

the sunblazer

Survey says Florida state colleges rank in nation's ten best

ANN HILL
Sunblazer News Editor

A tiny college in Virginia recently handed the Florida Board of Regents a public relations hook.

College presidents representing 44 states have ranked the Florida state university system among the top ten systems in the nation, according to a preliminary report released in late October on a survey conducted by the Center for Policy Studies in Education at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

This is believed to be the first such national ranking of state university systems, rather than individual institutions, said Patrick Riordan, director of public information for the BOR.

"We're going to get some mileage out of this," said Raul Masvidal, one of two regents from South Florida.

Florida received the tenth most nominations, behind California, New York, Michigan, North Carolina, Illinois, Texas, Wisconsin, Ohio and Virginia. The number of votes each received will not be released until February.

The ranking is by no means statistically significant. The question, which asked college presidents to list their choices for the top six states with the best overall system of state universities, was just one of a four-page survey and was unrelated to the general thrust of the research project.

The Center for Policy Studies sent the survey, which attempted to measure opinions on state higher education policies, to 100 public university presidents in every state but Hawaii, Virginia, Delaware and Vermont.

Project Director J. Wade Gilley said he was just "curious" to find out which state university systems would get nominated.

"Really, I put that question in to round out the last page of the questionnaire," Gilley said.

Respondents were not asked to list criteria for their choices, nor were they asked to consider order.

Still, Gilley feels the findings are significant.

"I think it's significant to be recognized by leaders across the nation," he said.

Florida regents and university presidents aren't about to let methodology stand in the way of a good promotional campaign, either.

"For all the lack of recognition over the years, we do plan to turn around and let people know that leaders are noticing us," said FIU President Mitch Maidique. "We do believe we should be in the top ten."

Maidique said he couldn't comment on the validity of the survey because he hadn't seen the study, but he believes the results come from a reliable source. He said the BOR is discussing ways to profit from the ranking, including a top ten logo for all the Florida public universities.

"It's not a scientific study by any means," regent Masvidal said. "But Gilley is an expert in his field and there was a high degree of participation, which adds to the credibility."

By Nov. 1, the cutoff date for survey returns, 62 out of 100 presidents had responded. Gilley said he sent questionnaires to the presidents of a major public university in each

see TOP10, p.2

Cancel spring break, Faculty Senate says

Spring break is less important than a longer hiatus between semesters, the Faculty Senate decided in a meeting on Oct. 27.

Twenty-two senators voted to cancel the week-long break in the spring semester in favor of more time to prepare for the summer term, said Hedy First, secretary to the Faculty Senate.

First said the administration, namely the division of Student Affairs, had rejected the motion and were looking for a compromise.

Both Bruce Hauptli, chair of the Faculty Senate, and Dr. Richard Correnti, vice presi-

dent of Student Affairs, were unavailable for comment.

"We all need a break -- the faculty included," First said. "But the Senate felt that a spring break was less important than allowing sufficient time between semesters."

The Faculty Senate option would have final exams for the spring term end on April 21 instead of early May, as has been the case in the past.

The matter is still unresolved.

The Faculty Senate does not meet again until Jan. 12.



Maria Padron/FIU Sunblazer

Poster sale in University House at University Park brightens the walls of The Pit.

Abbie Hoffman to FIU crowd: Less MTV, more involvement

Janet Hernandez
Special to the Sunblazer

On Tuesday, November 24, political activist Abbie Hoffman, one of the most visible anti-Establishment demonstrators in the 1960s, took to the stage at the Ruth Foreman Theatre at the North Miami Campus with the hopes of sparking student activism in the '80s.

Much like an actor, Hoffman captured his audience with a variety of thoughts about past, present and future. For nearly two and a half hours, he talked with a diversified audience while drinking a special blend of tea -- prepared with honey, lemon and cracked pepper -- made for him each time he speaks.

The turnout was smaller than expected. Most of the crowd was older -- members of the '60s generation. To revive the mood of the livelier past, some dressed the part. There were "make love not war" t-shirts, tie-dyed shirts and some individuals who looked as if they never outgrew the fashion.

Hoffman began his lecture with a synopsis of the attitudes of the 1950s, which he said was necessary to understand the "fluke" generation of the 1960s.

But Hoffman didn't just reminisce about his past. There really wasn't a topic he didn't talk about. This brought complaints from some.

"He didn't stick to one subject; he jumped from one topic to another and didn't make one single point about any of them," said George Twum-

Barimah, SGA's senator for Arts & Sciences.

Hoffman poked fun at the television evangelists, calling popular TV minister Oral Roberts "Anal," which led to a few swipes at the illegality of oral sex in some states. The pope got a few comments from Hoffman, too.

During his visit to the University of Southern California, Hoffman asked students what the pope had told them. Hoffman said the pope told them "not to f--."

"The pope doesn't have to f--," Hoffman said. "He has a big house, a big pension plan -- he doesn't need to."

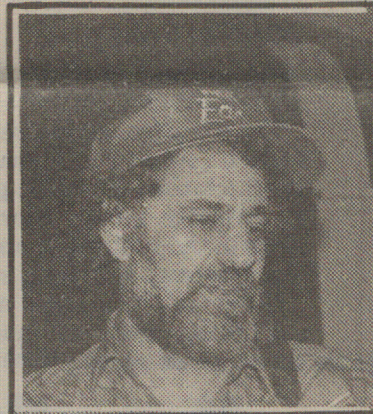
Though Hoffman is Jewish, it didn't deter him from making fun of his own background. He called the Jewish religion a "religion about negotiations."

"Generations don't make change, nor does the majority... only the minority can make a difference."

-- Abbie Hoffman

Hoffman's version of how the Jews were able to get out of the desert: They sent Moses to make a deal with God. On Moses' return he told his people, "I've got him down to ten, but he still wants adultery."

Hoffman also joked about his idea of the Jews' position on abortion. "The fetus doesn't achieve life until graduate school and for the Orthodox it's medical school," Hoffman



Guy Shir/FIU Sunblazer

Hoffman

quipped.

Besides all his jokes and wisecracks, Hoffman stressed one point throughout -- the importance and need for student activism.

"Generations never make change, nor does the majority," Hoffman said. "Only the minority takes risks -- due to them the Jim Crow laws were taken away, along with segregation and apartheid."

He said he understands that it's tough growing up today, that the world is very complicated and that people are very pessimistic. But he says he can't understand the mentality of the MTV generation -- kids like his who spend hours watching music videos when there are such issues as censorship to contend with.

"You have the same roads to choose from as in the '60s," Hoffman said. "It's a different situation, but with the same choices, and they are yours to make."

see HOFFMAN, p.2

FIU license tags for sale

Put your school spirit where your license plate is.

Special FIU license plates, with the university logo and numbers in blue on a white background, are now available at various auto tag agencies in Dade.

If you are renewing your license plate, the initial cost for the collegiate plates will be \$30 above the normal registra-

tion fee. In subsequent years, the cost will be \$27 in addition to the normal registration fee for your vehicle.

Special vanity plates are available for an extra fee.

Twenty-five dollars of the amount collected for each plate will be your tax-deductible donation to the FIU foundation and will be deposited as unrestricted funds.

For more info, call University Relations, 554-2515.



■ Replace your county tag with some school spirit -- an FIU license plate.

HOFFMAN, from p. 1

The young are the only ones to make change possible, Hoffman says, because they have the creativity, they want changes and they want them now.

"The book is open to you .. you control information, education, the world and the future," Hoffman concluded. "Make tomorrow better than yesterday."

Hoffman's words were inspiring to some and hogwash to others.

"I want to start a student movement here (at FIU), get an apartheid booth set up on campus," said Public Relations major Richard Santelesis, 21.

Others weren't as taken with Hoffman's rhetoric.

"I think he is fried," said George Wilson, director of FIU's student union. "Some things he says make a lot of sense, but he never sticks to one subject; I think he has become fried after so many years."

TOP10, from p. 1

state and to some of the lesser known regional universities.

The complete survey results will be released in February, at which time the BOR plans to formally unveil Florida's place in the ranking of university systems, Maidique said.

Gilley said he decided not to ask respondents to qualify

their choices for top university systems because it would be asking too much of the presidents, who have little time to answer surveys.

"Hey, it's better to be ranked than not ranked," Gilley said. "I've had some universities call and ask why they didn't make it."

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POSITIONS OPEN ON THE FIU INDEPENDENT SUNBLAZER NEWSPAPER FOR THE SPRING '88 SEMESTER

ELECTIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL BOARD POSITIONS WILL BE HELD ON:

Tuesday, December 15, 1987
at 3:00 p.m.
in UH 315
University Park campus

EDITORIAL BOARD POSITIONS NOW OPEN:

- * News Editor
- * Features Editor
- * Sports Editor
- * Photo Editor

** Business Manager

** [Please submit at least 2 letters of recommendation from faculty, and/or employers with your application for this position. GPA: 3.0 or higher. Resume.]

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Library hours for the remainder of the semester:

University Park

Friday, Dec. 4 - 8am-11pm
 Saturday, Dec. 5 - 9am-11pm
 Sunday, Dec. 6 - 1pm-11pm;
 Reserve Reading - 1pm-2am
 Monday, Dec. 7 - 8am-11pm;
 Reserve Reading - 8am-2am
 Tuesday, Dec. 8 - 8am-11pm;
 Reserve Reading - 8am-2am
 Wed., Dec. 9 - 8am-11pm;
 Reserve Reading - 8am-2am
 Thursday, Dec. 10 - 8am-11pm;
 Reserve Reading - 8am-midnight
 Friday, Dec. 11 - 8am-11pm
As of 12/15/87:
 Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
 Closed weekends
 Dec. 24 - 8am-12noon
 Dec. 31 - 8am-12noon
 Jan. 2-5, 1988 - 8am-5pm

Bay Vista

Friday, Dec. 4 - 8am-8pm
 Saturday, Dec. 5 - 9am-8pm
 Sunday, Dec. 6 - 1pm-11pm
 Monday, Dec. 7 - 8am-midnight;
 Reserve Reading - 8am-2am
 Tuesday, Dec. 8 - 8am-midnight;
 Reserve Reading - 8am-2am
 Wednesday, Dec. 9 - 8am-midnight
 Thursday, Dec. 10 - 8am-midnight
 Friday, Dec. 11 - 8am-5pm
 12/12/87 - 1/5/88: Closed

FIU ARTS CALENDAR

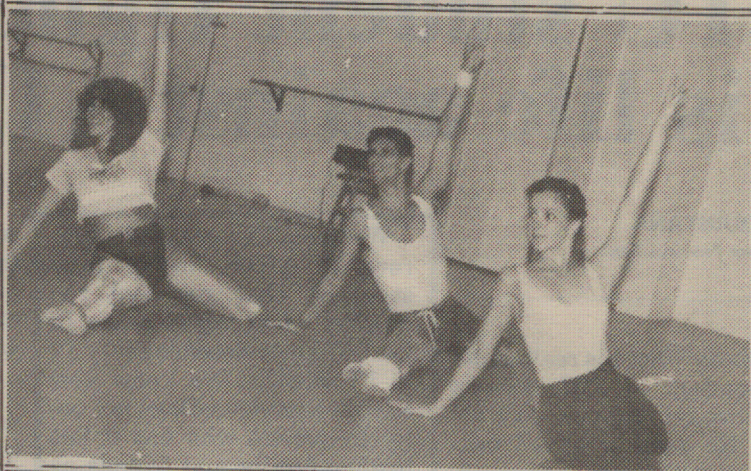
FIU Dance Ensemble
 Presented by the FIU Department of Theatre and Dance
 Thursday, Dec. 3 through Saturday, Dec. 5
 8:00 pm
 Sunday, Dec. 6 - 7:00 pm
 VH-100
 Tickets: \$6 general admission, \$5 for students and \$2 for FIU students



Seventh Annual Madrigal Dinners
 The FIU Department of Music presents a re-creation of an Elizabethan feast complete with dinner, songs, merriment and dance.
 Friday, Dec. 4 and Saturday, Dec. 5
 8:00 pm
 UH Ballroom
 Tickets: \$20.00

B.F.A. Exhibition
 The culmination of study by current Fine Arts Degree candidates, Fall Semester
 Opening reception-Friday, Dec. 4
 8-10 pm
 FIU Art Museum
 *Exhibit continues through December 11

Best Bet



FIU DANCE ENSEMBLE: An evening of modern, ballet, and jazz dance works created by FIU students and six Miami choreographers. Thursday through Sunday at the University Theatre in VH-100. Artistic Director of FIU Dance Ensemble: Lee Brooke.

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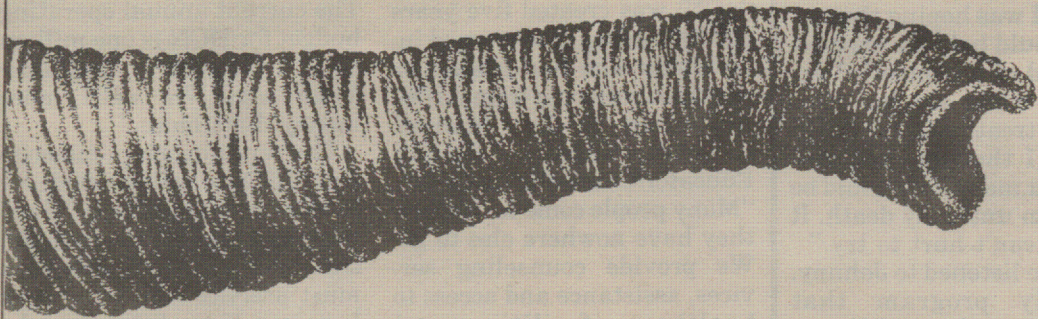
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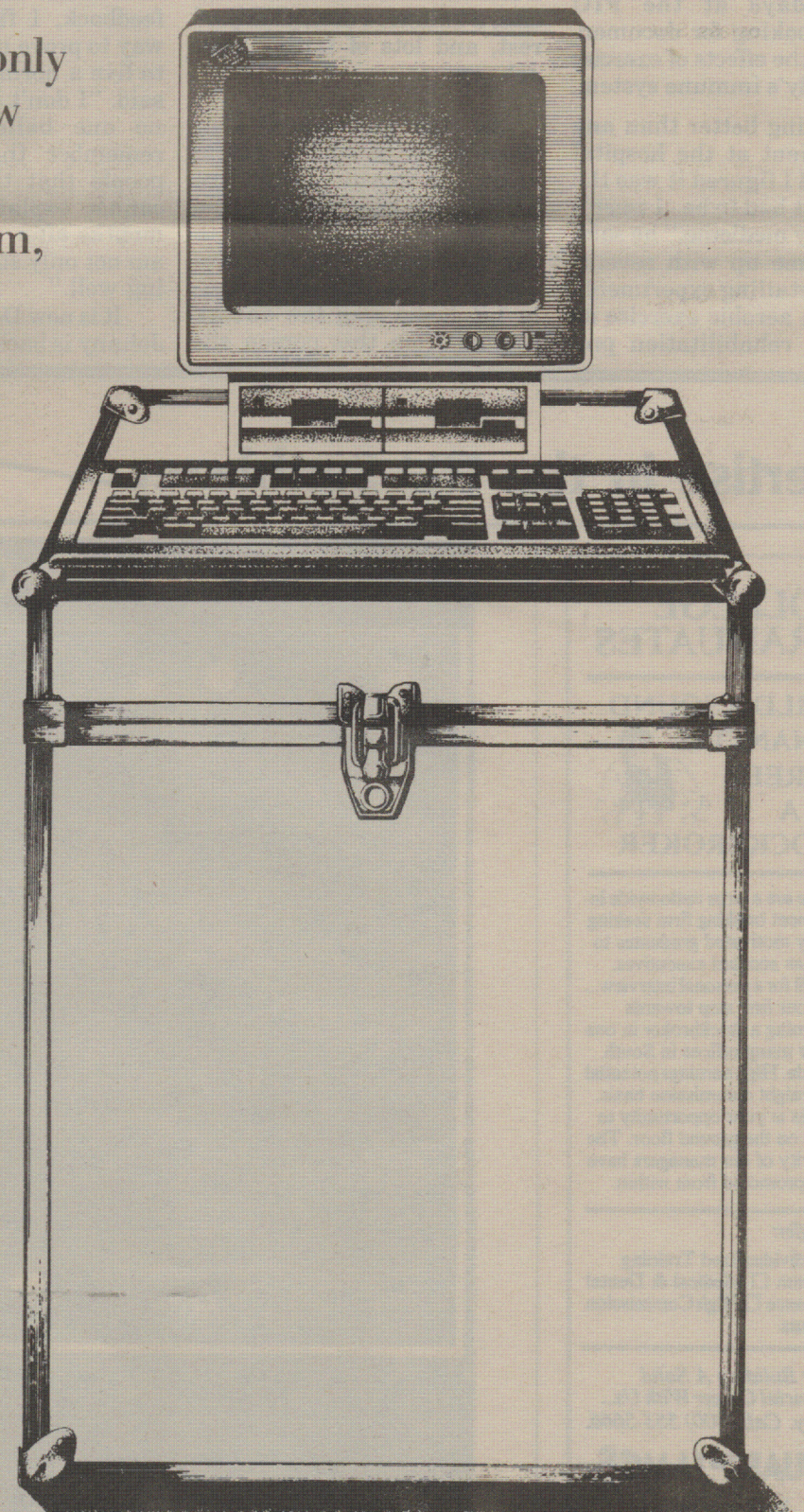
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SUNBLAZER NEWSPAPER FOR THE SPRING '88 SEMESTER

ELECTIONS FOR THE
FOLLOWING EDITORIAL
BOARD POSITIONS WILL BE
HELD ON:

Tuesday, December 15, 1987
at 3:00 p.m.
in UH 315
University Park campus

- * News Editor
- * Features Editor
- * Sports Editor
- * Photo Editor
- * Business Manager

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* Business majors or students with business experience, including collections, book-keeping and accounting. Full-time or part-time students, upper division or graduate. GPA's of 3.0 or higher.

* Photographers, artists, and writers. Students with layout, typesetting or design backgrounds, and students who would like to gain hands-on experience in above areas.

* Students with sales experience (any major) who want to earn extra money. Work around your classes and other jobs.

* BROWARD/UT CAMPUS: Writers and photographers also needed to cover this campus.

Positions on The Independent FIU Sunblazer are open to any FIU student - undergraduate or graduate level. We are actively recruiting students from ALL majors to work on the newspaper at different levels - depending on the amount of hours you have available, and the areas in which your interests lie. There are jobs for different personality types and interests. Bring your experience to the paper or come here to gain experience.

The Independent FIU Sunblazer does not receive funding from the University or the SGA. We must pay for our own rent, telephones, printing, machinery, etc.. The FIU Sunblazer is entirely funded by advertising revenue, and published, managed and produced by students.

Assistant editors, photographers, advertising sales and production positions are also available. We have a critical need for staff on the business end of the newspaper.

**THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO WORK
ON THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AND HELP
MAKE IT A BETTER PAPER AT FIU.**

Applications should be submitted to: UH 315 at the University Park campus or SC 253 at North Miami by Tuesday, December 15.

In the Spring semester The Sunblazer's main office will be located on the University Park campus for the first time in over 3 years.

BE A PART OF OUR TEAM!

During Finals week it will be difficult to reach us in the office. Please leave a note in one of the mail envelopes at UH 315 or SC 253 if you would like more information.

Thank you.

the staff of The Independent
FIU Sunblazer.

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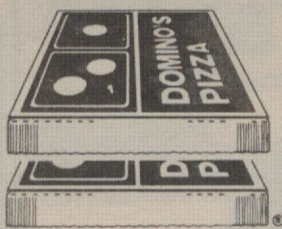
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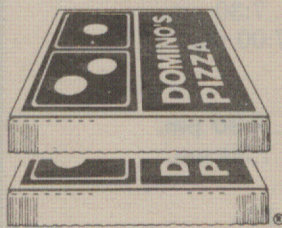
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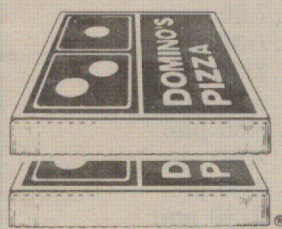
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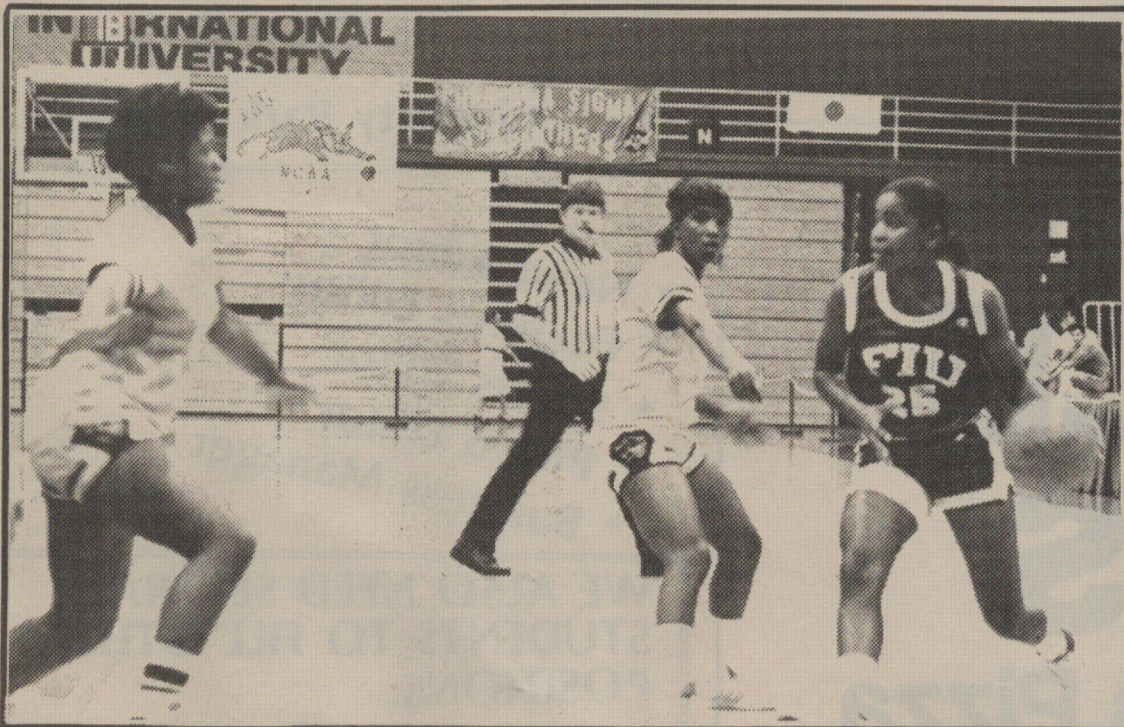
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Basketball teams wins openers

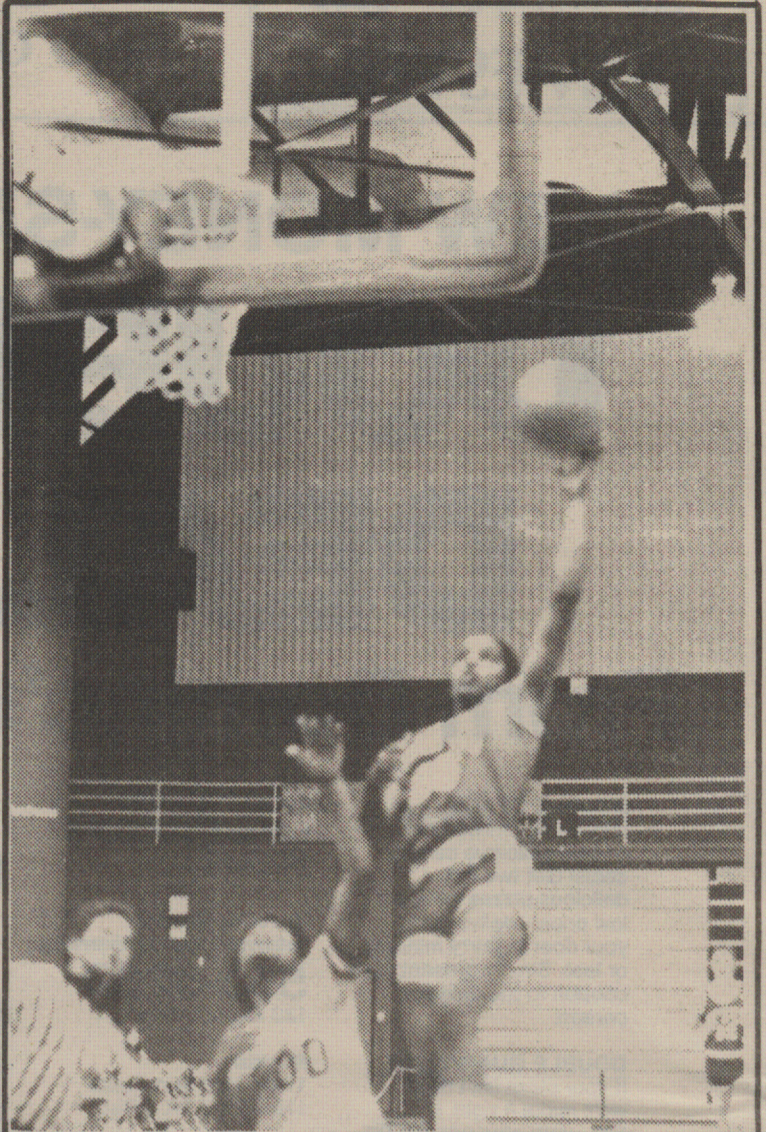
Men defeat U.S International, 113-103

Women defeat Bethune-Cookman, 63-61



Jeff Brenner/FIU SUNBLAZER

■ Debra Bullock (25), a senior forward, gets double coverage as she makes her move to the basket. Bullock lead the team with 20 points.



Jeff Brenner/FIU SUNBLAZER

■ Debra Bullock shows that the men's center, Jon Gorden, isn't the only with a mean sky-hook.

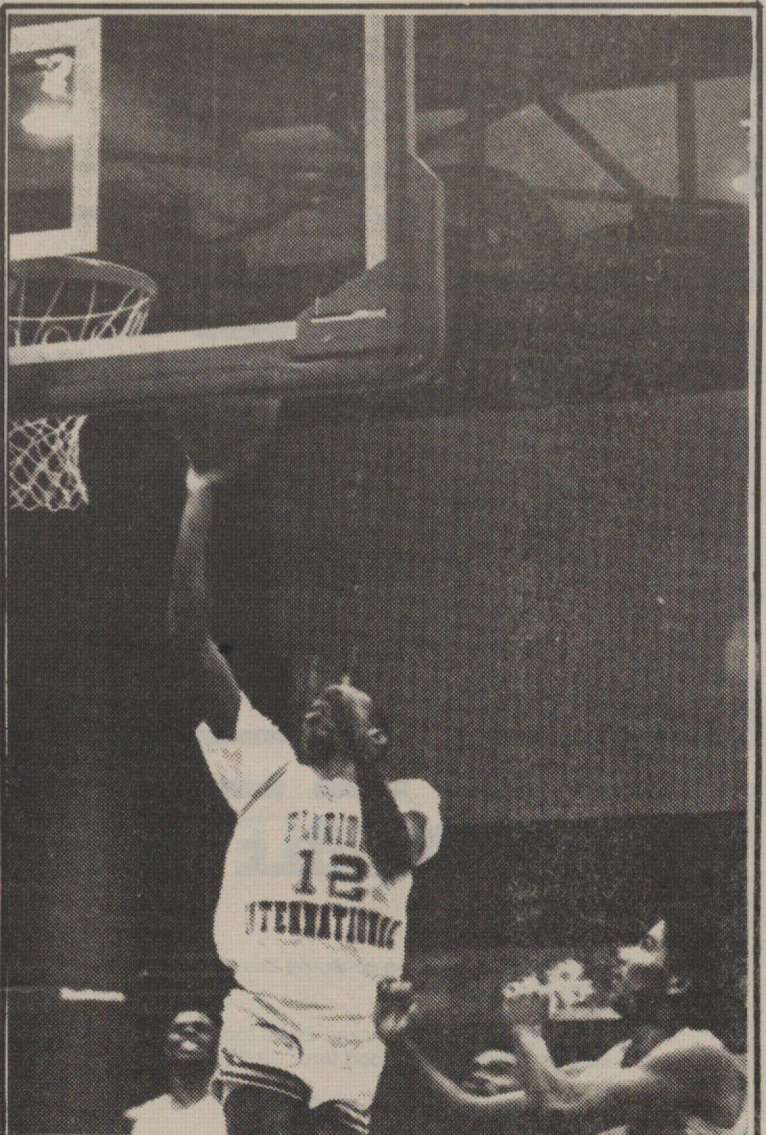


Jeff Brenner/FIU SUNBLAZER

■ David Banks (22), a senior guard, is the sixth man off the bench on the men's basketball team. With the three point rule, he is the perfect sixth man.

Men's basketball schedule

Mon. Nov. 30.....U.S. International University.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Wed. Dec. 2.....Florida State.....Tallahassee, FL.....7:30 pm.
 Fri. Dec. 4.....Merrill Lynch Classic.....Orlando.....7:00 pm.
 Campbell University
 Sat. Dec. 5.....Merill Lynch Classic
 Mon. Dec. 14.....University of Toledo.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Thurs. Dec. 17.....Morehead State University.....Morehead, KY.....7:30 pm.
 Mon. Dec. 28.....South Florida Holiday Classic...Tampa, FL.....
 University of South Florida.....9:00 pm.
 Tues. Dec. 29.....South Florida Classic
 Wed. Dec. 30.....Georgetown University.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Sat. Jan. 2.....American University.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Wed. Jan. 6.....Robert Morris College.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Sat. Jan. 9.....Xavier University.....Cincinnati, OH.....7:30 pm.
 Mon. Jan 11.....Radford University.....Radford, VA.....7:30 pm.
 Mon. Jan 18.....St. Frances College (NY).....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Thurs. Jan 21.....U of Maryland-Baltimore County..Baltimore, MD..7:35 pm.
 Sat. Jan 23.....University of Central Florida....Orlando, FL.....7:30
 Sat. Jan 30.....University of New Orleans.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Tues. Feb. 2.....Morgan State University.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Thurs. Feb 4.....University of Northern Illinois..DeKalb, IL.....8:05 pm.
 Sat. Feb. 6.....U. of Missouri-Kansas City.....Kansas City, MO..8:30 pm.
 Sat. Feb. 13.....University of Central Florida.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Mon. Feb. 15.....University of Akron.....Akron, OH.....7:30 pm.
 Mon. Feb. 22.....U. of Maryland-Baltimore County.Sunblazer Arena..7:30 pm.
 Wed. Feb. 24.....Xavier University.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Sat. Feb. 27.....U.S. International University...San Diego, CA.....10:30 pm.
 Wed. March 2.....Morehead State University.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Sat. March 5.....U. of Missouri-Kansas City.....Sunblazer Arena....7:30 pm.
 Sat. March 12.....University of Miami.....Miami, FL.....7:30 pm.



Jeff Brenner/FIU SUNBLAZER

■ Transfer guard Robert Rowe (12), shows the perfect ending to a Golden Panther fast break, an easy two on a lay-up.