?

The same issues confront New York, California, Arizona, New Mexico and Kansas.

## What is the solution for hiring more minorities?

Hard work. It's like the kid swimming along says 'Hey Mom, when do we get to Europe?' She says shut up and keep swimming.

That's the solution.

## Specifically, what would that entail?

We'll try to find ways. Sometimes you have to split at the productivity level. We started a program to identify mainly blacks. We need to find more Hispanics too, and to accelerate the rate. We spend \$50,000 a year to send minorities on special academic leave to get their graduate degrees. That's a lot of money. It's \$50,000 more than we spent seven years ago.

FIU faculty union head Robert Hogner issued a statement recommending that your office request from the Legislature special funding for an affirmative action task force, a university community development office and a program to provide non-tenure track FIU employees who qualify with a

## PhD. Are you going to comply with this recommendation?

No, I'm not going to issue that statement. These things have to be worked out with a lot more than Robert Hogner. They have to be worked out in discussions for what is in the best interests.

## Is minority hiring a priority at FIU?

We've kept it a modest priority, about \$50,000 for the last three or four years.

## Does that money come from the state or from FIU general funds?

The state budget presented by the Board of Regents and the university presidents had a section for affirmative action actions. And when push came to shove, we had to choose between English and Spanish and history and science, there was almost nothing left in the budget. Doing what you're doing, and justifying to the legislature that you're not going to do what you're doing, then they're not going to give you any more to do that.

## Are other programs at FIU suffering because the affirmative action funds are taken from the university's general funds?

They may. We have some latitude, very little because about 80 percent of our funds goes to pay salaries. That's what makes the educational process work.

## You were not directly called a racist but the FIU minority commission insinuated that you did not consider a minority for the open position of provost. How do you battle something as powerful as that?

I don't consider it a fair statement. The position has not yet been filled. The important thing is to keep the momentum. You have to find someone with relevant experience and exposure to the immediate problems to keep the institution under a reasonable administrative reign. Sticks and stones will break my bones but words will never hurt me, and I'm proud of the record of this institution. Since I've been here, it's made more progress than it's made in any past time.

## Do you think affirmative action will help or hurt the university?

The affirmative action we've had here is just the kind we need. We need the whole state to be looking harder at minorities. If you look at other universities we're doing better than most of them in the state.

## But is it enough? You can't justify what goes on in this university by comparing it to other universities.

Why not?

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## Because that's not a statement of how things are here.

Things are not running as well as I would like in that area but they are better. I challenge anyone else to do as well. We are challenging ourselves. But you can challenge yourself until hell freezes over and if you can't get the pools any bigger, you can't create fish unless you're able to do that with supernatural power. We can't wish our human resource base different from what it is. I wish we could. We're working to do it. The problem is there. Our school of engineering has over 60 percent minority students, but they're not ready to come in here and join the faculty yet.

## Speaking of the college of engineering, Cordis Corporation made a statement in the last issue of "Florida Trend" magazine that the quality of FIU's engineering students is not up to par, and the company has to invest a year of their time to bring the our graduates up to the level where they can work as effectively and effeciently as the graduates of other schools. In fact they are investing money in staffing FIU's faculty in the engineering department. How does the administration feel about turning out students that aren't up to par?

I don't think that's an accurate statement. I want you to know something that he didn't know or choose to find out before making that statement. Our students tested higher on the professional engineering exam than other students from Southeast Florida for years. So maybe Cordis Corp. just didn't get the best recruits.

## If you could put FIU on a certain level, where would you put us?

Oh, somewhere in the middle of the pack. We were put in top 100 best buys in the The New York Times. It was quoted yesterday at our trustees meeting that the quality of student life, the excitement of the campus, was what attracted most students to FIU. We basically serve a small part of a state that's just beginning to be self-conscious about the need for quality education. Our major state university is only about sixty-five years old. And Florida State just stopped being a girl's school in 1946. This whole state has been galloping and from out of special funding created these campuses. When I came down to look at this place, I really didn't want to come. I was surprised at how beautiful it was and the quality it had. You don't have to go to Harvard or Stanford to get a perfectly splendid education. I think you can get some perfectly splendid ones right here.

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## Newspaper positions open

The Sunblazer, FIU's only student newspaper, will be holding staff elections at a general meeting at noon Dec. 4 in SC 253 on the Bay Vista Campus.

The paper needs staff writers, photographers and advertising representatives on both campuses.

## Writer's Forum

by Adrian Walker

### Defining the times

The most striking thing about talking to John Hersey is the dramatic tension -- his calm, modulated voice barely masking the horror underneath. That tension is understandable in a man who has seen nuclear destruction from a vantage point few of us could imagine, much less withstand, and who has borne intimate witness to the most chilling chapter in human history.

Although also a distinguished novelist, Hersey is perhaps best known for his 1946 nonfiction classic "Hiroshima," a book that chronicles the bomb and its aftermath as seen through the eyes of six of its survivors.

As Reagan and Gorbachev were making their way to Geneva to save the world, the occasion seemed to call not only for optimism, but for wisdom. And a search for nuclear wisdom could find no better place than Hersey.

"I think we've left reason far behind," he said last week in an interview from his Key West home. "Both sides have enough weapons to obliterate the other 100 times over."

"It's so unlikely at this point that either side would use their weapon, that I really can't see any logical impediment to their control."

The nuclear menace, to Hersey's mind, has far outstripped anything that could have been foreseen in 1946. "They've tested bombs 2,900 times as powerful as the ones that killed 100,000 in Hiroshima."

Hersey, though, remains something of an optimist on the subject of peace. "I think that human beings are capable of reason. We just haven't had the leadership since Kennedy's time, to help us make moral decisions."

Ironically, Hersey thinks the bombs that fell 40 years ago, have been the key to peace since. "there was talk at the time about testing the bomb on a deserted island (as a warning to the Japanese). But what actually happened was such an appalling event, it seemed that humans could never resort to it again. It was that demonstration that has kept the peace."

With that, he excused himself -- still a shade of apprehensive, though the dust of time might be rendering the lessons of Hiroshima a bit dim.

## 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 his 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.

## The Sunblazer

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# Let's hear it for a great invention

by Sanda Kurtz

Let's talk about some of man's greatest inventions, shall we?

There was Ronco's fabulous lettuce-spinner-dryer-off thingy, not to mention its runner up, the thing that scrambled the egg inside the shell. There was Slime, and of course, plastic neon jewelry. But nothing can be compared to the Spork.

Sorks are an American invention, which in my mind, have no equal. But who first came up with the idea to make one? How did they do it? And more important, why?

For those who are not in the know of this fabulous invention, allow me to explain. It is exactly less than the adequate size to fit in your hand comfortably, it is usually made out of plastic a little less flexible than it should be, and it looks like a spoon that was bitten by a piranha. Got the picture?

These ingenious things have shown up everywhere

from hospital cafeterias to Capitol Hill parties. It's just one of those things that you kick yourself for not inventing because they were just too easy (like the Pet Rock).

Maybe it was originally invented by Chunky soup. The "soup that eats like a meal" people? On the other hand, maybe someone was just sitting around one day and decided that the world was lacking a utensil. If this is the truth then why didn't they just put a knife on the end of it and really make it the only eating utensil you'll ever need?

For whatever the reason, this thing was invented, it is living and working among us. The most we can do is use it and appreciate it for what it is. One thing that will always bother me about the spork, however, is why it wasn't called a foon.

*(Sanda Kurtz is a Sunblazer staffer who hasn't visited Kentucky Fried Chicken in years because of its penchant for sporks.)*

Editor's Forum by Jeffrey L. Kleinman

## Student government gets a break

Thanks to the threat of Hurricane Kate, the Student Government Association may get a better turnout at its elections. Kate wiped out school Tuesday, the first of three scheduled days of SGA polls. Elections have been rescheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

With the extra week, SGA candidates have some more time to campaign while the organization itself has extra time to promote the election. SGA needs all the help it can get. With barely a full slate of candidates and no open executive board seats until next semester, this election was destined to have a turnout of less than 5 percent. Hopefully, the delay will raise that figure by a few percentage points.

With so much at stake, it's a shame for students to let SGA candidates slip through the cracks due to a poor turnout. Vote this week and see the payoff next semester.

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A multi-national corporation formed by FIU students is getting more famous each day. Last Monday, P.A.R.I.S. (Promotion, Analysis, Research for International Sales) received coverage in the business tabloid of The Miami News. Students involved with the project are: Ruben Jose King-Shaw, Manny Becerra, Bridget Torres, Julio Martinez, Michael Jarjour, and former student Phillippe Laroche.

## Entrance requirements unfair to frosh

To the Editor:

After reading the Nov. 5 editor's column about differing requirements for FIU freshmen and transfers, I was relieved to know that I'm not the only one considering these requisites unfair.

As a high school senior, I was looking for a university that would provide a certain degree of pride in its atmosphere. This pride, of course, can only come from selective admittance. As I saw my peers apply to universities, some were undoubtedly turned down; so most of them went on to become part of the Miami-Dade sphere. I wanted something more than good professors and the college scene. I wanted to attend a school where the students took their academic work seriously. After much thought, and long hours of studying, I was admitted to FIU's freshman class. I am very happy to be here even though I'd be having an

easier time with my grades at some other less selective college.

However, frustration overcomes this happiness when I talk to people that are attending Miami-Dade, for example, with grades that couldn't even get them into elementary school, and can confidently say "I'll be transferring to FIU."

Why such pickiness with freshman students, only to admit mediocre, if not bad, students at other grade levels? Why not have a level of high degree that students throughout the entire FIU system, and not just a striving few?

I'm sure this obvious fact has brought questions to FIU's administration. Why hasn't anything been done to change this somewhat discriminative system of admittance?

Lisette Campos  
FIU freshman

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## Audience cherishes Kool and the Gang

by David Colodney

Sunblazer Features Editor

If only they had played "Jungle Boogie." That 1974 Kool and the Gang hit was about the only thing missing from an otherwise primo Homecoming concert at Tamiami Stadium.

That, and a crowd. Kool and the Gang rocked hard, and the low turnout didn't dampen the enthusiasm of either the band or the diehards who turned out.

The Gang played for over an hour and a half, and played most their recent top 40 hits - from the slow, sappy "Cherish" to the anthemic "Celebration" that was their finale. Strangely, there was no encore, probably because they ran out of top 40 hits. Someone should have reminded them that they still had "Jungle Boogie" left in their repertoire.

Kool and the Gang is primarily a jazz-funk band that scores with a dance-oriented audience. Their best songs are the more up-tempo things like "Hollywood Swinging," a 1974 hit that they played at the show.

Too often they slip into mindless drivel like the godawful "Cherish," which isn't even saved by the energy of a live performance.

Kool and the Gang is a talented nine-piece band that puts out some real positive energy in live performance, which is something that they lose on their records. The syrupy production of their LP's drains so much from what is a great live group.

Adding to the excitement of the music is the professional choreography and the feeling they gave that they enjoyed what they were doing. And that counts.

Unfortunately, what started the show wasn't too hot.

Viktim is a highly touted local band. They're supposed to be good. They didn't deserve the reputation that they were given. Their opening number, "One and Only" was the best of what they did. Otherwise, it was just noisy crap that made them look constipated.

What really seemed stupid were the questions that the singer was asking the audience, stuff like "Are there any party people out there?" and "How many wild people are there out here?" which is supposed to elicit a cheer from the crowd, but instead elicited a flurry of yawns.

Tim Settini was the "comedian" pegged to "entertain" the crowd while the crew disassembled Viktim's equipment and set the stage up for Kool and the Gang. Settini supplied an amazingly unfunny set, chockful of those ever-witty drug jokes and homosexual jokes. Zzzzzzz.



Photo by Gary Boisson

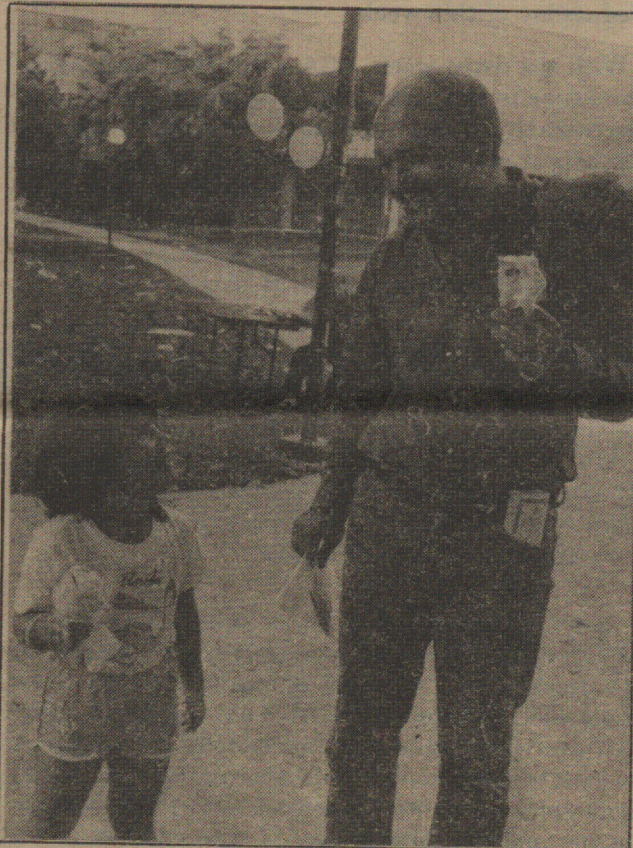


Photo by Catherine Shaffer

Students play Simon Sez in the UH building on the Tamiami Campus (above). Shahriar Shabnam shares a laugh and some goodies with his daughter, Shidar, at Family Day Nov. 16 (left). Kool and the Gang singer James "J.T." Taylor performs "Ladies' Night" (bottom right).

## Cold turnout greets Kool concert; 4,500 see event

by David Colodney and Valerie Greenberg

Sunblazer Staff Editors

At the Homecoming concert, Kool was hot, but the stands at Tamiami Stadium were not.

Only about 4,500 attended the 1985 Homecoming concert featuring Kool and the Gang. Last year, over 15,000 saw Chicago play Homecoming.

"I would like to have seen the stadium full, and it could have been. The show was certainly good enough," said Jorge Dominicus, Student Government Association president.

"The majority of those in attendance were FIU students, as we had about 25 percent of the student population attending."

Dominicus said that probably worked to the concert's advantage since it gave FIU students the chance to "get to know each other and have a great time."

Dominicus blamed the low attendance on inadequate time for promotion. He said next year's SGA will allow more promotion time prior to the Homecoming concert.

Despite the dismal attendance, Dominicus deemed the concert a success, and said SGA is planning a "smaller scale" concert or comedy act to take place in the spring in the new FIU arena, which will seat about 5,000 when it opens in January.



Photo by Gary Boisson

Fans get down with Kool at Homecoming.



## Lesbian rumors haunt school

# 'Children's Hour' cuts like a knife

by Holly Manheim

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Taking the innocence of a child and using it as a weapon -- like a sharp-edged knife -- and using it against the innocent is the unsettling idea behind Lillian Hellman's "A Children's Hour," which runs until Dec. 15 at the Ruth Foreman Theatre.

When the play was written in the 1920s, the subject of lesbianism was a topic of secrecy, perceived as something abhorrent and unthinkable. Despite this radical theme, or perhaps because of it, "A Children's Hour" ran on Broadway for 691 performances in 1934. The subject may not be quite as shocking now, but it brings about a curiosity as to how people's attitudes were in those times.

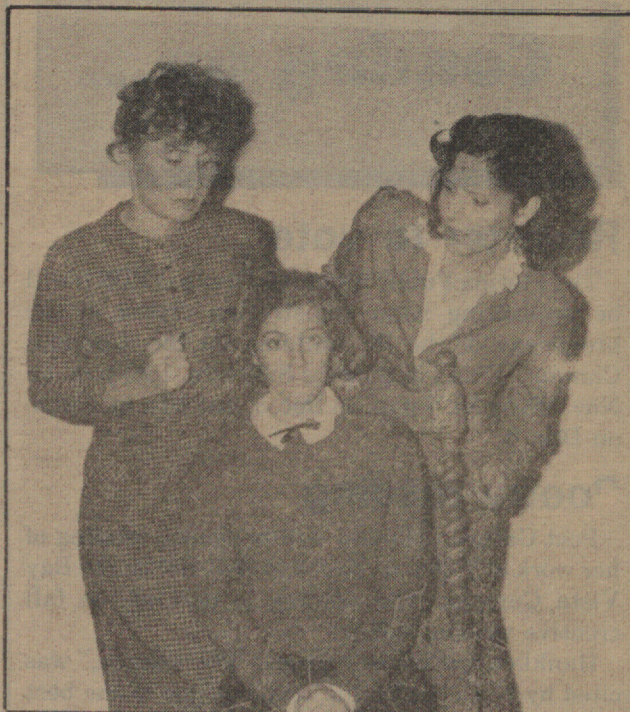
"A Children's Hour" is not intended to be about the physical or emotional relationship between two women, particularly the two teachers who run an all-girls boarding school where the play is set. Its main purpose is to show how the words from one child's

mouth -- due to her inherently bad nature and some other environmental causes -- can turn into a rumor that can cut like a knife.

The physical appearance of "A Children's Hour" is authentic, with the set and characters dressed in 30s garb. The set is superb, meticulous and done to perfection. However, the character's personalities, at times, are somewhat overdone and contrived, (perhaps due to improper direction), and that can leave your thirst a bit unquenched. But an intriguing atmosphere and an intense plot work to balance this discrepancy, in turn, makes you hungry for more.

"A Children's Hour" is interesting but disturbing, for it takes the old children's saying "sticks and stones make break my bones, but words can never harm me" and disproves it.

"The Children's Hour is being performed at the Ruth Foreman Theatre, which is located on the Bay Vista Campus. For ticket information call 940-5903.



Ellen Simmons, Christine Blanchard and Robbie Wolfe perform a scene from "The Children's Hour."

## FIU fashion designer determined to put Miami on world fashion map

by Adrian Walker

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Miami might not be the fashion capital of the world, but that might be an advantage for one former FIU student planning on scoring in the fashion world.

"We can make Miami a fashion capital. There's a lot of room here and a lot of creativity," said Betty Pol, a fashion merchandising student until she left school to pursue designing full-time.

Pol began working on her au couture -- "one of a kind" designs -- two years ago. Now, they sell for approximately \$200 to \$400 each. But her success hasn't come overnight.

"At first I would just sketch. I was never able to interpret my sketches. I didn't know anything about fabrics. Then I started experimenting to the point I really liked what I was making."

Pol advertises her clothes by giving small fashion shows and also through word-of-mouth. "Through friends, I get a lot of recognition. They wear my clothes to parties and if anyone asks about what they're wearing, they tell them 'it's a Betty Pol.'"

Pol has very definite ideas about the kind of designer she wants to be. For one thing she never makes the same dress twice, profitable as that might be.

"Every garment tells a story. Each garment is totally, totally different."

She also plans to continue selling directly to customers, shunning department stores and, even worse, boutiques. "Department stores, like Burdines, mark things up so much that it would be hard for my dresses to sell. And sometimes small shops are even worse."

She is also committed, at least for now, to staying in Miami. "It's not like New York, where you have to fight your way in because there's so much of everything. I don't think you have to go that far to find something wonderful. You don't have to go to Europe or New York."

She's ambitious, but her ambition won't stand in the way of her personal enjoyment of designing. "I like the pace I'm going. I can handle it. If I get known internationally, fine. If not, that's fine, too, because I'm happy."

"I'm into seeing people look great."

## Contest winner announced

For the second time in a row, the ★K Column was correctly answered in The Sunblazer. This past week, six individuals got the right answer as "Fields of Fire" by the Scottish band Big Country.

A drawing was held and the winning name was -- SUSAN RICARDO -- who wins \$10 because of her effort.

The other five entrants who got the correct song and performer were:

- Rod Castan
- Martin Cerda
- Carmen Cerulia
- Carla Hall
- Louis Gualda

Thus, this ends the contest which covered three different verses on the back page of The Sunblazer. If you, as the readers, would like to see the continuation of the ★K Column, please write the paper at: The Sunblazer, Florida International University SC 253, North Miami, FL 33181.

--Thank you,  
Robert Stark (★K)

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## Coming up...

### Register to vote

The Florida Public Research Group (FPIRG) will be conducting voter registration drives in the breezeway of the PC building on the Tamiami Campus. Times and dates: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Nov. 25, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. on Dec. 5, and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Dec. 6.

### Poetry reading

Poet Cathryn Hankla will present a reading of her work at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 5 in ACI 194 on the Bay Vista Campus. The reading is part of the fall creative writing series.

Hankla's first book of poems, "Phenomena," was cited by National Public Radio as one of the best collections of the year. Hankla lives in Virginia and teaches filmmaking and creative writing at Hollins College.

### Deck the halls

The FIU Wind Ensemble and the FIU Jazz Ensemble will team up for a performance of holiday tunes and contemporary music at 12:30 p.m. Dec. 5 in the UH Forum on the Tamiami Campus.

Yoshihiro Obata will direct the wind group and artist-in-residence Pete Minger will direct the jazz group.

The concert is free and open to the public.

### Hear a classic

The Sunblazer Singers will perform Handel's "Judas Maccabeus" at 8 p.m. Nov. 21 in AT 100 on the Tamiami Campus. The concert is \$3 for the general public and free for FIU students.

**Read the classifieds**  
each week in **The Sunblazer**

## Residents gripe to administrators

by David Colodney

Sunblazer Features Editor

Twenty-two students showed up at a gripe session with the administration on the Bay Vista Campus last week to complain about everything from the lack of BVC academic programs to problems with the dorms.

The major concern was the absence of a major college located on BVC, which bothered many dorm residents who blamed outside groups living in the dorms for many of the problems there. Students from Miami-Dade Community College and foreign EF students -- a group of students taking extensive English classes under private instruction -- are residing in the dorms to fill vacancies.

"They need to locate a major school here so that the dorms will become an FIU community," said Myles Barchas, a student government senator and dorm resident. "The dorms are a three-ring circus between EF, Miami-Dade and FIU. Last year, despite only 250 to 300 students living here, the FIU atmosphere was there. This year, it's gone.

"There is such a wasted potential on Bay Vista," Barchas said, noting that there should be a major school there to make use of the \$1.3 million pool, \$6 million dorms and the \$9 million soon-to-be built library.

The students also blamed planners who offer most classes on the Tamiami Campus and some at BVC, causing students to take a 50-minute ride to Tamiami.

"Even though one or two sections of a course are offered at Bay Vista, students end up taking those classes at Tamiami in order to coordinate a workable schedule," Barchas said.

"The numbers they (the administration) need to look at are the students who don't go here, but would if things were different," he said.

Other problems discussed at the meeting included the oft-broken dorm vending machines and the laundry room, where students often lose money.

"When they don't work, it's hard to get reimbursed," said Diane Prokos, another dorm student. "They owe me \$40. I just gave up."

Tom Riley, acting housing director, said that students who get ripped off by the machines can be

reimbursed at the housing office "during office hours." Students responded by saying most of them did their laundry at night.

Riley assured the students that the new owners of the dorms, PAL Investment, "is interested in residents being satisfied."

Dorm students with telephones were angered at the frequent disconnections in service and the \$80 non-refundable deposit.

Students complained that certain phone features, such as call forwarding were turned off last week without any notice.

That was a monetary decision, said Bradley Biggs, a BVC administrator. According to Biggs, the phone system already runs at a deficit.

The university does not own the phones. FIU will pay the Rolm company \$4000 a month for four years to purchase the equipment.

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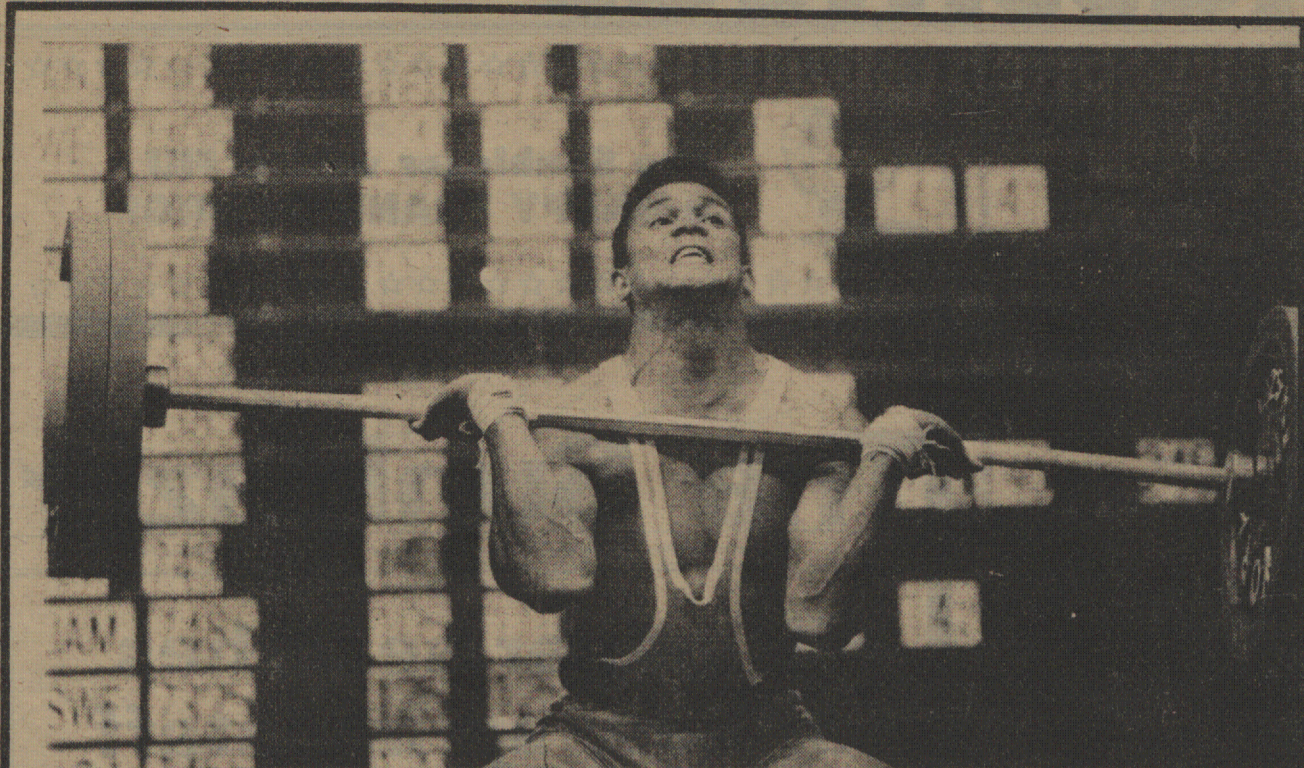


Photo by Gary Boisson

**CLEAN AND JERK** Frank Cepeda shows his strain and concentration during the clean and jerk competition in the Pan American Weightlifting Championships & The America's Cup on Nov. 16-17 at the Dade County Auditorium. Cepeda, from the Dominican Republic, was competing in the 75 kilogram weight class. He finished third in the snatch competition.

## Tulsa captures FIU tournament

The University of Tulsa captured the team title in the 9th Pat Bradley Championship hosted by FIU on Nov. 10-12 at the Key Biscayne Golf Links.

FIU, led by Shelly Sanders' ninth place finish at 231, placed seventh in the tournament named after an FIU graduate. FIU's Anette Peitersen finished 22nd at 235.

The Sunblazers finished with a three-round total of 943, 32 strokes behind Tulsa. "We were disappointed we didn't do better," said FIU coach Ken Juhn. "We had a few players do well, but not the entire team."

The individual champion was Michelle Michanowicz, of the University of Miami. Michanowicz broke a tournament record by shooting a six-under par in the first round, for a total of 67, one shot better than the old record set back in 1982 by Paige Marsh. The Hurricane golfer finished with a three round total of 216, nine shots better than second-place finisher Adelle Lukken of Tulsa.

The Sunblazers next play is at the South Florida Tournament in Tampa on Dec. 1-3. FIU, as Juhn said, will be about the strongest team there. And as the coach said, now is the time for his team to get better. "We need to get started now, to get ready for the Nationals, or to get into them."

## FIU spikers (21-9) place third

by Irene J. Secada

Sunblazer Staff Writer

The FIU women's volleyball team lost two of three matches while placing third in the FIU Invitational on Nov. 9.

The team rebounded from three losses to Metro State-University of Denver by defeating Florida Southern in a five-game thriller. However, against regional power University of Tampa, the Sunblazers played inconsistently and lost three of four games. Tampa ended up as the tournament winner.

Coach Linda Miscovic, though, is confident her team will retain its national ranking (16th) and regional ranking (3rd). And the victory over Florida Southern assured the Sunblazers (21-9) of an opportunity to

receive a bid to the national playoff tournament.

FIU just played some crucial matches in Chicago (not in time for publication) when the Sunblazers squared off with eighth-ranked Northern Michigan University, 11th ranked St. Cloud and 12th ranked Ferris State.

### Results from FIU Invitational

Metro State def. FIU -- 15-11, 6-15, 16-14, 15-12

FIU def. Fla. Southern -- 9-15, 16-14, 10-15, 15-11, 15-10

Tampa def. FIU -- 15-11, 15-7, 3-15, 18-16



Photo by Mike Zmetrovich

The UM's Michelle Michanowicz receives congratulations from Metro-Dade Mayor Steve Clark after winning the Pat Bradley individual title.

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## Recreational Sports and the Bay Vista Homecoming Committee

PRESENT

### The Third Annual Bay Vista Turkey Trot, November 26th at 5:15 p.m.

**WHO:** All FIU Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni are eligible for this event. Turkeys will be awarded to the following four division winners: Male Student, Female Student, Male Faculty-Staff-Alumni, Female Faculty-Staff-Alumni. A fifth turkey will be raffled off among the division winners.

**WHAT:** Two Mile Cross -- Country Race.

**WHERE:** Bay Vista Campus.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, November 26th; Participants Meeting 5:00 p.m.; Race Time 5:15 p.m.

**HOW:** Entries will be accepted and numbers issued at the mandatory racers meeting -- 5:00 p.m. in the Fitness Center/SC 140.

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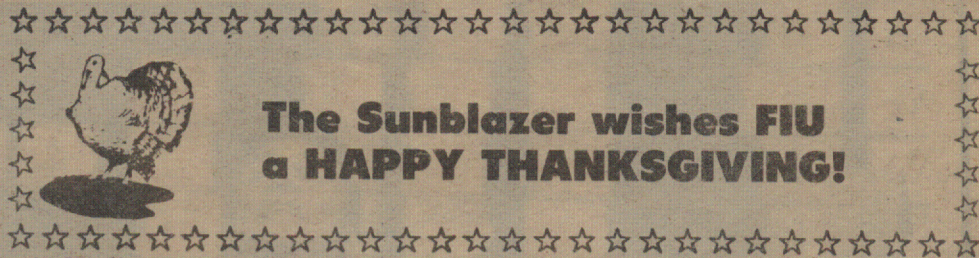
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