

Judiciary overrules committee decision

Candidates allowed to run for president

Theresa Willingham

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Two Student Government Association senators disqualified from running for the office of SGA president were reinstated as candidates March 18, when the SGA Supreme Court overturned an Elections Committee ruling declaring the candidates ineligible.

Ed Iturralde and Joel Montgomery were notified March 17 of their ineligibility, and at Montgomery's insistence a court hearing convened the following day.

The four presidential candidates running in the April 7, 8 and 9 election are Iturralde, Montgomery, Sandy Curtis and Shawn O'Toole. Ana Garcia is running unopposed for vice president. Tim Benjamin is running unopposed for controller.

Howard Swerdloff, elections committee chairman, disqualified the candidates when he discovered matching signatures on each of their petitions for office. The committee requires candidates to gather 100 original signatures on a petition to run for office, called Declaration of Intent forms. Swerdloff found that some students had signed both Iturralde's and Montgomery's petitions, invalidating both.

"Students may sign only one Declaration of Intent per number of office positions open," Swerdloff said at the hearing. "There is only one position open for the office of SGA president."

Swerdloff was referring to a statement on the Declaration of intent that reads, "Each student may sign as many Declarations of Intent as there are positions open."

Chief Justice Lyle Larson and Justices Harvey Gluckman, Peter Koltis and Ji Park questioned the constitutionality of this statement, which is not included in the constitutional statute that outlines the requirements to be satisfied on the Declaration of Intent.

Montgomery argued that while the constitution provides a candidate deemed ineligible to run for office seven days to correct the problem responsible for his disqualification, he had not been given this time prior to the committee's decision. Montgomery argued also that he had enough signatures over the 100 required to compensate for the six duplicates.

"The printed form has space for 120
see CANDIDATES, p.2



Sunblazer file photo

Sitting pretty

A student picks a pretty spot by the fountain behind the UH Building on the Tamiami Campus to study and catch some rays.

Interama land saga continues: North Miami posts warning signs on 151 St.

Mike Saunders

Sunblazer Asst. News Editor

The latest episode in a 40-year-old soap opera unfolded recently when the City of North Miami placed signs along 151st Street, across from the Bay Vista campus, to warn of dangers caused by an old landfill.

Signs warning of "unstable slopes" and hidden objects border the site, once part of Interama, a grandiose multi-million dollar plan for an Inter-American trade center, theater, domed

stadium, college campus, golf course, and amusement park with a 1,000-foot tower, topped with a rotating restaurant.

Munisport, Inc., a Washington-based development company, leased the 300-acre tract from 1974 to 1980, after plans were scrapped for the site to become a recreation area, complete with golf course, clubhouse and marina.

Only partially covered with soil and fill, exposed areas of the former dump pose a threat to unwary wanderers or curious students.

"They're just a precautionary mea-

sure to keep people out," said Al Cignore, director of the North Miami Public Works Department. "The area used to be the municipal garbage dump for the city, and there are lakes there caused by the removal of soil used to cover the dump."

"Munisport used to have a watchman on the property, but we were requested to look over it," said Cignore.

North Miami purchased the property from the state in 1970 by floating a \$12 million bond issue that has cost taxpayers about \$1 million a year. Payments are expected to last another 16 years.

CANDIDATES

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specific references to signature duplication.

"If the guideline is constitutionally sound, we have seven days to correct our problem," Iturralde said. "If it is not, then we should not be here."

The hearing was adjourned after an hour of testimony and a verdict was delivered thirty minutes later, overruling the decision of the Elections Committee and declaring the Declaration of Intent statement is a question as "not constitutionally sound." Montgomery and Iturralde were given seven days to correct their petitions.

"In my case," Montgomery said after the hearing, "the specific problem was minimal, since it only amounted to six duplicate signatures. But, I don't see any reason for limiting candidates by making it a primary election."

Iturralde, who had about 20 duplicate signatures, agreed. "The petitions are to show you have some sort of support, which is fine. But I was disqualified before I began campaigning. It seemed trivial.

SGA President Jorge Dominicis said he was pleased. "The judicial branch of the student government acted responsibly, professionally and expeditiously. The Executive branch will be supportive of the decision."

\$360,000 computer system to aid advisement

Mike Kaiser

Sunblazer Staff Writer

A new computerized advisement system providing a complete picture of each student's academic standing will be implemented in the next three years, making advisement and registration much easier for both students and advisors.

The system will be able to cross-reference students' transcripts with graduation requirements for individual majors to determine remaining unfulfilled requirements.

Design Committee member Dr. Ar-

thur Herriott said the main purpose of the system is to cut down on the mechanical tasks of registration and provide advisors with more quality time to spend with students.

Presently, advisors must manually check transcripts and catalogs, which also have to be constantly updated. The system will cut the time involved in the checking and updating, allowing advisors more time to address individual problems, Herriott said.

"The system is not at all intended to replace the student-advisor relationship," he said.

The system, which will cost \$360,000 initially and \$100,000 each year to maintain and support, will be im-

plemented in three state universities per year over a three year period. At the end of the three years, all nine state universities will have access to students' records and graduation requirements from all over Florida.

The system, which eventually will be linked to community colleges, will enable students and advisors at the community colleges to examine graduation requirements for state universities.

Herriott said he expects the system to be operating by next year. Graduation requirements and students' transcripts are being entered now for a pilot program in the School of Business, he said.

INTERAMA

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As recently as January, Stan Friedman, a local developer and business consultant, told the North Miami city council that the golf course idea would still be feasible, if coupled with rental housing. One hitch in the plan involves the cleanup of the landfill, which would cost the city an additional \$5 million.

Much of the land is mangrove swamp and boggy wetland. State and private environmentalists claimed that the dump was a pollution threat to Bis-

cayne Bay and groundwater in the area, and sued North Miami and Munisport to have the area fully covered and filled.

In the 1950s, Interama was expected to become a sort of "World's Fair with a Latin accent" that would lure tourists from all parts of the world, but numerous fiscal woes limited progress to the construction of the Bay Vista Campus. The trade center-exhibition hall now serves chiefly as the Bay Vista library.

One part of the grand scheme that still appears promising is the improvement of the Oleta River nature pre-

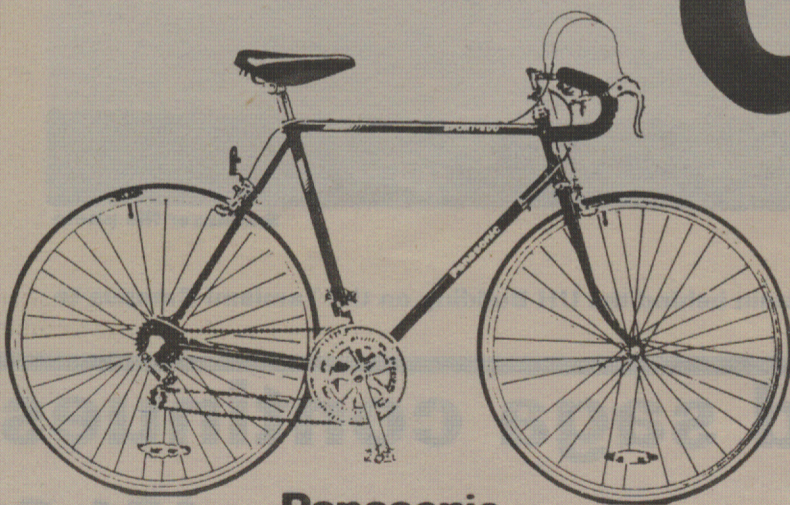
serve into a functional state park and recreation area.

The Oleta River State Park is now under construction and will extend southward from 183rd Street along the Intracoastal Waterway, ending at the cove just behind the Bay Vista library.

In mid-January, FIU and the state's Department of Natural Resources sought bids from private investors to build a hotel and cultural center on the Bay Vista campus.

The library overlooks the proposed site for cabins, picnic areas and meeting rooms for international visitors.

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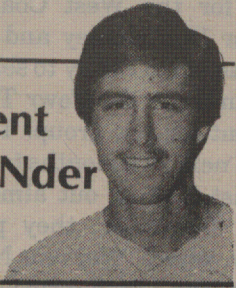
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Editor posts open to dedicated students

Innocent
BySTANDer



Stan Butler

Editor

As the end of the session draws near, The Sunblazer must begin making plans for the next year's staff. In accordance with the bylaws of The FIU Student Newspaper, Inc. (the parent company that operates The Sunblazer), the editorial board must be put up for reelection each term.

At the end of the Spring term, the editorial board for the 86-87 Fall term will be chosen. The current editorial board determines the following editorial board by secret ballot elections.

The current editorial board consists of Stan Butler, editor; Valerie Greenberg, managing editor and news editor; David Colodney, sports editor; Sanda Kurtz, features editor; Hugh Moore, business manager; and Michelle Dreseris, ad manager.

All editorial board positions are up for election. Also the positions of photo editor, graphic artist, circulation manager and assistant editors

The Sunblazer

Send in by April 18 to The Sunblazer, FIU Bay Vista Campus, SC 253, North Miami, Fl. 33181

Name _____
 Position Interested in: _____
 Phone _____
 Address _____
 Experience _____

Positions open: editor, news editor, features editor, sports editor, business manager, advertising manager, photo editor, graphic artist, circulation manager and assistant editors. Staff writers, photographers, artists and advertising sales representatives are also needed for the Fall semester.

will be up for election if enough people apply for the positions. Some new positions may be created if enough people show the current board that they are dedicated enough to work on The Sunblazer.

If positions are not filled at the election, then all interested persons will need to contact the editor for the Fall term and explain why they are interested in working for The Sunblazer. The editor will then present the person's qualifications to the Fall editorial board for their approval. It is rare that someone who doesn't attend the editorial election becomes an editor. Lack of attendance shows little dedication towards goals of The Sunblazer and will not sit well with the old and new editorial boards.

Editorial board members, assistant editors, staff writers, photographers, artists and ad sales representatives are compensated for their time on The Sunblazer.

The money, however, cannot be the driving force behind working on The Sunblazer because it is a nominal amount. Because The FIU Student Newspaper, Inc. is only three years old, we do not have the funds to pay high salaries, thus, dedication to serving the FIU community as best as we can with limited resources has to be the goal behind working on The Sunblazer.

Planned improvements include: single position editors to spread out the responsibility of running The Sunblazer; increased computer capabilities with the purchase of two per-

sonal computers to link the Bay Vista Campus office with the Tamiami office to reduce typing time and to improve the business records of The FIU Student Newspaper, Inc.; reduced printing bills through a tax write-off with one of the major publishers in the area,

the eventual hiring of a professional consultant not affiliated with the University to aid the student journalists in the operations of a newspaper; the publishing of a handbook with detailed explanations and

guidelines about the operations of The Sunblazer; and the setting up advertising contracts with several groups in the University to increase their images to the FIU community; and to increase the

financial stability of The Sunblazer.

Of course, many other plans are already under way to make The Sunblazer one of the best university papers in the state. After only three years, we have become a viable force at FIU and can continue to be one with a dedicated staff.

Any student (except for those affiliated with the SGA) can run for the positions. We ask that only those students who are willing to put up with the long hours, serving as an information post for people that can't read signs, abusive telephone calls, opening massive amounts of mail daily, death threats, inadequate pay, occasionally lower GPA's and overbearing people who believe that their department or group is the most important and that it must be publicized for free by The Sunblazer, then you meet the qualifications for working in an editorial position on The Sunblazer.

For those who are seriously interested in working for The Sunblazer in the Fall, we ask that you fill out the applications that will be published in The Sunblazer and return them to the offices by April 18. The editorial board elections will be held Saturday, April 26 at noon in the Bay Vista offices.

To contact The Sunblazer offices please read the staffbox below for details.

Ralph Sanchez: It's time for damaged property to be repaired

Theresa Willingham

Sunblazer Staff Writer

FIU has no pride. If the University had any self-esteem we would never allow our campus to remain scarred -- let alone have allowed its ravage in the first place -- from the machinations of Ralph Sanchez and the Beatrice Indy Challenge.

While Sanchez reaped the rewards of \$15 to \$100 tickets, concession and souvenir stand profits and the renown associated with bringing big-name drivers to a big-name race, the FIU grounds have lain fallow and forgotten.

In return for providing parking space for over 100,000 Indy spectators, FIU got foot high weeds sprouting from stripped fields and seagulls floating in lake-sized puddles that in the summer will double as mosquito breeding areas and rival the finest Everglades "mudding" grounds.

Close to one hundred acres of Campus land and Audubon Sanctuary were bulldozed to create the parking lot last October, and the windy days that followed blew tons of unanchored and

valuable top soil across the Campus, making Tamiami look like a miniature Dust Bowl.

Despite assurances from Ralph Sanchez in interviews with The Sunblazer after the race that the stripped areas would be resodded, no such reconstruction has taken place and the land has been eroded further by wind and rain and compacted into a hard, rocky wasteland.

The loss of plant and animal life in what was a designated wildlife sanctuary is significant and the visual impact of the devastation appalling.

The real outrage is that a university as dynamic as FIU, professing far-reaching academic and enrollment goals, boasting of new dorms, a gym and plans for further expansion in the future would permit itself to present a less-than-manicured image.

We've placed a \$6.5 million gym in the midst of a pile of rock and rubble. Groundskeepers spend hours meticulously grooming the campus interior while the perimeter areas bordering major thoroughfares leading to the Campus look like the Australian

outback.

In a January 28 interview with The Sunblazer, Ron Arrowsmith, vice president of academic affairs, was quoted as saying, "FIU was mentioned several times on the national telecast of the race with some pretty impressive pictures." He also shrugged off the property damage by saying he didn't feel it was irreparable and that it would be "healed over" by next November.

Well, those pictures wouldn't be too impressive now - weeds and rocks seldom photograph well - and if you went to California and asked a race fan who saw the race what university the track neighbored, he probably couldn't tell you.

It's also doubtful that the grounds will "heal over" by November, particularly when it seems likely that FIU will become a parking lot again next winter for the Second Indy Challenge, and the existing damage will be further augmented.

FIU cannot allow itself to be the City's doormat, especially for an event which has no scholastic bearing on an academic institution. With our new

gym and soon-to-be Division I athletic teams, we will be playing host to universities and colleges from around the country.

Each year we invite more notable speakers to lecture on our campus and conference visitors appear on the increase. A newcomer's first view of our Campus should not be stagnant puddles, scrub brush and weeds.

We owe it to ourselves to uphold our image as a clean and thriving institution and our appearance says as much about us as our curriculum or athletics. The appearance of our Campus should reflect our integrity.

The first step towards cleaning up our act begins by asking Ralph Sanchez to repair the damage done to Tamiami, as promised, and urging FIU not to allow our Campus to be misused again.

The final responsibility of keeping our Campus attractive lies with us, the students, and if we don't care about how we look, then neither will anyone else and we'll be just another school.

And if there's one thing FIU shouldn't be -- it's just another school.

The Sunblazer

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Letters Policy

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

Letters must be **typed** 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, SC 253, North Miami, Fl. 33181.

The Hooters: Philly boys make it big

Valerie Greenberg
Sunblazer Staff Writer

Asked how the group got its name, keyboard player Rob Hyman often answers,

"Down South a hooter is a woman's breast. Some people call a joint a hooter and a hooter is also a musical instrument. Sex, drugs and rock and roll. That's what a hooter is."

Actually, for the recording of their first demo tape, the group had borrowed a Hohner melodica, a keyboard-looking instrument played like a horn. The engineer asked for "more hooter," and the name stuck.

For the past five years, the Hooters have performed six and seven nights a week in clubs, theatres, concert halls, schools and appeared frequently in stores and on radio shows.

Their first album on a major label, "Nervous Night", released by Columbia in May, is nearing the platinum standard. The three singles off the album, "All You Zombies," "And We Danced," and "Day by Day" all reached the top 10. Videos of "All You Zombies" and "And We Danced" hit MTV's top 10.



The Hooters

(from left) Andy King, Eric Bazilian, Dave Uosikkinan, Rob Hyman and John Lilley

The Hooters produced "Amore" independently, as they could not find a label to sign them. The album, although not easy to come by unless as an import or from Philly, became a top seller. The band has since re-released a few of the album's cuts including "All You Zombies" for "Nervous Night."

Philly has generated its share of music successes, from 50's teen idol Frankie Avalon to Patti Labelle, to Hall and Oates. But the Hooters, unlike most greats from this city, did not grow up doo-wopping on the street corners or hanging out in seedy jazz clubs.

The group's founders, Eric Bazilian, 32, who plays guitar, mandolin, saxophone and hooter, and Hyman, 33, met in the early 70s in a elective synthesizer course at the University of Pennsylvania, where they were both majoring in science.

Playing in separate local bands, they kept in touch for a few years until they formed Baby Grand, a studio band that lasted two years and produced two albums for Arista that flopped.

In 1980, Bazilian and Hyman gave up on Baby Grand and formed the Hooters, with drummer Dave Uosikkinan, 29, and two other musicians no longer with the group, John Kuzman and Bobby Woods.

In July, the Hooters represented their home city at Live Aid and then took off for the West Coast as an opener for Don Henley and Squeeze. They returned to Philly to sell out five performances at the Tower Theatre, a home front for the group. They then spent the next two months touring the East Coast, selling out almost every show. In December, they played in Australia, where "Nervous Night" hit the top five, and then returned to New York to host MTV's New Year's Eve bash. On top of all this, the Hooters just ended a U.S. tour opening for Loverboy, during which they made a stop here, at the Hollywood Sportatorium.

For three years, the Hooters packed school gyms and area clubs, becoming one of the best known bands in Philly, until fighting between group members sparked a break-up.

In the summer of 1983, Bazilian, Hyman and Uosikkinan got together and asked Steve Mountain, owner of a Philadelphia nightclub chain to manage the band. Mountain took over the business end and, more importantly laid down the rules regarding booze and drugs, which plagued the original group.

Each Hooter dresses in his own color. Bazilian, a GQ paragon with high cheek bones and square jaw, wears all black. Hyman wears either white or grey. Uosikkinan blends his spiked blonde hair with all yellow clothing. John Lilley, guitarist wears red, and Andy King, bassist, wears blue.

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Bangles' new LP is a "Different Light"

David Colodney

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Coming hot on the heels of their critically acclaimed debut album "All Over the Place," the Bangles shift focus to a more commercial approach on "Different Light," this all-female L.A. band's just released second album.

"All Over the Place" was hailed for its basic '60's style approach. "Different Light" is the opposite: a smoothly styled, '80's sounding pop-rock record. The production perfect, playing precise and the harmonies lovely-- "Different Light" is a terrific album.

"Manic Monday," the Prince-written first single, kicks off the album and

typifies the new approach. The almost sing-songy chorus sticks into mind after one listen. "It's just another manic Monday/ I wish it was Sunday/ 'cause that's my fun day/ my I don't have to run day." Silly, maybe, but it works. "Manic Monday" is steadily moving up the singles chart.

One flaw with the album is the generally lightweight lyrics. "All Over the Place" and the "Bangles" EP that preceded it, both featured clever variations on the standard boy-girl themes. "Different Light," for the most part, scraps cleverness for catchiness. The swing doesn't trash the record, but it does make one hope the girls shoot for heavier lyrics next time out.

"Following is the big exception. "You call me a loser/ you call me a shadowing fool./ Looking over your shoulder and you say I'm haunting you...so I stand accused," Steele sings in a world weary, who-really-cares-anymore voice that adds more emotional depth than some of the other lighter tracks.

Aside from "Manic Monday," "Different Light" features three other cover tunes on the LP. Each one is great. Liam Sternberg's novelty tune "Walk Like an Egyptian" shows off Vicki Peterson's vocal versatility. She shifts from a sultry, almost whispered voice to a straight-forward rock sound on the song's bridge.

"Different Light" is album that shows the development of a young band just hitting its stride. They haven't sold out, they're still essentially the same band that slashed through L.A.'s Paisley Underground in the early '80's as the Bangs. Vicki Peterson's guitar lines still stings, and little sister Debbi Peterson's drums still pounds out a backbeat you can't lose. The Bangles deserve to be mentioned in the same breath as other top post-punk American groups. The Bangles have sought out a new maturity and they've found it without sacrificing their souls for Top 40 success. "Different Light" is the first step in that direction.

Don't feast for finals

Debi Fischer

Sunblazer Columnist

Now that you've returned from Spring Break and are ready to gear up for finals and term papers, the last thing on your mind is food, right?

Well, guess again. Chances are now is the time you'll be binge-happy, staying up all night, and you may be cramming more than facts into your mind. It is very easy to rationalize this type of behavior with the thought of, "well, it'll keep me awake." Believe me, I've been there.

But, eating junk food will not dissipate your hunger. If you have become interested in and are actively pursuing a diet or exercise routine, abandoning it now will only cause you to overdo it after finals. Stringent crash dieting is probably the worst thing you can do for your system.

First, try to limit the amount of caffeine you drink. At this point, you may very well be saying, "What? how can I function like this?" Not everyone can drink a large amount of caffeine. Some people have adverse reactions to it and become wired, a fact which may impair your performance on exams. A better solution would be to drink some fruit juices and natural water, such as Perrier, or seltzer with a twist of lime.

If you're trying to do a day-long marathon of studying, try to pre-plan your caloric intake. Always eat breakfast. Try to stay away from breakfasts that are too high in sugars such as chocolate or danish as well as mega doses of caffeine with the proverbial two lumps.

What will happen is that your blood sugar will rise quickly. Then, just as acutely, it will plummet. Once you've metabolized the glucose you will become even more desperate for another sugar fix. This is something you don't need in the middle of an intense study session.

Instead, try a whole grain cereal or bread along with milk and a serving of fruit. By choosing this type of breakfast, you not only have started to meet your body's daily requirements for vitamins, protein and fiber, but you will also have a feeling of fullness which should carry you through to lunch.

For an afternoon break, instead of going to the machines for a quick bite of whatever you can buy for 35 cents have a salad instead. Another healthful lunch would be yogurt.

Most successful dieters usually cut down or stop eating between 7 and 8 in the evening. If you intend to stay up all night, attempt to stick to a light dinner, with salads and fruit being featured. Also try a carbohydrate such as a baked potato (go light on the stuffings).

As the old saying goes, "the proof is in the pudding." In this case it's better to show a fatter GPA and a leaner body.

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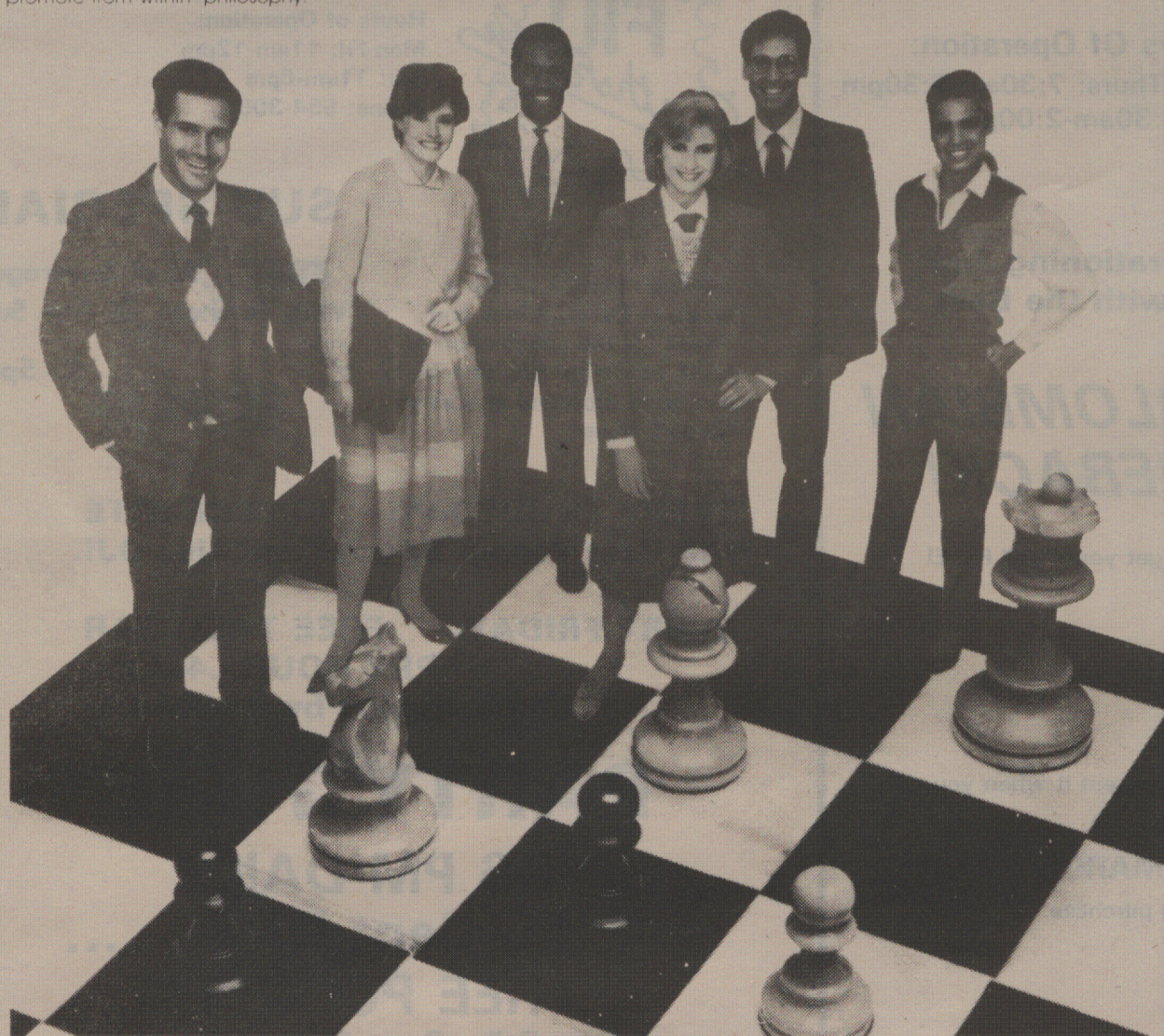
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Bogaards battles back to become team leader

Most would have already given up. After a hand and two knee injuries robbed him of three of his first four years of college athletic ability, most would think it was time to hang up the spikes.

Not Sunblazers' third baseman Tommy Bogaards. All he has done thus far in 1986 is hit for a .378 average (17-for-45), tie for the team lead with two triples and place third on the squad with eight RBI.

But Bogaards' college career nearly ended before it began. A hand injury preceding his freshman season at Miami-Dade South forced him to red-shirt. He played his sophomore year there but then injured his left knee, requiring surgery. After sitting out another year, Bogaards led all Sunblazers in hitting during the fall of 1984 and became a team leader. But just prior to the start of the 1985 spring season, he once again injured his left knee and surgery was again performed.

"I've always wanted to play ball and Coach Price gave me the opportunity and the scholarship money so I figured I'd like to give it another shot," Bogaards said. "After I hurt my knee again last year, he kept telling me to just keep on plugging and eventually it would all work out."

Now entering his second year of col-

lege baseball in his final year of athletic eligibility, Bogaards says his knee feels "fine." And maybe even more than the player himself, Coach Danny Price is most pleased with Bogaards' early season accomplishments.

It was Price who saw so much potential in Bogaards despite years of delay. It's that potential that can help FIU accomplish its best Division I season ever and hopefully its first major college playoff invitation.

"You push kids who are deserving of it. You push the ones you believe have the will and desire to excel," Price said. "I've always thought that Tommy Bogaards had that desire and that he is one of those kids who could come back despite it all."

And Bogaards' goals for the season: "I just want to have a winning season with this team," he said. "Hopefully, if all goes well, we'll get a regional bid."

Things are improving after a slow start for the team. The Sunblazers took a 9-7 record to Tallahassee to take on the No. 1 ranked Seminoles, but dropped both games by close scores. After returning home, the Sunblazers swept the Eleventh Annual Sunblazers Baseball Classic beating Army, Georgetown and Maine.

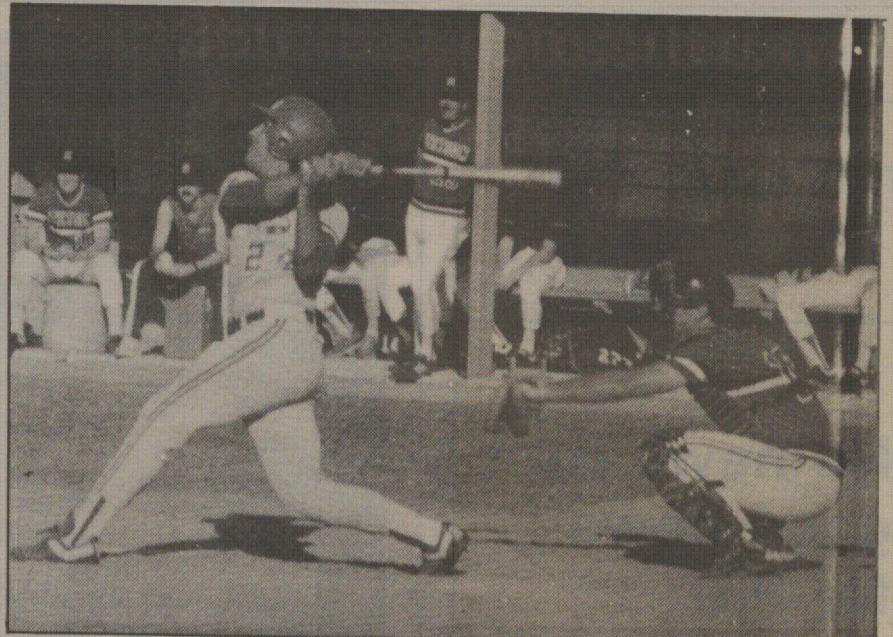


Photo by Michael Saenz

Nelson Caraballo leads the Sunblazers to an 8-3 win against Michigan State last week.

WOMEN continued from p. 8

"It was revenue producing potential," Russo said. The NCAA figured there would be more of a turnout at the Lady Statesmen's home site in Cleveland, Miss. Russo estimated between 2,500 and 3,000 attended the Mar. 11 game.

Having to play on the road was a factor in the Sunblazer's defeat. "The noise factor was intimidating," she said.

"I've never coached in that and I doubt they've ever played in it. The noise was incredible...horrible."

Delta State seems to have pulled FIU out of their game plan. FIU had planned to get DSU in foul trouble and force them to go to their bench, which is weaker than FIU's. But the foul trouble never materialized partly because of the crowd's noise, Russo said.

"They (the officials) couldn't make the calls because they couldn't handle the pressure from the crowd."

Russo said her team looked tired and may have been tired mentally.

"We didn't play well. For most of the first half, it was a good game. We made them turn the ball over, but we didn't capitalize.

We missed 12 lay-ups and there were

dropped passes. After seventeen minutes in (the first half), I didn't recognize the girls."

Also, the Sunblazers had a tough time getting the ball inside and had to rely on their perimeter shooting.

Delta State finished the regular season at a 25-2 mark, losing only to Mississippi and Troy State. The Lady Statesmen go on to play the winner of the South Atlantic regional.

Still, the season was a spectacular one for the FIU ladies. They were ranked second most of the season and set a school record of 16 consecutive wins. They outscored opponents by nearly thirty points a game. Going into the tournament, they were ranked first in scoring margin and winning percentage.

Senior guard Lynette Richardson, going for her fourth straight All-America season, missed the all-time NCAA women's basketball scoring record by less than 35 points.

In a season where they captured the imaginations of everyone who followed FIU sports, FIU ladies made a name for themselves in the community as well by trouncing Division I Miami, 81-52, in the regular season finale.

Time out continued from p. 8

Nah...can't be. Because journalism is an objective field. There shouldn't be a conflict like this.

What it boils down to is we're being ignored and I'd like to know why. It's O.K., this column is probably being ignored as well.

The only coverage we get is when we play the Hurricanes. And we hold our own against them. This season, our baseball team has dropped both games they've played, but they've been close games for the most part. In one game Miami scored their runs in the eighth inning, and in the other, the Sunblazers took Miami to the 11th before bowing.

FIU's women's basketball team trashed the Lady 'Canes, 81-52, earlier this month. The men's teams didn't meet-- but that was UM coach Bill Foster's decision. I'm sure our 17-9 team could hold their own against Foster's .500 club.

Look, we even have All-Americans. Patrick McDonald was All-America last year and is up for it again this year. There is even talk

of him being drafted by the NBA.

Lynette Richardson is shooting for her fourth-straight All-America season. Ken Adderley is a hot baseball prospect, who currently owns a 28-game hitting streak. There are former Sunblazers playing in the minor leagues, possibly with the bigs as the next step.

O.K., the program still is in the fledgling stages. But it needs attention to grow, and it's not getting enough from the community.

It might not even be getting enough from its own sports department. Over the spring break, a group of us got together and checked out a baseball game or two. One of the higher-ups in the athletic department actually told us we should be up at Ft. Lauderdale partying instead of at the game.

With PR like that, it's little wonder that support is low.

Maybe with the move to Division I next year, all this will change and we'll be able to hear results of our games on the 11 o'clock news. Let's hope so. A sports program is a terrible thing to waste.

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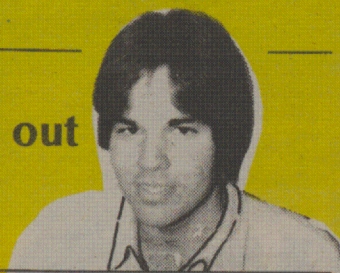


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*ad must be presented.

Time out



No news isn't good news for FIU

David Colodney

Sunblazer Sports Editor

All right, enough is enough. I'm starting to get...well, upset.

The other night, I came home and flipped on the 11 o'clock news. I had the sound turned down until I noticed Kambrel Marshall's face.

Leaning forward and listening closely, the lead story turned out to be the University of Miami baseball team winning a game. This came before the major league report, before the NBA wrap-up and even before the NCAA tournament news.

Whoopie!

I personally couldn't give a hoot about the Hurricanes. I appreciate the fact that they're the defending national champions, but I am not a UM student, not a UM supporter, not even a casual fan.

My point is that I really wanted to know how the FIU baseball game went that night. I usually get out to the games, but this night I couldn't. Even if I wasn't an FIU student, I'd want to know how the team did simply because I follow local sports.

Anyhow, there was no mention of FIU.

Hey, I'm used to it. I didn't really expect any coverage anyway. I'm just being stupid again. Oh, foolish me! How dare I expect FIU sports to get some mention on local T.V. Banish me to a Turkish prison and club by feet for even thinking such a thing.

I'm not just ragging on Channel 10, it's all the local channels. When I told a friend about this, his response was, "Oh, was it channel 4?"

Actually, I'd like somebody to try to explain this anti-FIU bias to me. I'll accept any logical explanation, but I think I'll have to settle for an illogical one.

Hmm...let's see here. UM's enrollment is about 14,000. FIU's is over 16,000. Point: Sunblazers.

Hmm...let's see here. Both teams are Division I. Both teams play the likes of Florida State and Maine. We'll call this category a toss up.

Hmm...let's see here. Both teams put nine guys out on the diamond at any given time. We'll call this a toss-up, too.

So, what could be left? My only guess is that there are so many more UM grads in the local T.V. media than there are FIU grads. Ah, maybe that's it.

see TIME OUT, p. 7

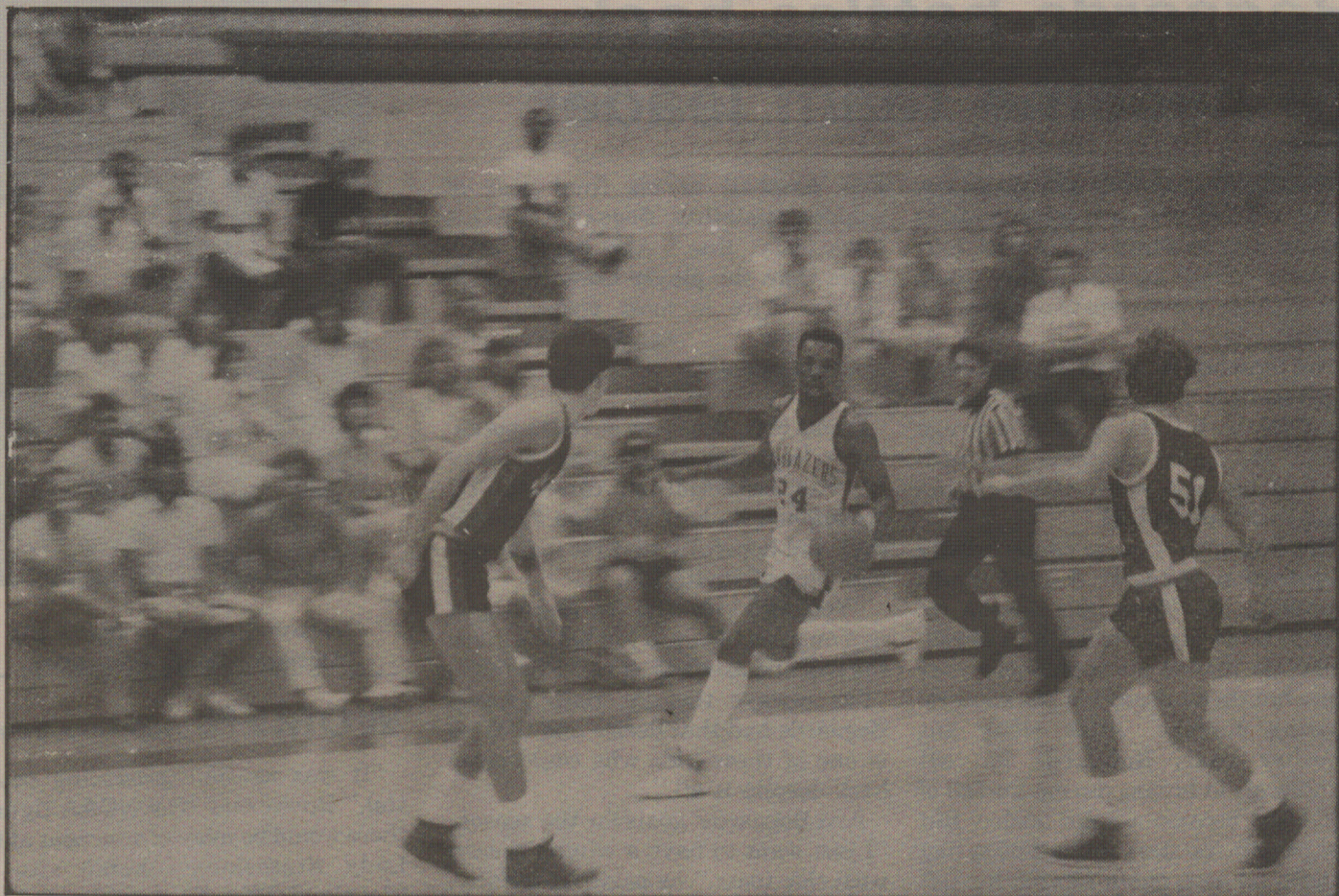


Photo by Robert Stark

BLAZERBALL!

Patrick McDonald finishes his FIU career as the possessor of 13 FIU records, including scoring, rebounds and steals.

Basketball team snubbed by NCAA

Adrian Walker

Sunblazer Staff Writer

Triumph turned to disappointment for the men's basketball team, as they were denied a bid for the NCAA Division II tournament. They finished the campaign with a 17-9 record, winning their last eight in a row and 13 of the last 15.

"I think our close losses really killed us," Rich Walker, head coach, said. The Sunblazers suffered four losses by margins of two points or less, three of them to conference champions Drexel (bound for the NCAA Division I tournament), Cheyney State (ranked No. 10 in Division II) and Texas A & I.

"We played much better in the second half of the season, particularly after the Arena opened," Walker said.

Probably the high point of the season was the Arena opening, which was witnessed by over 2,000 fans, the largest crowd ever to

witness an FIU sporting event.

Walker said the disqualification of point guard Wyman Roberts just before the start of the season was a major blow to the team's title chances. Roberts was one of three players disqualified at the beginning of the season under eligibility rules changes for a Division I program. Under the NCAA rules, you have five calendar years to play four seasons. Roberts entered the University in 1980.

"Wyman was an even bigger loss than I had anticipated. We missed his leadership as much as his basketball," Walker said.

Walker said he was proud of his team, despite losing out on post-season play.

"This team got the most of its ability. It was not the most talented team we've ever had, but they gave 100 per cent. They were outstanding late in the season. They have nothing to be ashamed of."

The team was lead by All-America

senior forward Patrick McDonald. Despite separating his shoulder in the second regular season game, McDonald came back after missing just one game and finished with a team leading 15.6 points per game average.

McDonald ended his four-year FIU career as the University's all-time leading scorer (1,515 points) and the owner of 12 other records, including rebounds, assists and steals.

In addition to McDonald, senior Hector "Chief" Rodriguez blocked a school record 41 shots while setting another school mark with his 251 rebounds.

Walker feels that the key to success in the future is joining a conference. "I think it's essential that we join a conference. This shows that either you're ultra good or you may not get a bid. We'll have an even tougher row to hoe next year (in Division I). We have to work harder and sacrifice more to be the best we can be."

Women lose in playoff; call season success

David Colodney

Sunblazer Sports Editor

The FIU women's basketball team may not have gone as far as they had hoped to in the NCAA Division II tournament, but that doesn't stop Coach Cindy Russo from tagging the season a success.

"There was nothing negative about this season. I want to emphasize that,"

Russo said after watching her team lose to Delta State, 93-64, in the second round of the tournament.

The Sunblazers had received a bye in the first round, and were seeded first in the South region. FIU was the only first seed not to be granted home court for their first game. Russo blamed the NCAA for putting revenue as the first priority in awarding the home site to DSU.

see WOMEN, p.7

Dominant Women: FIU vs. opponents

Record: 26-1
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