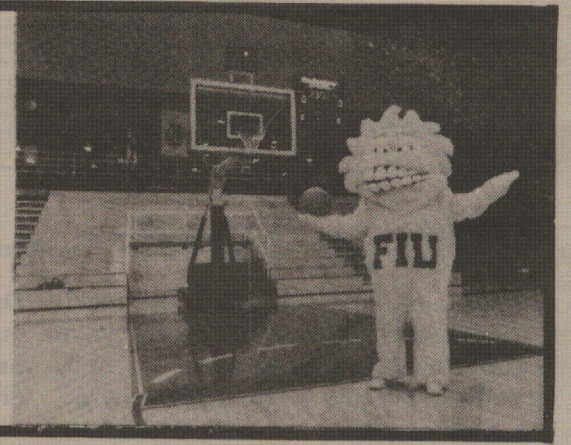


Sunblazer Arena opens

Sunblazers squelch Nova, 75-60

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The Sunblazer

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'Miami Vice' Television show films at FIU



photo by Andy Itkoff

The crew of "Miami Vice" rolls onto the Bay Vista Campus to shoot a scene for a soon to be aired episode of the popular drama. "Vice" has used the FIU campuses several times in the past month for filming locations.

Theresa Willingham

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Don Johnson and Philip Michael Thomas made a scene at the new Sunblazer Arena on Feb. 3, and Universal Studios was there to film it for an upcoming episode of "Miami Vice" to air later this month.

At least 500 FIU students participated in the filming, which began at 3 p.m. and continued until late in the evening. While Universal extended an open invitation for extras from the University and the community, the enthusiasm of appearing in the cops and addicts drama series was dulled for many by the usual tedium of film production delays, such as restaging and reshooting.

Nevertheless, just catching a

glimpse of Johnson and Thomas was enough to make the long hours of waiting worthwhile for most people. One student got a closer look than she expected when she toppled from a bleacher during filming. Before her stretcher was carried to a waiting ambulance, the student, who did not appear to be seriously injured, received a kiss from Thomas and had a brief chat with Johnson.

This is not the first time "Miami Vice" has filmed at FIU, as their lights, cameras and action rolled on to the Bay Vista Campus twice during January.

"They look around for places of interest to shoot at, and the Arena just happened to fit in with their story line," said Mary Alice Manella, associate direc-

tor of Student Activities.

Judy Blucker, vice president of Student Affairs, said the episode should be a shot in the arm for the University. "The Executive Council of FIU read over the script and decided it would show the University in a good light. I think it is very positive that our name will be known across the nation."

The episode is about a prominent judge who is involved with organized crime, said Jorge Dominicus, Student Government Association president. "He starts gambling with some of his friends on college basketball. His son is an FIU Sunblazer who refuses to throw the game for the judge.

"He's just your typical FIU student of high moral character," Dominicus said.

Bowl team in pursuit of victory

Theresa Willingham

Sunblazer Staff Writer

College Bowl, "the varsity sport of the mind," has finally come to FIU. Conceived, created and implemented in the space of a semester, FIU's first College Bowl team has already won preliminary games against champion Miami-Dade South and the University of Miami and is on its way to regional competitions in Gainesville on Feb. 21.

Pedro Lopez, president of the College Bowl team and, according to teammates, the team's driving force, said that having a College Bowl team is a great step forward for FIU.

"Among colleges, there is a certain amount of academic elite interested in an intellectual pursuit. College Bowl offers that opportunity in a competitiveness that demands mental and physical acuity, and that says something about the character of the University," Lopez said.

Lopez, a finance and international business major and Lower Division senator, and Geraldo Jimenez, a second place high school College Bowl champion, began considering the possibility of an FIU College Bowl team last fall.

In the strictest sense, College Bowl is an intervarsity question and answer game played much like Trivial Pursuit with a time limit. The game is played in seven minute halves by teams of four players who must answer questions on a multitude of subjects before their opponents do.

"The main problem," Lopez said, "was how to get started and where to get information on how to get started."

Student Activities Program Specialist Porter Davis came through for Lopez and Jimenez with some information on the 30-year-old national College Bowl organization. William Beesting, assistant to the dean of undergraduate studies, steered the students to philosophy professor Bruce Hauptli, who he thought could possibly offer help.

"I went and and talked to Profesor Hauptli," Lopez said, "and he said, 'I don't have time, but....' It was a very

continued on p. 2

College Bowl continued from p. 1

important 'but.' He became our faculty sponsor. He doesn't really have time, but he's put a lot of energy in it, and without him we wouldn't be here."

The team also needed a coach, and Lopez, who is on the University's Debate Team, approached Joaquin Carrasco, debate team coach and criminal justice professor, about the job. Carrasco agreed immediately, Lopez said.

"Currently, we are practicing with Trivial Pursuit Genus I and II questions, which are similar to College Bowl questions," Lopez said. "Miami

Dade also donated some College Bowl questions from their collection, and we have made some up. We're coached by drilling, familiarization with competition rules and on developing speed," Lopez said.

The team, which practices 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Fridays in UH 314, has about 15 members. Two of the team's starters, Barbara Weiss and Richard Kennedy, are Junior College Bowl champions from Miami Dade South, who won the 1985 Regional Championship.

FIU's team had the opportunity to

face the MDCC-South and U of M teams recently and did very well, said Lopez.

"We shut out U of M, and they have a lot more time and money behind them than we do. We beat Miami Dade once out of three games, which is pretty good considering their experience and expertise," Lopez said.

On Feb. 21, the University of Florida will host the 1986 Region VI College Bowl Tournament, and FIU's team plans to be there for the action.

"Regional is the one you want to go to and win," Lopez said.

Lopez said he is proud of the team and pleased with the progress they have made in a short time. "It says something about ourselves, about this school. To, within a semester's time, create an organization like this is incredible. We were fortunate that everyone believed in the program and though it was an excellent idea, academically and socially.

"We are trying to promote something that will give FIU a name and make it stand out among other schools in the nation," Lopez said. "That's something special for a young school."



ARE YOU DYING TO LOOK LIKE THIS?

You could be. Maybe you don't feel it's true, but stop a minute. Think about what you're doing.

You've been looking at the world through the eyes of a "fat" person. Getting depressed because you don't have that "perfect" body shape. So you turn to food — lots of food — to make yourself feel better. Then, disgusted with yourself, you force yourself to vomit to avoid gaining weight.

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So please, call us now. We're open 24 hours a day. Get some help. Find out that your body is nothing to be ashamed of. Because if you're dying to look like this — it just might kill you.

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 **ANOREXIA-BULIMIA**
Treatment Center

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Commencement scheduled during finals week

Adrian Walker

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Due to delays in reserving Miami Beach Convention Center, FIU's Spring commencement will be held April 22, the second day of final examinations.

According to the administration, the conflict came about because there was no other indoor facility in Miami large enough to accommodate commencement, and there were no other available dates.

"At the time the decision was made, several months ago, there was really no other choice," said Christine Bruce, executive assistant to the president. "In the future, we may go to a different kind of ceremony and hold it in the gym. But, at the time, the gym was behind schedule, and the executive council thought it was best to take the sure thing."

Because the University paid a large cash deposit to reserve the Convention Center, there is no possibility to move the ceremony to the now completed Sunblazer Arena, Bruce said.

Besides commencement, Passover also begins on the Thursday of final examination week. The administration sent letters to all deans requesting that instructors be "flexible" in settling conflicts that arise due to examinations scheduled on the holiday.

"We didn't choose to have exam week conflict with Passover with a light heart," said Marcelle Welch, assistant vice-president for academic affairs. "There's really no other time to do it."

BVC gets waterfront facelift

Greg Campbell

Sunblazer Staff Writer

The waterfront area of the Bay Vista Campus will soon get a facelift thanks to \$10,000 from the Student Government Association.

Planned for the bayfront is a park area with three barbeque pits, picnic tables and professional basketball and volleyball courts. The existing dock will be transformed into a fishing pier, while a new dock and a sailboat fleet will be added. Plans for a mini-beach are "up in the air," according to Josie Silio, SGA member responsible for lobbying the SGA Senate to pass the legislation granting the funds for the project.

The project, the idea of Recreation Coordinator John Walker, is in the hands of the University administration awaiting contract bids, Silio said.

Depending on when bids are secured and the determined cost of the project, as many as 20 24-foot sailboats will be purchased, according to Phil Bradford, aquatics coordinator.

Students will be able to rent the sailboats until they are paid for, Silio said.

The dock should be completed sometime this semester, Bradford said.

What's up...

Student art show

The Art Museum on the Tamiami Campus will sponsor its annual student art show from March 7 - March 27. All entries are to be delivered 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Feb. 26 to the Art Museum.

This multi-media show will be juried by Lee Williams, associate professor of visual arts at Miami-Dade Community College South. Cash and merchandise prizes will be awarded. For more information stop by the Art Museum.

Photo contest

As part of this year's Calle Ocho festivities, the Bank of Miami in association with the Kiwanis Club of Little Havana will sponsor a photography contest with "Miami Events" as the theme.

The Bank of Miami will award \$1,500 to the winners of the competition, and Gammacolor is donating \$1,000 worth of photo finishing.

The photos will be judged in professional and amateur categories by five well-known area photographers.

Entries must be delivered to the Bank of Miami branches, 169 S.W. 8 St. or 100 E. Flagler St. by Feb. 20. Contest rules are available at both branches.

Costume show

As part of FIU's International Festival '86, an International Costume Show will be held noon, Feb. 25 in UH Forum.

Costumes/models representing different countries are needed. Music of the costumes' respective countries is also needed.

Entry forms are available in UH 211. Entries must be submitted by Feb. 10.

There will be a dress rehearsal 3 p.m. Feb. 21 in UH 211.

For more information contact Olga Magnusen at 554-2424.

Counterterrorism workshop

A two-day workshop "Counterterrorism Planning: Assessing the Threat and Developing Counteractions" will be held 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. March 3 - 4 in SC

245 on the Bay Vista Campus.

The workshop is designed for police and private security personnel to help them counter the threat of terrorism by enabling participants to recognize a potential terrorist incident. Karl A. Seger, president of Corporate Consultants, a management consulting firm specializing in public safety issues, will lead the workshop. Seger was a counterterrorism consultant to the 1982 World's Fair and has also consulted with federal, state and local police agencies and several Third World nations.

The registration fee is \$195 per person, and early registration is recommended, as space is limited.

For information contact Della Nelson at 554-2234.

Program for black grad students

FIU is offering a special program of graduate and professional opportunities designed to increase the number of black Americans in career areas where they are currently under-represented.

The program, which features financial and academic support, targets areas including accounting, biology, business administration, chemistry, computer science, civil, electrical and environmental engineering, dietetics and nutrition, environmental and urban systems, hospitality management, international business, management science, mathematical sciences, physics and public administration.

Fellowships of up to \$1,300 are available to each of the 35 students accepted for the program and who take at least six semester hours during the summer.

Applicants must complete the standard university and academic program admission applications before April 15.

For information contact the office of graduate studies at 554-3021.

Women's Studies colloquia

The Women's Studies Center will present "Possible Worlds: Critical Variations on Women Writers" as part of the "Fourth Annual Women's Studies Faculty Colloquia" at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 19 in UH 323 on the Tamiami Campus.

University of Miami English instructor Margaret Haun will speak on "The Poetics of Adrian Rich," FIU international relations instructor Nancy Erwin will discuss "Women's Space and Place in all Possible Worlds: A Science Fiction Perspective" and FIU English instructor Kathleen McCormack will present "Modern Housekeeping" and the Finale to Middlemarch: George Eliot's Only Woman Persona."

Psi Chi meets

Psi Chi, the national psychology honor society, will meet 4:30 p.m. Feb. 11 in SC 320 on the Bay Vista Campus. Old and new members are encouraged to attend.

Scholarships available

Two \$1,000 finance scholarships are available through the Glendale Federal/Student Government Association Scholarship Fund, and the recently acquired Citicorp Savings/SGA Finance Scholarship will be available in the near future, according to SGA Business Senator Myles Barchas, who obtained the scholarships.

Applications can be picked up in the Financial Aid Office.

Tutoring available

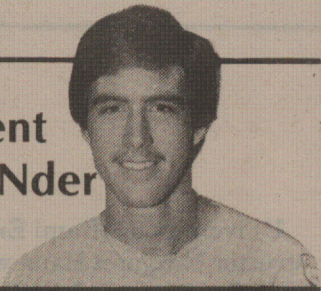
Unknown to many FIU students, a special kind of tutoring is available free of charge on both the Bay Vista and Tamiami Campuses.

The Writing Lab, often frequented by students preparing for the CLAST examination, is available to all FIU students who desire "tutorial, editorial or remedial help with English.

Although the writing Lab staff does not write or proofread students' papers, they will guide students through the process of composing papers during tutorial conferences, small group workshops and learning modules.

The programs of study can range from a few conferences to two semesters. Students can also use the Lab at their own pace.

Innocent BySTANDer



The lure of "Vice"

Stan Butler

Sunblazer Editor

I thought it would be easy to remain objective. Refrain from participating at all costs. Observe the absurdity and organized chaos that is common for the shooting of scenes for film and television. Do not become part of Miami Vice.

There was little cause for celebration when I first arrived at the door of the new Sunblazer Arena. The instructions were simple; show up at the door in FIU clothing (or appropriate basketball fan attire) and you could be used in scenes for an upcoming show.

Little happened for the first hour or so as the star's doubles pranced before the cameras as the crowd cheered for a game that wasn't happening. Imagine the sight of 500 adults pretending to clap and yell on cue and not making a sound. They looked like they were victims of laryngitis.

Soon, the stars appeared to a roaring ovation. Don Johnson appeared and promptly tripped up the stairs on camera. Philip Michael Thomas looked slightly less wooden as he followed Johnson around the set.

A few takes later and the stars were gone for good. I had remained out the camera and still objective. But then, this pear-shaped woman directed her attention to my side of the arena and said, we would be in the next shot.

Since I had recently taken a second row seat, staying was the only logical choice. As it turned out on film, a six-foot-two adult with a pompom achieves full height on camera. A combination of my jumping ability on screen and my clothes makes it look like Toyota and Levi's got together to shoot a commercial.

After that moment there was no turning back. I stayed till the bitter end of shooting and achieved celluloid status once more. All in all it was good for the school and good for the student's egos that attended.

Corrections

In the Jan. 28 issue of The Sunblazer, Dennis Marsella's name was misspelled. Also, his picture was reproduced into print rather dark. We regret the error in the spelling, however, we can do little when a picture has to be reproduced onto newsprint.

Hustling housewives for cash

Valerie Greenberg

Sunblazer Managing Editor

It's that time again. Unless you've been in quarantine for the last week, you've probably seen them.

Camped in front of supermarkets, stationed in strategic areas of shopping centers and knocking on doors, the girls in green are out in full force selling their stuff.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES!

Each year, I eagerly await the sale of these yummys. Chocolate chunks, Samoas, Do-si-dos, Trefoils, Tagalongs, Pecan Shortees and yes, those mouth watering, melt-in-your-hand Thin Mints.

This year they're going for \$1.75 a shot, but when it comes to Girl Scout cookies, price is of no importance.

They are unlike any other cookies, and there is no limit to how many you can down in one sitting. In fact, I just recently ate 12 Tagalongs -- the chocolate covered peanut butter coated thick chewy cookies -- from a box of 18

Take Five



in under three minutes. That's two-thirds of a whole box in less than three minutes. Three minutes of utopia.

Now, at 84 calories each, that totals 1,008 calories in below 180 seconds. But my philosophy for eating Girl Scout cookies is that each since you get the chance for only a couple weeks each year, it's O.K., even if it is at almost six calories per second.

I remember when I was a Girl Scout and I couldn't wait for cookie sale time. Although I was never too thrilled with having to bang on neighbor's doors or stand in front of Publix hustling housewives to buy cookies, I couldn't wait for Mom to buy the half dozen

boxes she bought every year. Mom figured she was helping me out, getting me motivated. Motivated is right...motivated to eat as many Thin Mints as I could before the rest of the family learned that the cookies were in the house. Needless to say I was fat Girl Scout.

"Hey lady, ya wanna busy some cookeeeees?" the big-eyed blond girl whined, as I walked into the office today. She was a co-worker's daughter, a beautiful kid, garbed in her uniform with badges covering her entire torso.

"Sure sweetie," I answered nonchalantly, while my heart raced and a voice inside me screamed, "GIRL SCOUT COOKIES!"

I dug into my wallet and found my last two dollars. "How much are they?" I asked the girl, praying she'd tell me under two bucks.

"A dollar and seventy-five cents," she replied with a cute lisp.

Big sigh of relief. I've got just enough money to buy a box. So, I won't eat dinner. Who needs dinner when you've got Girl Scout cookies?

Noel Lawrence

SGA Senator

Student Government never felt more pride as it did this week. The enthusiastic turnout of students, faculty and administrators resulted in one of the most special evenings FIU has ever seen.

The SGA Column

Frats, sororities, banners, cheerleaders and all the traditional trimmings were there for this in-

augural celebration. Even the Wave has finally made it to the home of the Sunblazers!

Next year we turn Division I, but let us not wait to jam our new facility to full capacity.

Keep these tailgate parties and that Sunblazer Spirit going. FIU now has one more reason to be proud.

Letter

On Tuesday of last week I was shocked in disbelief as to what I was told at the Bay Vista Health Clinic. I am a handicapped student doing my graduate work toward a MBA. I had the uncomfortable task of going into our Bay Vista Student Health Clinic. Because I am quadriplegic (I have paralysis from my middle of my shoulders down), I need assistance in

doing a few things. One of these tasks requires someone else to empty a drainage bag on my lower leg. This only requires someone to open and close a clamp near my ankle. This would take about 90 seconds.

Next comes the part I don't believe, I was told by the head clinician, a Ms. Elvira Velez that this is something her and her staff do not have time to

do, that I must do it myself.

When I graduated from FIU in 1982 I had had pleasant experiences dealing with the Tamiami Health Clinic. They accommodated in whatever services I needed, including emptying the drainage bag.

Mike Lanham
Graduate-Student

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The paper is independent of the university, Student Government Association and all university faculty. The editor is the chief administrator and publisher.

Unsigned editorials are written, supported and represent the present views and ideas of The Sunblazer's editorial board.

Guest articles do not necessarily represent the view of the editorial board. As of Jan. 21, Guest article status is granted only to students, staff or faculty at FIU. Written responses are encouraged.

The Sunblazer is published weekly, (except during the summer) and is distributed free on the Bay Vista, Tamiami and Broward campuses. The staff of the paper prepares its own typesetting and layout work.

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 correct errors of spelling and grammar. Please address letters to: The Sunblazer, FIU Bay Vista Campus, SC253, North Miami, Fl. 33181

FIU has a self destructive mentality

Myles Barchas

Sunblazer Contributor

As a graduating student who has attended FIU for two and a half years, I have begun to reflect on my time here and the good and bad I have seen in this young university. I have viewed it as a student, as an involved senator, as a housing R.A. and as a South Fla. community member. Therefore, I wanted to express at least one person's view of this place. I hope others will do the same as more input and expression can only help.

FIU has numerous strong points and potential for greatness, but seems to constantly exhibit a self-destructive mentality. An overriding lack of direction also hampers the University both internally as well as in the community. Organizationally, this place is a mess, some say a nightmare. More importantly and more distressing, this University is often referred to as FI-WHO, though in many areas is far better than its much older local counterpart, the joke some call a university in Coral Gables. Boy, it is such a shame.

"Organizationally, this place is a mess, some say a nightmare."

Why does FIU have such a problem establishing a respected identity in South Fla. Age (13 years) is a possible excuse, but a lame one. FIU is Miami's state university and the largest four year institution south of Tampa. Some of you will say who cares. Still, half of those who live in South Fla. picture FIU as a two year crummy night school with no dorms and no pride. The other half has never heard of us at all. This is the case, just go out in the community and see. Why? The following are what I think are some of the reasons for FIU's past failure to grip South Fla. Much of this will unfortunately be negative, but criticism is often just that. It leads to a positive conclusion and is only meant to make people think and act.

Leadership

FIU needs a forceful, dynamic and progressive leader that will open his or her mouth and become a respected, well known individual in the community (et. al. Tad Foote, president of the University of Miami).

Campus Structure

FIU needs to get its "million campus" act together. Fine, if the University feels the urge to mimic USF's urban branch system, do it right. For one, Bay Vista, love it or hate it, is a major problem. The administration has made it clear that it has no confidence in the current student population base in the northern area. Maybe, they are indeed correct. But BVC has been made into

a major campus with dorms, a soon to be erected library, academic buildings and superb recreational facilities. Wolfe is often quoted as saying that placing the resources there now allows changes to be made in the future, if warranted. This seems logical, but what does BVC do until the year 2000 comes around. It is definitely giving a black eye to FIU and detracting from the progress made down south. Instead of utilizing this valuable, real resource in a constructive way such as turning it into an acclaimed regional research center or limited population honors college, they use it as an

"BVC...they use it as an academic truckstop."

academic truckstop. Though BVC serves some useful purposes such as Nursing and Public Affairs, it still is a poor excuse for an FIU campus.

Unbelievably, the BVC dorms have not only FIU students, but also EF, Miami-Dade, BCC and the "hotel convention of the week bunch." FIU students and especially R.A.'s just feel "great" about the situation. The one gaining there is not FIU, but PAL Investment, who owns the dorms.

Obviously, BVC is definitely not helping FIU or its image. Therefore, BVC must finally be dealt with in a realistic, but sensible manner. By increasing or drastically reducing enrollment at BVC, the campus can be made to serve a purpose other than being a shooting locale for Arabian Hardees commercials and Miami Vice scenes. Moving schools may or may not be the answer, but there is an answer. We must have more vision, guts and creativity instead of playing with our thumbs on the PC 5th floor. The folks running the show are paid to find the solutions or at least try. Start earning your keep and get moving on developing an effective campus system. Nobody is asking you all to be perfect. But please stop trying to prove you can become more moronic with each decision made. I and many others believe it already.

I personally have confidence that if the FIU administration would just occasionally open up its mind, the results might be surprising, maybe even to them.

Enrollment

To move even further towards a traditional college setting, FIU should fight hard, damn hard, for funding, greatly increased freshman enrollment, both in course offerings and the necessary accompanying facilities. Upon close investigation, FIU's recruitment effort in Dade and Broward high schools is pitiful and needs drastic improvement. The high transfer-to-freshman ratio is admittedly lopsided due to the infancy of the four year program. But, in the next few

years, we must fight for that enrollment funding and stop feeling we can't win in Tallahassee. I've been told at least twenty times by various people that we "will always get screwed" when it comes to funding. Administrators and faculty around here say this so much that no wonder the negative attitude lingers. Look what was able to happen when the media, local legislators and the community banded together and fought like hell to get the Southeast Florida Plan through. Recently, FIU also received approval for increased enrollment (125 students per year for five years) in its upper division programs. What FIU needs is more heart and more victories like those.

Academic

FIU boasts very fine business and hospitality schools. Of course, most in the local and state community have no idea of this academic excellence due to insufficient publicity and coverage. Sure, here and there, we will get an occasional Herald write-up or editorial. It's not enough. Much of the local business employment community ignores FIU, resulting in poorer placement opportunities than we deserve. Wake up University Relations.

Here are some of those unknown achievements. The accounting school is considered by many as the best in the state (CPA exam rankings consistently number 1 or 2) while the MIS research program ranks top 20 in the

"With notable exceptions in some areas, the academic kudos go to hospitality and business."

U.S. The finance and management programs are strong due to the numerous well-known faculty members. Hospitality's national distinction is so well known by all that nothing else needs to be said there. Hey, how would all you people at Hospitality like to do P.R. for the whole University. You would do a great job. Well, at least you couldn't do worse.

So there you have it. With notable exceptions in some areas, (occupational therapy, criminal justice, etc.) the academic kudos go to hospitality and business. Sorry, a university does not run on two schools. It is a fact that the crummy schools deplete the respect gained by the fine ones. When outsiders view FIU, they view the entire University.

Thankfully, the commitment does seem to be there to improve architecture, engineering and the health sciences, but where the heck is the concern for building a decent communications program. Everyone says the administration, faculty and facilities all need tremendous improvement. By the way, the communications department has no equipment and facilities, so im-

provement should be pretty easy there (a few typewriters and one drafting table translates into no facilities for the communications students). Ask communications students and they will tell you with shame that their school is a farce compared to what it should be. Attention administrators...Journalism and Communications are pretty attractive majors these days. FIU's Journalism and Communications programs are not very attractive. See the problem? A move to downtown is moronic (to Tamiami would be wiser) and the resulting meager improvement in facilities will not solve a thing unless major commitment exists for making the program top notch. The creation of a separate school next year is a first step, but trivial compared to what needs to be done.

Also, other popular programs such as psychology and political science (there are many others) should be greatly expanded. Of course, the problem is always funding. Once again, let's get rid of the attitude problem, have some vision, get moving, and do what we have to. Sure, everything will take time, but FIU's biggest problem is that takes too much time even getting to the starting blocks.

Fund Raising

Fund raising is something FIU is not very good at. This is one point all will agree on. We are currently dead last in the formation of eminent scholar chairs and pitiful in other fund raising areas as well. Those "gigantic ivy schools" like the University of North Florida, University of Central Florida and FAU are all ahead of FIU in terms of the number of chairs established.

There are over three million people in South Fla. and countless businesses, large and small. They all can't be that stingy. U of M's presence provides some of the reason but shouldn't kill us that much. If it is, FIU must start fighting hard to change the philanthropic flow. If little old me was able to go out and get \$8000 for student scholarships, (and was told by these firms that they were never even approached by FIU before) the University could improve their efforts a bit. I positively could have gotten much more, but I stopped. My point had been made clearly to the administration and this was also not my job. Some students will hopefully benefit from my efforts while some administrators may have woken up.

FIU has made progress with a few large donations and the formation of a highly qualified development staff. This is without doubt the most vital item in FIU's future. So much will rest on "V.P. Surbrook and Company's" shoulders in the years to come.

Somehow this N.Y. high school acceptee to Princeton ended up at FIU after disgust with T.V. replay and 600 person courses at U.F. But I'm truly proud to graduate here. I definitely got a much better education at FIU and met a diverse group of nice people. Show up at the arena and other events and show you're pride. Us alumni will be counting on you. Give em hell Class of '86.

Cycling for success

Debi Fisher

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Place: FIU.

Action: Pedaling your bicycle around campus as a mid-study break. Sound unreasonable? Well, think about it.

The semester is in high gear already and maybe you need a break. The weather is looking better these days and instead of heading over to watch TV, or down a few brews, why not cycle?

The enthusiasm for bicycling is growing in this country as evidenced by the following trend: 1.5 million people now bike to work. This figure is also increasing by about 10 percent a year.

Throughout the U.S., in 1984, 33 percent more people raced bikes than in 1983. In the 1984 Olympics, four gold and five silver and bronze medals were won by the U.S. for cycling. A new event, a long distance women's cycling race, was responsible for one of the golds that the U.S. captured.

Bicycling is an aerobic activity. Your arteries are dilated while cycling, delivering needed oxygen to the body's vital organs. As with other aerobic activities, the goal is to bike 20 to 30 minutes per day three times a week in order to reap this activity's cardiovascular benefit. This also helps an individual build endurance for the long range goal of biking longer distances in the future.

If dieting is not your strong suit (and who's is?), consider these facts. If you cycle 11 mph you will burn up between 450 and 500 calories. That is the equivalent of six and a half slices of bread.

If you increase your speed to 13 mph, the amount of calories burned off increased to the almost startling number of 650.

"Cycling will strengthen thighs better, burn as many or more calories than running and is a top cardiovascular exercise," according to Dr. Thomas Wickiewicz, assistant clinical professor of surgery (orthopedic) at Cornell Medical College/Hospital in New York.

Bicycling also helps reduce stress. The fresh air and change of scenery will

help fight the blues and give you a sense of exhilaration. This will enable you to return to studying with a clear mind and a fresh outlook.

Here are some other pointers for the would-be cyclist. If you haven't been on a bike in a long time, don't overdo it the first day. The old adage about not falling off holds true, but you could do harm to your body if you get a little overzealous. As with other types of exercise, take it slowly at first and build up gradually. When just starting out, don't try for more than three to five miles the first few days.

If you've been cycling a while, an intermediate rider can go up to 25 miles a day. An advanced biker can go up to 40 miles per day.

Although there are a number of positive benefits to be gained from this activity, cycling does not increase the muscle tone of the stomach or upper body. Before riding, it's a good idea to stretch out the calves and quadriceps (front of the thigh) as well as the hamstrings for 10 to 15 minutes. These are the muscles which are most used in cycling. Afterwards, stretch out the upper arms, shoulders and spine (which can become compressed while riding). Walking is also recommended.

If all this sounds like just the type of exercise or activity you've been looking for, a bicycle club is now being formed at the Tamiami campus. If enough people are interested, BVC will start a chapter.

Contact me at 554-2297 (Student Union), and I will return the message.

Next Week: Gear for the Ride.

Play looks like a hit



There's something very exciting going on in the theatre at Tamiami. "Buster Keaton Meets a Poet in New York" is an original production preparing to hit the stage Feb. 20th.

This production contains the play, "Buster Keaton's Journey" written by Federico Garcia-Lorca, and encompasses all forms of drama and design. The musical score was composed by FIU Professor John Augenblick, and directed by FIU Professor Philip M. Church.

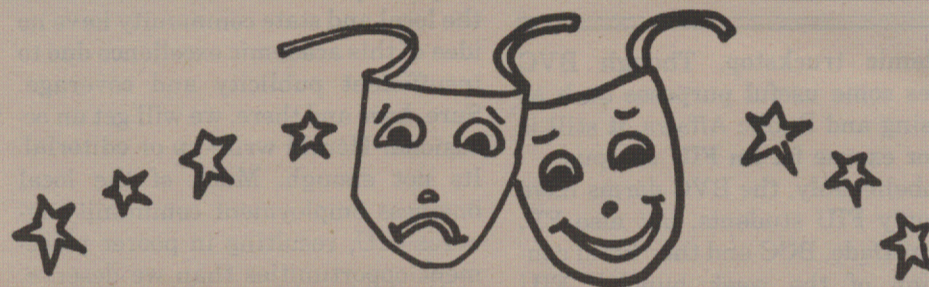
This is combination of the play and some of Lorca's poetry. The production will be traveling to Spain this summer

and will participate in the Sitges Festival in Barcelona.

Xavier Coronel, a well-known Hispanic actor will perform, as well as Valerie Vann and Clifton Taylor, choreographers and dancers with the Momentum Dance Co. of Miami.

The dates are Feb. 20-22, 27, 28 and March 1. The place is VH 100, and the price is \$6 gen. adm., \$5 students, \$2 FIU students.

Come down and check it out.



Celebration a winner

Holly Manheim

Sunblazer Contributor

The Jewish Awareness Celebration took place from Jan. 27- Feb. 1, 1986 at the Bay Vista Campus. Jewish Awareness Celebration is part of SGA's theme weeks that take place throughout the year. It was a complete success. Many student and faculty alike enjoyed the events that were skillfully planned by the chairperson, Norman D. Richman, who is also a member of the SCPC (Social and Cultural Planning Committee), and Assistant Comptroller for SGA.

The first day, a food bazaar was held in the Student Center (SC) building, with various student clubs selling Jewish foods such as knishes, falafel (Jewish gyros), and of course, bagels and cream cheese. This proved profitable to the clubs as well as to everybody's stomach. Along with the food bazaar there was "American Balalaika," an international music group. The group, dressed in costume, played and sang Israeli tunes.

The second event was a free, sneak-peek of the play, "Trial and Error," performed at the Ruth Forman Theatre. Approximately 80 people

turned out and they were fortunate because the performance and the play were moving and informative.

It recreated an actual trial of a Soviet Jew, Yuli Edelstein, who was taken out of his home and sentenced to three years in prison on trumped-up drug charges.

Edelstein is still in prison.

After the play, author Wayne Firestone, a University of Miami student, came out and passed around paper and envelopes. He asked the audience to write a personal letter to Yuli telling him we were aware of his plight. The function of these letters was to show, in a very subtle way, some form of action against this all too often injustice.

Everyone enjoyed a real treat Weds. in the pub when the film musical "Fiddler on the Roof" was shown. On sale for the occasion was Maccabee Beer (imported from Israel), which was also sold throughout the week.

Saturday night was the last event for Jewish Awareness Celebration and also the biggest. SC 320 was transformed for "Israeli Dance Night". The festivities began promptly at 9 p.m. and went on until 1 a.m. Several

students came too early and left because, frankly, it was too early. By 10 p.m., the place was filled. The outside patio was open, and people enjoyed the night air while listening to the sounds of Shajar, a dynamic international band who performed throughout the evening.

In between the band's sets, none other than Norman himself DJ'd the event. If you've seen him at Thursday's with his puppet Fred, you know how people get down. More Maccabee, Michelob and sodas were available and a good time was had by all.

This year marked Jewish Awareness Celebration's 4th successful year. Richman said, "It was successful, but I wish more of the students would have participated, especially the dorm residents who should take advantage of campus events. Our goal here is for more school spirit and student involvement."

For those of you that missed a taste of the Celebration, you're in luck. Something of Jewish Awareness Celebration remains although the events are gone. The beer, Maccabee Beer sold so well that it will be included on the pub's list of imported beer.

Very Funny

Olga Figueroa

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Every lost soul should be as lucky as Jerry (Nick Nolte) is in the current release, "Down and Out in Beverly Hills."

Centered around the Whitemans', a "typical" Beverly Hills family, the film explores the effect a suicidal derelict has on their peaceful albeit stale life. For the subject matter it covers, however, the film is ridiculously funny.

Amidst the wealth of Beverly Hills, Jerry lives on the streets. He totes his stuff around in a shopping cart, a mutt his only companion. When his mutt runs away after a jogger bearing fast food and The search proves unfruitful, Jerry decides to end it all-in the Whitemans' pool.

Richard Dreyfuss plays a coat hanger tycoon turned good samaritan. He saves Jerry's life and tries to change his ways. Dreyfuss feeds him pate, clothes him in Adolfo, and lets him drive his Rolls. The only thing this ends up proving is old habit are hard to break.

Bette Midler plays a slightly frustrated, eccentric, middle-aged housewife. At first, she disapproves of her husband's attempts to salvage Jerry, but after he's cleaned up, she accepts him, more or less.

The Whitemans' have two children. Tracy Nelson (daughter of late Ricky and ex-"Square Pegs" star) plays the elder kid. Max, their son, is a cross between Boy George and a ballerina.

The effect Jerry has on these people's lives is at first disturbing, but as he teaches them to loosen up (each in his own way) they begin to accept it.

Fifties rock star Little Richard appears briefly to steal a few scenes as does the Whitemans' dog Matisse.

Though it's far from Oscar material, I have faith it will be a big box office success.

Rating: ☆ ☆ ½ stars-worth seeing.



Kolumn

Sanda Kurtz

Sunblazer Features Editor

Well, another Valentine's Day is upon us and, not a moment too soon. This is the day to celebrate love. Love. What a nice word. I should send my mom a Valentine's Day card.

I noticed that "People" Magazine this week has put together the Christa McAuliffe issue. Boy, wasn't that nice of them? The poor woman's family has hardly had time to recover from their shock of two weeks ago, and "People" has already interviewed everyone that knew her. The "Star" is also running a McAuliffe story. They, however, have decided that Christa just wasn't as important as what happened "behind the scene of 'Sins'."

It seems to be that the tabloid writers (and after all isn't "People" as close to a tabloid as you can get on high-stock glossy anyway?) are the buzzards of the journalistic life cycle. They are part of

the family of decomposers that come in after the carcass has been finished off and pick stuff off the bones. I don't know about you, but if I'm reading a book with rave reviews from "People" printed right there on the book, I'll stop and think twice.

But, enough of this. This week is the one out of 52 each year that celebrates Eros and for this occasion, Expressway Toyota has chosen to provide "Video Valentines." People can bring in their own Beta or VHS tape, or purchase one there from the North Miami Jaycees. Scripts are available for those that can't think of anything original to say. This happens Feb. 10-13, 5-8 p.m.

The address is 150 NW 79th St. (261-2181)

I'm still waiting for a contest idea. If anyone has one, I'd love to hear it. Maybe, a contest to think up a contest? Write and tell me what you think.

Why not buy someone you love some flowers or candy. That's always nice on days like Valentine's Day. Tell someone you care about them; take them out to lunch. Have a good week. I'll see you next Monday.



Go Greek: An inside look

Carolyn Salata

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Although Greek life on campus is not as large as Univ. of Florida's, it is expanding. Since FIU has a large campus, some students may not be aware of the frats and sororities on campus. To get to know some of them better, here's an inside look.

Alpha Gamma Omega (AGO)- AGO not only knows how to study, they know how to party as well. In they past they have been responsible for security at Kool & the Gang, participated in intramural sports, and thrown major parties. AGO is known for its annual tradition, the "Best Buns" Contest.

Through all this fun and partying, there is a serious side to this group as well. The major goal of this frat is to one day have a house to call their own.

Some of the brothers have set other goals for the fraternity.

"We might eventually want to go national," states Jaime Hundley, v.p. of AGO as well as Greek Council President. Raul Perez, a representative adds, "One [goal] is to see fraternity row become economically stable, increase it's membership, and have the largest number of active brothers."

Although some goals differ among brothers, there are two goals which are unanimous: to become better known within the school, and to be the No. 1 social organization at FIU.

AGO has, in some ways, affected the brothers lives. "I have met people outside of my own social group," states Perez. "Being just down here from New York, AGO gave me a chance to get to know a lot of people," says Scott Ironside.

"Being associated" with AGO has really enhanced my perception of life and has made me aware that interaction between different kinds of people can be the greatest experience one can have in a lifetime. AGO will always be a part of me and I am going to work hard at preserving its continuity," states President Eddie Miranda.

The brothers all agree that there is a special and unique bond between them. "Very close, sometimes too close. We are like a family," says Miranda.

Phi Sigma Sigma--Starting out as a local sorority and then becoming national has been a major step for the sisters of Phi Sig. They are also the only national sorority on campus. The sisters know how to mix studying and partying; studying, however, being the most important.

Phi Sig has participated in many activities which have included a toga party, founder's day luncheon, football parties, and SGA theme weeks. They have also participated in Community service projects such as blood drives, a Christmas party for orphans, canned food drives and helping the Kidney Foundation.

The long term goal of Phi Sigma is to get a house and having the "concentration of sisterhood and the knowledge that Phi Sig will be here forever," explains Ana Garcia, president. The basic principles of Phi Sigma Sigma are sisterhood, service, and scholarship. Pledging for Phi Sig involves many new experiences.

"It is a process where girls learn about the national end of the organization as well as getting to know us as individuals," says Garcia. It involves attending weekly meetings, some fundraisers, and having a lot of fun," adds Maggie del Valle, pledge mistress. Maria Sosa also adds, "It is where the pledges get to know everybody, and we get to meet them."

There are many reasons that girls want to join Phi Sigma Sigma. "The girls were looking for the same things I was--friends, fun and learning," said del Valle.

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Out and About This Week

February

11

The Figure in The Landscape Exhibit--Art Museum PC 112
 American Marketing Association-Meeting, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. UH 210
 Black History Month--BVC/Tamiami
 Jazz Night--Rathskellar
 Miami Film Festival through the 16th--Tonight, "Three Men and a Basket" (France), 7 p.m.; "Happily Ever After" (Brazil), 9:30 p.m.; at the Coconut Grove Playhouse

12

Black History Month--Tamiami, performance of "Sister, Sister!" - a one-woman show by Vinnie Burrows. UH 140, 8 p.m. For info call 554-2408
 "Pope of Greenwich Village"--BVC Pub, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m., FREE
 FBLA of FIU presents speaker Vickie Jackson of Southern Bell, 8 p.m., AC I 265. Topic: Innovation, Technology and Services After Divestiture. FREE
 SGA Meeting--3 p.m., UH 150

13

Thursdays-on-the-Bay Valentine's Day Dance, 9 p.m., BVC Pub
 Creative Writers Series continues with reading by Novelist Russell Banks, 7:30 p.m., AC I Auditorium, FREE
 "A Soldier's Story" -- 1:30, 6 and 8 p.m., UH 140
 Tomorrow also, 12:30, 6, 8 and 10 p.m.

14

Flower and Bake Sale--9 a.m. - 1 p.m., UH Forum
 Music videos and free hors d'oeuvres, 4 - 7 p.m.
 Rathskellar
 "Quicksilver" opens nationwide

15

Black History Month--BVC, Third Annual "Today's Black Woman" workshop, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., SC 245, Lunch SC 320. For more info, call 940-5804
 Museum of Science presents "One Million Years B.C.", today and tomorrow, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., FREE

16

Faculty Recital--Simon Salz, guitarist. 8 p.m., AT 100, students free, adults \$3

17

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You're somebody who's made FIU home to me. To our first, but not our last Valentine's Day together. Love always, ARCHIE.

TO MY WIFE JANET:
Happy Valentine's Day! Love always, Bill.

HUGH, Happy Valentine's Day... Will you be Mine? I Love You, Sanda.

DEAR CAT,
The synergy we generate by walking the path together will get us to our chosen destination. I Love You. OWNER.

LITTLE HEAD: Happy Valentine's Day! Love, unowho.

DEAR STEPH: This is our first Valentine's Day together, but it won't be our last! Thanks for everything you do, and Thanks for just being you. I Love You, David.

DEAR WILL,
Happy Hearts Day!! I LOVE YOU - Now and Always. Kisses, Your Chubby Baby.

SANDA, Won't you be my Valentine? I'll be Yours!! Love, XXXX

ANDY- I know this is just the first of many, many Valentine's Days we'll share together, 'cause it's going to be happily ever after for us. I Love You more than I can say in words. Happy Valentine's Day, Sweetheart, Love Val.

CATHY, Collect the rest of this Valentine's Day message in person! Love You! DODIN.

K, Happy Valentine's Day! I Love You Lots! Michelle

VAL, Our Love is like a News Staff Shirt...Both of Us can share it, and if we take good care of it, it'll Last Forever. What's Mine is Yours. FOREVER, ANDY

Stan, Happy Valentine's Day. Think you overall a pretty good boss!

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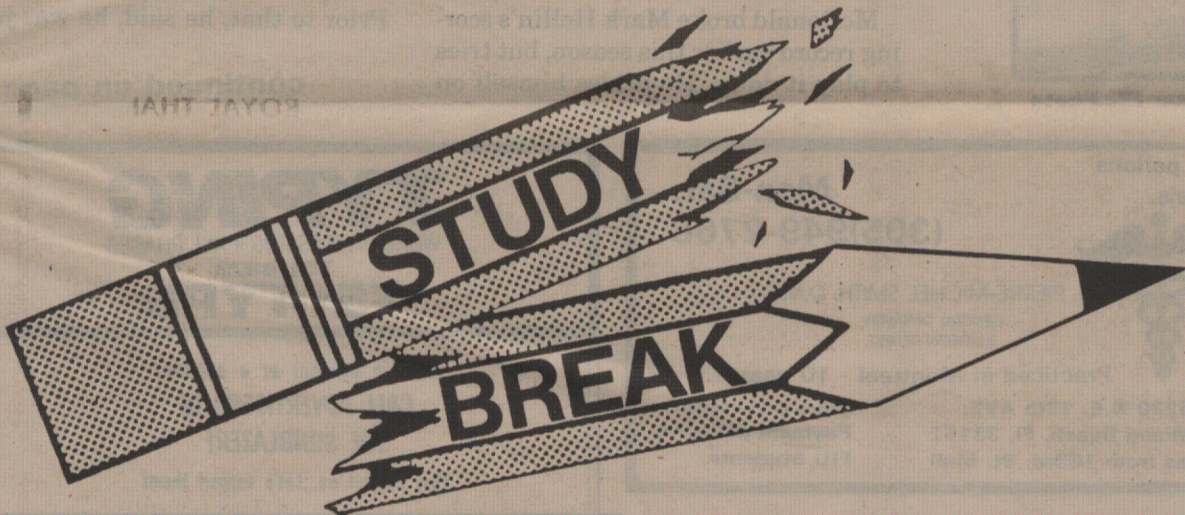
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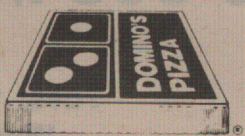
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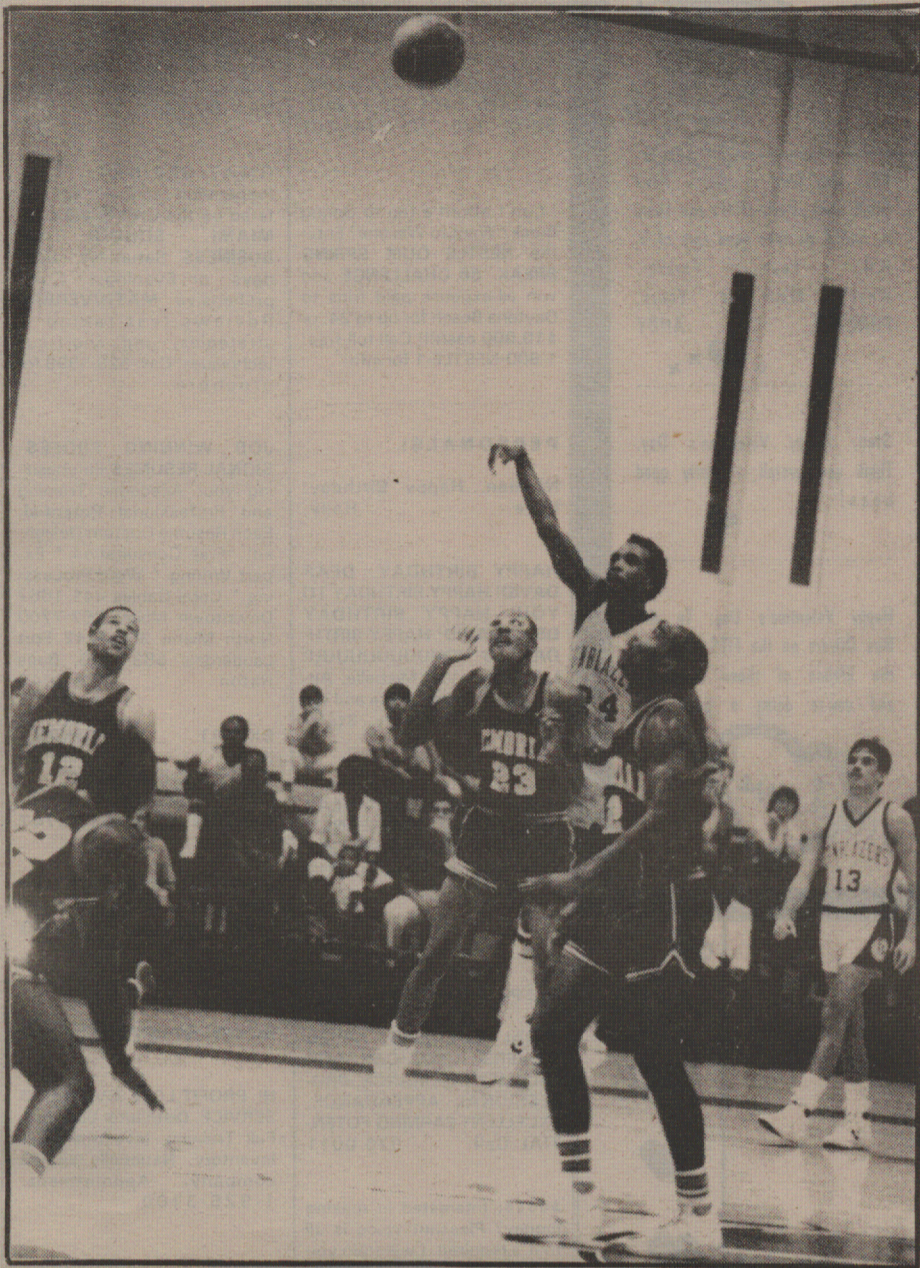


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Sunblazer File Photo

No. 1! Patrick McDonald nails FIU's scoring record

Carolyn Salata

Sunblazer Staff Writer

In four years, Patrick McDonald has certainly made his mark on FIU basketball.

After all, the senior criminal justice major is the all-time leading scorer and one of the leading rebounders in school history. He appears the Sunblazers' best-ever chance to make the pros.

But he takes it all in stride. He's even low-key about it. Just like his hero, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

McDonald doesn't even mention anything about the NBA.

In case he doesn't make the pros, he's planning a career in governmental law enforcement (with either the FBI or CIA) or going to law school.

"He (Abdul-Jabbar) takes a different approach to sports. He's not only an athlete, but a trendsetter," McDonald said.

Maybe more importantly, "Kareem is more centered around self. He's not external, the same way I am."

McDonald broke Mark Hollin's scoring record earlier this season, but tries to play it down. He prides himself on

being a team player, and even though he considers the record "a good accomplishment," there are things he'd rather have.

"I would trade it to get back the losses occurred over a season."

McDonald hails from Kingston, Jamaica, but has lived in Miami since 1972.

Patrick's life doesn't center around basketball; it never has. His hobbies include Shakespeare, classical music, jazz, poetry and the outdoors. He also enjoys track and swimming. "I love water. I love outdoor sports, but I also like being out in the country," he said.


McDonald has been playing basketball since third or fourth grade. He has been playing team basketball since sixth grade, but didn't commit to it until eighth grade.

He had been running track, but he badly injured his hip in a car accident. After the accident, he began growing. He now stands 6'5". Being the tallest in the class, his coach asked him if he would like to go out for the team.

Prior to that, he said, he was just a

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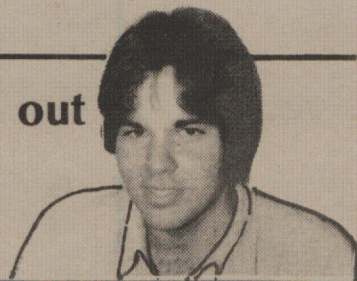
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Time out



Basketball happiness

David Colodney

Sunblazer Sports Editor

The brand new Sunblazer Arena wasn't open for three days before "Miami Vice" got hold of it.

Now our new arena will be beamed into billions and billions of living rooms across this fine country of ours on some Friday night in the not too dis-

tant future.

Welcome to the big time, folks. If you've made "Miami Vice," you've made it.

Thankfully, though, "Miami Vice" wasn't the first thing to happen in the new arena.

A basketball game was played.

No, wait, that doesn't do it justice. It wasn't just a basketball game, it was a spiritual thing, or something. It was 2,000 people jumping up and down screaming their lungs out for an entire game that their school was participating in. And winning.

I was at that now legendary game last Saturday night at the Sunblazer Arena. I don't mean to sound sappy, but I think I'm going to remember it for a long time to come.

FIU is a new school. It is a Division II school. It simply hasn't had the time to develop a true academic tradition yet. We drew 2,000 fans to that now legendary game. It was the biggest crowd in FIU's all-to-brief athletic history. Two thousand fans at a University of Kentucky game is

unheard of. My gosh, it's even impossible to imagine that, much less say it. They would draw 15,000 if the Red Army was marching through the UK campus.

But we're different. We're new. We have competition against other local universities vying for our students, and now also for our (athletic) entertainment time.

I passed up a chance to see the University of Miami baseball team, the defending national champions, take on No. 2 Texas last Friday night. I went instead with a bunch of my friends back to the arena to see the Sunblazers take on Columbus College. We had no idea of who they were or where they came from, but we went because it was FIU. It was us. (Some amongst us, who shall remain nameless, thought the Sunblazers were playing Columbus High).

It's a big deal for me, since that arena opening made me feel like I was at a real university. A pumped up, rowdy crowd. The wave. Cute cheerleaders. Frats even.

It was great. But I learned something very important that night, something that is sure to help me in my future life, no matter what profession I wind up in.

How to correctly throw a roll of toilet paper.

I received a crash course at our tailgate before the game, but I muffed my big chance come game time.

Everybody else's unraveled into a beautiful sea of fluff, gently making its way to the arena floor.

Mine was like a missile shot. I knew I screwed this up the second it left my fingers. I looked to see if it had made contact on the head of any innocent bySTANders, or worse yet, any university administrators.

Luckily it didn't.

It was just so strange. Everyone's unraveled. Mine was a brick.

But in spite of that, it was fun. The rest of the game was great.

I felt like saying, "Sunblazer fever...Catch it!" Fun for the entire family. An American tradition.

Her dream was to coach high school football.
Her nightmare was Central High.



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McDonald

continued from page 10

member of a team.

It wasn't until then that he believed that he could make a real contribution to a team.

"There are two types of athletes," McDonald said. "Those who just are in a group and those who believe in the group enough to make a commitment.

"These groups are the same in life. I decided not just to live my life, but contribute to life. I saw basketball as an outlet," he said.

Patrick sights his coach at Miami Edison High, Ernie Bell, as very influential in his life while he was growing up.

"He is a very positive person and a strong individual," McDonald said.

Patrick was one of the most highly recruited players in the state coming out of high school, but chose FIU for his mother.

She had suffered a stroke while he was in high school and was left paralyzed.

"My sister was away in college and I didn't want to leave home and go away from my mom. I had an opportunity to go out of state, but I didn't want to go that far.

"I wanted to stay with my mom."

FIU was close to home and he was able to commute.

"The program at FIU was new and I felt like I could make a contribu-

tion since I was already known locally."

McDonald thinks FIU's basketball team is "on paper very good, but on the court something else."

He believes there must be a certain amount of blending with different personalities. "Being able to adjust to different situations" is his formula for being a good basketball player.

"The move to Division I will do a lot for FIU athletically and academically. It is a chance to establish a good recruiting tool for student-athletes," he said.

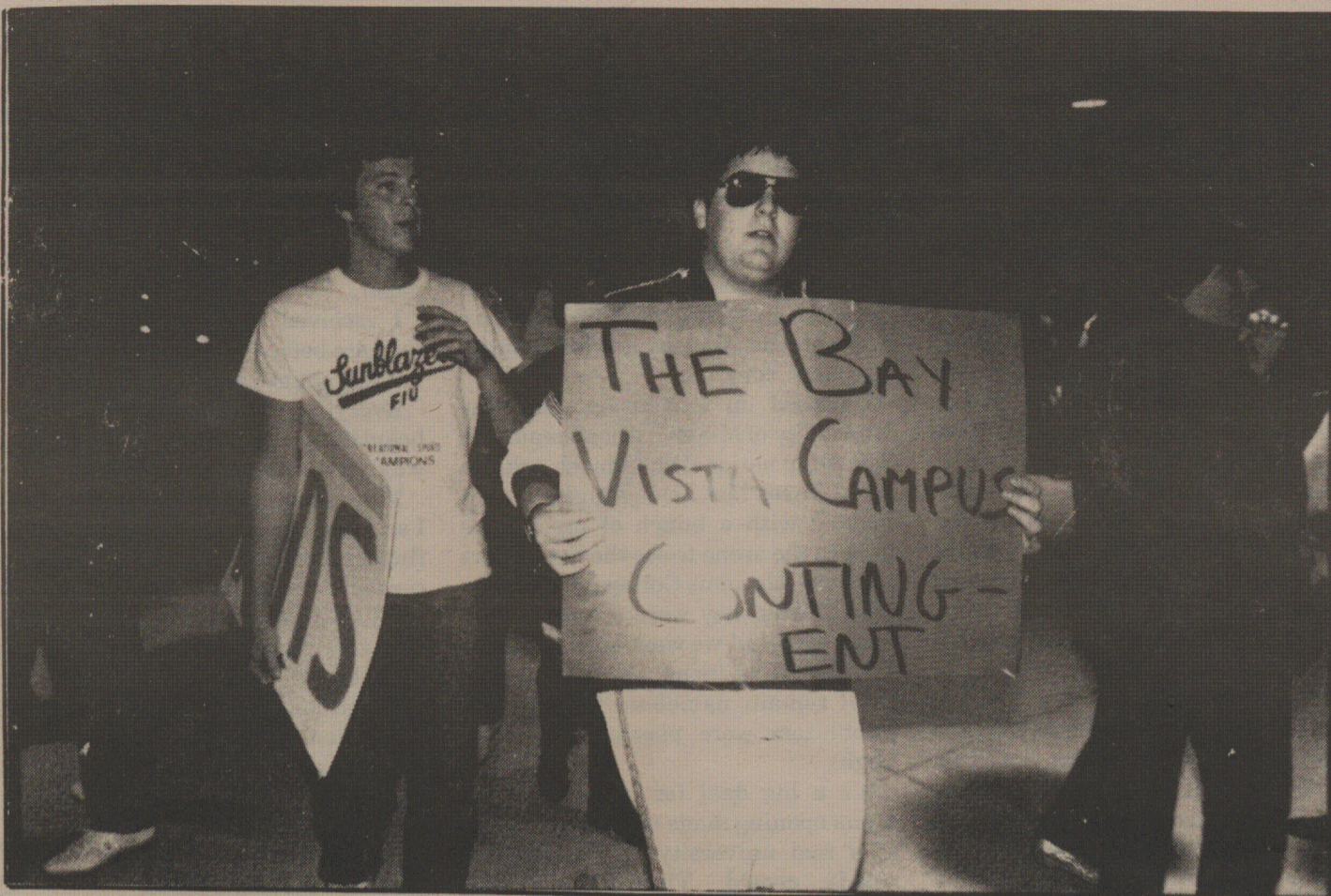
Through the basketball team, Patrick has met influential people he would have otherwise never met. It also gave him the chance to travel a lot.

"Basketball has been an experience that I could have lived without, but I'm glad I got it-- if not here, then somewhere else."

Patrick McDonald goes out with a line reminiscent of Abdul-Jabbar. He reflects.

"You can judge a man's character by the choices he makes under pressure. It's important-- the impression you leave on people.

Records someone can always come along and break. I'd like to be remembered as someone who always gave 120 per cent."



Crowd ready for action

Myles Barchas and Jeff Brenner lead the Bay Vista contingent to the Sunblazer Arena opening.

Photo by Michael Saenz

The Opening:

David Colodney

Sunblazer Sports Editor

The game wasn't yet a minute old when the Sunblazers' Andre Laz moved inside and scored the first two points in the Sunblazer Arena, which opened Feb. 1 with a raucous crowd of over 2,000 on hand to watch the Sunblazers run away with a 75-60 game against Nova and to get a first glance at the arena that will be home to most FIU teams.

That first basket was greeted with streams of toilet paper hurled at the floor in celebration. A time out had to be called to clear the floor.

The crowd was the largest ever at an FIU sporting event.

"It was a great event for the university, faculty, students and anyone with any inkling of support for FIU," Sunblazers' Coach Rich Walker said.

The night was seen as an event special to students who have seen FIU's progress over the last few years. It helped instill pride, they

said.

"I've been in this school for three years, and I know we're going to fill that stadium many times in the future, but I know that as a student, I got to see it filled and I felt proud to be an FIU student," Student Government Association President Jorge Dominicus, a graduating senior, said.

"And I got to be proud with 2,000 other people.

The rowdy crowd used any excuse to make noise. They raised signs spelling out "Blazers" and did a wave that went around for much of the second half.

Nova's possessions were greeted with chants of "Boring! Boring!" and the Sunblazers' with chants of "FIU! FIU!"

The crowd received a warning for its behavior.

"I'll never forget the feeling I got when I saw 2,000 people doing the wave at FIU," Myles Barchas, 21, an SGA senator and graduating business major, said. "Our time has

The Sunblazer Arena opens to record crowd

finally come."

"This very special night turned FIU into a real university," he said.

"Whoever is involved in basketball knows that the more noise and influence people lend, it motivates student athletes to play above their ability," Walker said.

"We played better with the crowd than without it."

Walker spoke proudly of his team's new home.

"The Board of Regents made a splendid decision. They showed a lot of insight into seeing the needs of this university. The allocation of money for this was a powerful, intelligent decision," he said.

The \$6.8 million facility will be home to the men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball teams, as well as for special events. The arena also houses three classrooms, a physiology lab, a kinesiology lab and racquetball courts that can be utilized by students and faculty. Construction was begun in May, 1984.

The three-tiered arena will seat 5,039 when completed. Currently, the capacity of 3,600 is reached with 2,000 seats on the first level and 1,600 on the second.

Walker also said that recruiting for next season was going "very well" and says the on-campus arena is at least partly responsible for it. The Sunblazers lose starters Andre Laz, Hector Rodriguez, George Quintairos and All-American Patrick McDonald to graduation at the end of the season.

"It's (recruiting) going well for obvious reasons. The arena, Division I, location of the school," Walker said.

Walker didn't offer a projection of future attendance figures for home games at the arena.

But most of the seniors there saw it as a chance to take pride in FIU one last time.

"Unfortunately, I got here (to FIU) a little too early," Barchas said. "But I'll definitely come back when we get the chance to destroy UM."

The Game: McDonald, Sunblazers topple Nova, 75-60

David Colodney

Sunblazer Sports Editor

Patrick McDonald scored 20 points to lead the Sunblazers to a 75-60 win over Nova University in the inaugural game at the Sunblazer Arena Feb. 1.

The Sunblazers upped their record to 7-0 against the Knights.

The Sunblazers led most of the way, except for briefly at the end of the first half when Nova's Perry Holst put the Knights up, 22-20, with a jump shot at the 7:02 mark.

FIU had an eight-point lead at one point, but Coach Rich Walker gave the first team a breather and the second team couldn't hold the lead the starters gave them.

Hector Rodriguez gave the Sunblazers the lead by sinking two free throws less than two minutes

later.

The Sunblazers led the rest of the game.

The outcome of the game was no longer in doubt by the middle of the second half as FIU rolled to the 15-point cushion.

In the second game at the Arena last Tuesday, Hector Rodriguez scored 16 points and snagged 11 rebounds to lead FIU to a 73-57 victory over Palm Beach Atlantic.

The win raised the Sunblazers' record to 12-9.

John Stiver scored 14 points and Patrick McDonald added 13 for the winners.

The second-ranked Sunblazers women's team played their first game in the Arena Friday before the men's game against Columbus College. The men's game was televised live on Channel 17.