Volume 5, Number 15 Tuesday, February 2, 1988

Proposed budget cut threatens FIU's growth

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Photo: Jose Lopez/FIU Sunblazer Regents Cecilia Bryant, Raul Masvidal, and Chairman Joan Ruffier ponder over the Senate's proposal



FIU President Mitch Maidique, BOR Chairman Joan Ruffier, and SGA President Fred Jorgenson break ground for the new Engineering and Science Building

REY QUINTANA Sunblazer Acting News Editor

The State Legislature's budget ax is preparing to fall, and FIU's head is on the chopping block.

The Board of Regents of the State University System of Florida (SUS) met at University Park last week, marking its first visit to FIU since 1983. The Regents gathered with the Presidents of the nine state universities to discuss a Senate proposal to cut the 1988-89 SUS budget by 3 per cent. If the proposal is accepted by the legislature during its upcoming session, FIU's rapid growth could be severely stunted.

The reason for the proposed budget cut is explained in a letter from the Florida Senate to Dr. Charles B. Reed, Chancellor of the SUS, dated January 7, 1988: "A preliminary analysis of the recurring revenue available after repeal of the Services Tax reveals that continuation costs of current programs alone already exceed the projected 1988-89 recurring General Revenue. Therefore, in order to provide for both program growth and limited program expansions in priority areas, each agency is being requested to identify specific low-priority programs for reduction or elimination."

In other words: You have to cut back.

The Board of Regents (BOR) has targeted enrollment growth as a major contributing factor to increased spending and is considering a reduction

in such growth over the next few years. "We have chosen enrollment and growth over quality," said Joan Ruffier, Chairman of the BOR. "We now need to focus our attention on attracting students of the highest academic caliber."

A cutback in enrollment would be disastrous for FIU. "Our application rate is up 100 per cent from last year," said President Modesto "Mitch" Maidique. "This could be very problematic for a growing institution like ours.

Indeed it could. The problem is that many students apply for admission to FIU because they can not afford to go to school anywhere else. If the application rate continues to increase but the enrollment doesn't, those who are denied admission to the University and don't have the money to study elsewhere could be deprived of an education. This is of particular significance to minority students, many of whom from low-income come families.

And Miami is full of minority students.

Another interesting note: In her opening comments at the BOR meeting last Thursday, Chairman Ruffier stated that the SUS needs to increase its efforts with regards to Affirmative Action, or the hiring of faculty members from minority groups (Blacks, Hispanics, and women in particular). "We can not ignore our significant minority population," she commented. "Our predominantly white universities need to have a more diverse faculty."

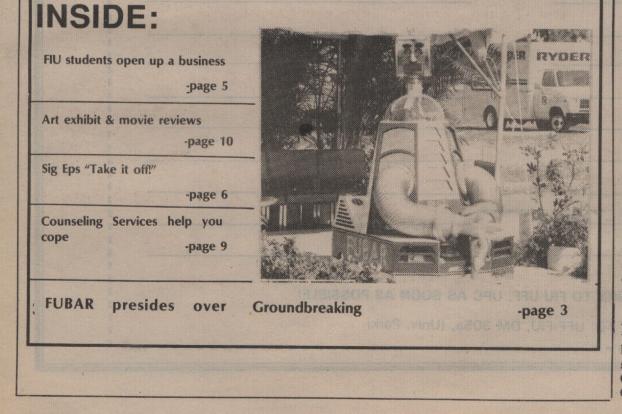
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Campuses chosen for _____ motion picture filming LOURDES RIVERA Renick. Special to the Sunblazer

For the next seven weeks, Florida International Univer- campus, said Bradley Biggs. sity will play host to the cast and crew of "Primal Rage," a science-fiction thriller scheduled for release in the summer of 1989, according to Franco Bellito, the production coorfor dinator Pico El Productions. With the help of a Dade County organization that specializes in assisting movie and film companies obtain permits and spot locations, the members of the Italian production company scouted several south Florida campuses and chose FIU as the site of their next feature film. "I racked my brain for an scoop on his research. In the area that might be suitable midst of his investigation, he when I remembered our gets bitten by a lab monkey beautiful new FIU campus," and he gets infected with a said the director of the Dade virus. The virus causes Duffy County Film and Television Coordination and former

Florida senator, Richard

Although some of the filming will be done at the University Park campus, most of it will take place at the North Miami assistant vice president of administrative affairs. In addition to FIU receiving \$350.00 a day, the terms of the contract insure that the filming will not interfere with any university operations, he added.



"We're getting money and free publicity. The benefits we are getting out of this are just great," Biggs said.

The story is about an eager student journalist named Duffy who is trying to get a story for his school newspaper, the Sunblazer (according to the script). He breaks into the lab of a campus scientist to get a

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WILL YOU HAVE COURSES TO TAKE THIS SUMMER?

An Open Letter to FIU Students

Those of you who have been students at FIU for any length of time know that there is usually a serious shortage of class offerings during the Summer term. As a consequence, students often find themselves unable to take the courses they want and need and sometimes they are unable to graduate on schedule. We of *The United Faculty of Florida* (the Union representing Faculty and Professional Employees in the State University System) are concerned about this situation both because of our concern for the quality of education and because many faculty who would like to teach needed classes in the Summer term cannot since the University does not offer them employment. We would like to explain the situation as we understand it and to ask for your support in an effort to improve the situation.

All FIU administrators, and a handful of faculty, work full-time throughout the year (Fall and Spring). Depending on the availability of funds, they are then offered zero, one, or two courses to teach in the Summer at zero, 50 per cent, or full salary. Given the usual administration plea of "no money," class offerings are significantly reduced in the summer.

salary. Given the usual administration plea of "no money," class offerings are significantly reduced in the summer. Why? The historical answer has been that "summer money is tight." We now understand that *there is no such thing as "summer money."* All faculty salaries are provided to the University for what are termed *man years* [sic]; i.e., the funds required to pay a faculty member for twelve months. Limited funds for the summer are the direct result of an administrative decision to spend funds allocated by the legislature for year-round operation disproportionately in the Fall and Spring semesters leaving less for the Summer. (This harks back to an old-fashioned model of education from when students were needed "back on the farm" to work the fields in the summer.) The FIU administration has been using a *man-year* to pay faculty for only nine months. The unused money is then used for other purposes as the administration sees fit. (A further cause of the summer shortage is the common practice of administrators paying themselves at a rate higher than that called for by standard nine-to-twelve-month salary conversions.)

The solution to the problem is simple. We must begin to gradually reallocate funds to provide a full academic program in the summer. When we proposed this solution to the administration, the initial reaction was negative ("How do you know the students need more summer courses?"), but President Maidique finally agreed that a full summer program (with proper funding) would be a long-term goal of the University. The acting Provost agreed that a fraction of new faculty man-years would be allocated specifically to redress the "Summer semester inequality." Unfortunately, the administration no longer stands behind that commitment and now denies ever having made it.

We, the faculty, know that student needs are not being served in Summer semesters. We have to deal with students pleading for override cards into overfull courses. Year after year we have been the recipients of student petitions begging that additional sections be scheduled. Student dissatisfaction with Summer offerings has always been high, but it has always never been organized or directed to the upper administration - and that is where the critical allocation decisions are made.

We are asking your help and support in this effort to improve summer offerings. We urge you to clip out the petition form supplied here and to distribute it to your classmates and friends at FIU, then return it to us at the address shown. If you have any other ideas about how we can work together to help convince the administration that inadequate Summer offerings are a serious problem that must be addressed immediately, please phone me (ext. 2571) as soon as possible. We believe that this is a problem with a solution in which everyone can win - students, faculty, and the University as a whole.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Hogner, President FIU Chapter of the United Faculty of Florida

PETITION

We, the undersigned students of Florida International University, do herein (1) express support for a plan to provide a full academic program in the summer, and (2) petition the University to seriously discuss with the United Faculty of Florida the development and adoption of such a plan.

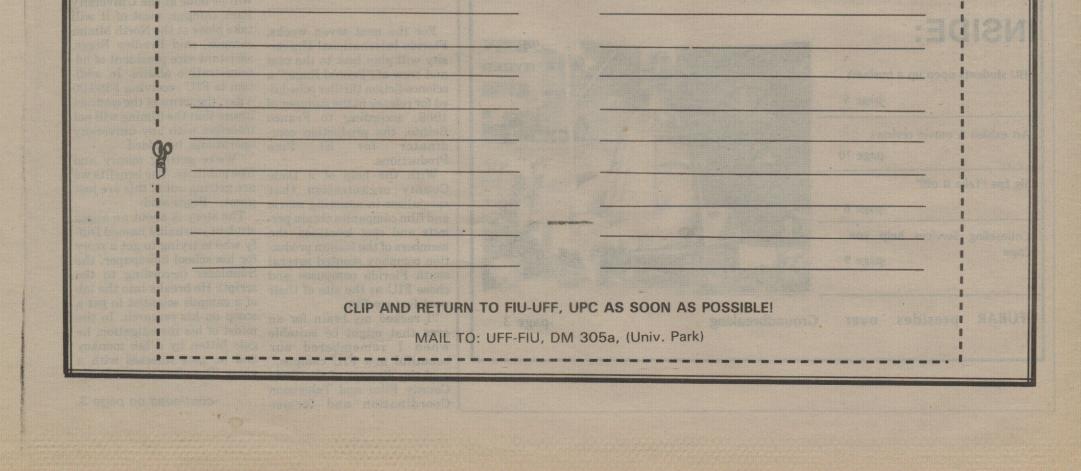


Photo: Maria Padron/FIU Sunblazer

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to experience metamorphic changes that turn him into a primal-like beast. While kissing his girlfriend, he unknowingly transforms and bites her on the neck, thus infecting her with the virus. He goes on a violent rampage, killing a couple of fellow students. Soon the people with whom he comes in contact begin turning into beasts. The plot unfolds at a Halloween party, which makes it near impossible to tell the real beasts from the impostors.

The project will give all FIU students, not just theatre majors, a chance to work as extras on the set. One day's work pays \$40.00 for an eight-hour commitment.

"Any student is eligible. We are not working in conjunction with the theatre and dance department because there is no drama program here at the North Miami campus where things are being centralized," said Robert Macbeth, a faculty member of the University of Miami's theatre arts department and liaison consultant for Adam Herbert, vice president of the North Miami campus.

Marlen Alba, director of community relations, is working with Macbeth on getting the type of extras needed for particular scenes. "We've already used 15 or 20 [FIU students] in the first few days," said Macbeth.

"Students are very excited about it [the production]. It's interesting to be able to participate and get such a close look at a major production like this," said Alba. She encourages any student who is in a related field, such as telecommunications or theatre, to inquire. "It would be a good experience for them," she said. Philip Church, a professor in FIU's theatre and dance department, said, "I don't

think any of my students were used because they were expected in class. In scheduling students as extras, they will not be assigned

on a day they have classes,

Aside from bulletins being posted in such high visibility places as the dorms and the cafeteria, word-of-mouth has played a big part in getting students interested, said Macbeth.

Monica Ruffolo, a student of the EF International School of Languages at FIU, got wind of the opportunity through a notice posted in the lobby of her dorm. She inquired and got a one-day part as an extra. A native Italian, she is at FIU learning English and said she took the part "just for fun."

Another extra, Isaac J. Levy, is not an FIU student, but he is an aspiring actor who got the part through a local talent agency. "It's a good opportuni-ty. It looks good on my resume," he said. Levy has worked as an extra in "Police Academy," "Head of the Class," and "Private Eye."

The production company has chosen spots such as the dorms, the Independent Sunblazer Newspaper office, and the vacant Trade Center for its sets. Much of the filming will be done outdoors.

Gerald Meyer, associate director of physical plant, said: "The use of the dorms is being negotiated between the movie company and the students. The students are being reimbursed for any inconvenience."

Biggs agreed with the arrangement. "I think that's fine because they [the students] pay rent," he said.

Michele Dreseris, the editor of the Independent Sunblazer, said: "We're very excited about the filmmaking at FIU. But nobody asked us if they [the movie company] could use our office for the film. The Sunblazer is an independent paper so I think the University should have asked us if they could use our office when plans for the movie began. They waited until two days before the filming actually started. We have to pay rent too.'

Herbert apologized and agreed that the Sunblazer should have been contacted, said Dreseris.



Filming for "Primal Rage" will take approximately seven weeks

Felicia Levine, a public relamovie doesn't matter to her, just the fact that FIU was chosen as the location. "I think it's great exposure for FIU."

The production company has purchased a \$1 million insurance policy in the case that an accident may occur. The \$350 a day collected by the University will be divided on a pro-rated basis among the several organizations involved, said Biggs.

Except for the six leading roles, most of the casting was done by Beverly McDermott Casting in Hollywood, Florida. Lisa O'Connor is the casting company's representative on the set of "Primal Rage." She said her agency has worked with El Pico Productions during some of their previous visits to Miami. "The Italians love Miami's scenery. People here are really accommodating to their needs," she said.

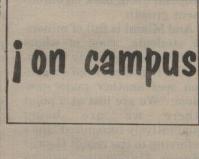
Sarah Buxton, who plays Debbie in the movie, agreed.

"This is a beautiful campus, tions major, said the plot of the she said. Buxton is originally from Los Angeles where she is a full-time actress and attends acting school. She had a supporting role in a recently released movie entitled "Less Than Zero.'

Cheryl Arutt plays the part of Lauren, the other female leading role in the film. She just recently moved to California, but she said she welcomes the opportunity to visit Miami so she can visit some of her relatives that live here. One of her cousins, Jordan Arutt, is a student at FIU. "I ran into my cousin the first day on the set, she said. Arutt said she just finished a movie for ABC named "Hard to Read." It is scheduled to air March 16.

Renick said that the deal was finalized thanks to the cordial cooperation of President Mitch Maidique, Herbert, Biggs, and Meyer. "When I was thinking of locations, I never dreamed it would work out this well," he said.

Photo: Maria Padron/FIU Sunblazer



FLORA SCHULE Sunblazer Staff Writer

There are five gay women on campus. At least, that is the number currently involved in the FIU Lesbian Support Group. Some women may not need the friendship and support joining such a group provides because they are open and secure about their sexual orientation. But the rest are cowards.

Granted, FIU isn't the most liberal place for publicly admitting a difference in sexuality. The Latin culture is extremely hostile towards any deviations from social norms; especially traditional male/female roles (

But what about gay pride and liking yourself too much to hide who you really are? Laurie Johns, the coordinator of the group, states "I think it's important for gay men and women to feel good about themselves.

Johns is also active in the Miami gay community. She believes part of the reason there is so little involvement is that "Miami is an apathetic and non-intellectual community. People aren't political. We lack culture."

The more "intellectual" campuses definitely have more involvement. The Yale Gay and Lesbian Organization is known for throwing the best dances on campus. At the University of Pennsylvania, it is not uncommon to see two women kissing or holding hands. An intellectual place is tolerant. It respects new ideas.

But at FIU people are more conservative. There are even those who would agree with a quote by Anita Bryant: "If God nad meant for nomosexuality to exist, He would have created Adam and Bruce." Johns replies: "Well, He did, of course. He created many Adams and Bruces.' Or Janes and Eves, in this case. Why only women? Johns answers that when the group first began, gay men attended, but they discussed different issues. They needed their own group. Johns says many people believe lesbians hate men. In response, she quotes Rita Mae Brown, who said, "I like men. But I love women." The FIU Lesbian Support Group operates out of the Women's Institute in OE Trailer 5. Its faculty sponsor is Dr. Marilyn Hoder-Salmon, at 554-2408. All inquiries are confidential.

Champagne toast highlights groundbreaking ceremony ____

Sunblazer Staff Writer

said Alba.

FIU broke ground in style for the new Engineering and Sciences Building that will soon be under construction at University Park.

The facility will be located behind the VH building and is scheduled for completion in the Fall of 1989. The new structure will house the Electrical. Mechanical, and Industrial Engineering programs, Computer-Aided Designer programs, and the School of Computer Science.

The groundbreaking for the 95,000 square foot structure was celebrated by the FIU administration and faculty, students, members from the

community and the visiting Board of Regents of the State University System of Florida. The event was hosted by FUBAR D. ROBOT (Futuristic **Uranium-Powered Bio-Atomic** Robot) and featured the FIU Pep Band, an outdoor luncheon and 18 bottles of champagne.

There were brief comments on the future success of the new building from FIU President Modesto Maidique, FIU Provost Judith Stiehm and Gordon A. Hopkins, Dean of the College of Engineering. "We have answered that community need," said Maidique. "FIU has that excellent, public-supported engineering college." Finally the golden shovels broke ground and the champagne toasts were made.

Built at a cost of \$9.93 million, the facility will provide additional classrooms, research labs and faculty offices. Much of the alreadypurchased new equipment will be moved into the building, inclusing a 25-foot wind tunnel. The building will also have a plaza for students and a studio for videotaping lectures.



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Immediately following that statement, she introduced the proposal to cut back on enrollment growth.

And Miami is full of minori-. ty students, some of whom could become minority faculty.

SGA President Fred Jorgenson sees another major problem: "We are just at a point where we are being qualitatively recognized" [he's referring to the recent George Mason University survey ranking the Florida SUS as one of the ten best in the countryl. "Any cutbacks now would cripple our programs and the system as well.

State legislators will convene in Tallahassee the first week in April to discuss the SUS budget. The proposed 3 per cent cut has not yet been approved, and Jorgenson feels that students need to step forward and speak up. "This is the time for students to write or call the legislators in their

districts. Lawmakers need to know that they cannot continue to cut funds for education.

Any students wishing to inquire about lobbying activities or seeking additional information should contact Adam Underwood, Student Lobbyist for SGA, at 554-2137.





FIU President Mitch Maidique and University of West Florida President James Robinson at Board of Regents

International Relations Club back on track

NATASHA PEREZ Sunblazer Staff Writer

The International Relations Club has come back to life this semester at FIU. Although the club had never actually been purged from the record, it existed only as a title until graduate student Andrea Maison took over the presidency and, with the help of International Relations Department Chairman Charles Mac-Donald, succeeded in resurrecting it.

Maison, President of the University Park chapter of the club, is better known as "Spongii." "A lot of people are not aware of the present international problems further than what they get from the newspapers, and we're trying to get everyone as involved remarked.

To honor this commitment the club is sponsoring several forums. Guest speakers include a representative from in April and two big end-ofthe Colombian Consulate, Haitian political activist Dr. Papillion and local Miami Haitian leader Jean Juste, who will comment on the social. political, and economic aspects of Haiti. Some of the International Relations Department professors and their colleagues will also speak on the Middle East and the problems with Israel. The officers attribute much of the club's energetic comeback to the support of Mac-Donald, their advisor, as well as Professors Clem and Mesbahi of the International Relations Department. "We're really pleased with their cooperation because it's hard when the professors don't show an interest," said Jeanette Smith, Director of Public Relations for the group.

At the Bay Vista Campus, the club recently participated in the opening of the new library under the leadership of Club President Michele Schwab.

At University Park, the club has sprung from dormancy to hyperactivity. The scope of events ranges from parties at Coconut Grove's "Senor Frog's," a Caribbean rumtasting engagement, bake sales, and receptions to recruit new members. "We have to harvest students' awareness of political events, and at the same time make it as interesting as possible so as to please them and have fun at the same time," remarked Gisela Omana, Vice President. Future activities range from a cocktail dinner on February 12 to welcome new members at "Senor Frog's" to a trip to and exposed as possible," she Disney World later in the month, an appearance on 'Sabado Gigante'' on Channel 23, a St. Patrick's Day bake sale in March, a trip to Cancun

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DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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WHEN: ----- February 8, 1988

semester bashes to recover from finals.

Club officers are proposing a four hundred and seventy-five dollar budget to the SGA for funding to cover the costs of guest lecturers, advertising, and other expenses. Students will be able to attend the forums free of charge as a result.

Although approximately fifty-five members have signed up to date, the club encourages anyone with an interest to become a member, especially business and law majors who will deal with international relations throughout their careers. "The club is an essential asset to the University, especially since the eighties have been eventful years of diplomatic affairs and political events," concludes Omana.

University House Ballroom

TIME: ----- 11:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

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in business

Tuesday, February 2, 1988 5

REY QUINTANA Sunblazer Features Editor

Two FIU students are in hot pursuit of the American dream. Make that "Hot Doggin" pursuit.

Cousins Danny Greisel and Steve Schwartz have wanted to open up their own business since they were kids. Today they are the proud owners of "Hot Doggin," a hot dog stand in the newly-opened Food Pavillion at the University Shopping Center, across the street from FIU's main campus.

Greisel, 23, is a Finance major who hopes to graduate at the end of this semester. Schwartz, 22, is studying Public Administration and will be in school a bit longer. The cousins have been in business since Thanksgiving weekend and they are already breaking even. They want to tell other students who are considering a business venture that it CAN be done. "Anyone can have their own business if they really want it," said Greisel. "All it takes is a little homework."

homework. The guys heard of plans to build the shopping goals and do some thorough incenter about 11/2 years ago. They headed over to Carlos Salman Realty and struck up a deal to lease the smallest available opening in the Food Pavillion at a rental cost of \$24 a square foot. "Since we have a small space, our overhead is really low," Schwartz said. 'We run the stand ourselves, so we have no payroll expenses. And we were able to students with dreams of havget most of our equipment at ing their own business. bargain prices. By keeping costs down to a minimum we have a better chance of staying around for a while."

Their optimism is the result of careful study. Greisel did a complete financial analysis of the proposed operation which told them how much capital was required and predicted how long it would take for the business to turn a profit. Schwartz was enrolled in a Small Business Management course at Miami-Dade Community College and did extensive market research as part of a project for his class. "I spent months checking out other stands and talking to vendors," he said. "I even worked in a few places to get some onthe-job training.'

The partners pulled their savings together, took out two loans, and came up with \$25,000 between them. When the time came to purchase equipment for their stand. they went to restaurant auctions and negotiated. "Most restaurants auction off their supplies when they go out of business," Greisel said. "Brand new refrigerators and grills cost a fortune. By shopping around, we were able to find good quality used merchandise for half the price."

Both cousins agree that the key to their success was careful research. "You have to Make that a lot of do your homework," Greisel repeated. "Establish realistic vestigating. If you don't know what you're getting into, you won't survive."

"Hot Doggin" is open from 11 am to 10 pm Sunday through Thursday and from 11 am to 12 midnight Friday and Saturday. Greisel works mornings and afternoons and Schwartz closes up at night. They are eager to help other "Please come by and visit," said Schwartz. "We'll be glad to share information with anyone who requests it."

And as long as you're there-have a hot dog.



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Photo: Michelle Dreseris/FIU Sunblazer

Men's lingerie fashion show had women in a frenzy

MARIA FRESCO Sunblazer Staff Writer

An enthusiastic crowd of females gathered in anticipation outside the UH Ballroom last Friday night to see the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon strut their stuff in some of the sexiest skivvies around.

"We are expecting anywhere from 150 to 200 people," said Tom Jelke, one of the models in the show. A five dollar donation was requested, with proceeds going to help support the fraternity.

John Capobianco, a professional model and Sig Ep brother, suggested the idea as a fundraiser. All the clothes featured in the show were provided by Burdines.

The spectacle was definitely a first for many of the guys. "Other than John Capobianco, none of the brothers has done any modeling before," said Jelke.

ID's were carefully checked (you had to be at least 18 to see show and 21 to drink) and wrists were stamped. "We are very aware of the drinking age and there will be someone checking ID's at the door," Jelke said.

As the ladies entered the Ballroom, each was handed a single, long-stemmed red rose decorated with baby's breath. The tables were tastefully decorated in pink or white tablecloths and sprinkled with metallic confetti. Each had a candle centerpiece. The waiters (in black trousers, white dress shirts, pink bow ties and cumberbunds) kept the champagne glasses full and frequently offered hors d'oeuvres. The jazz music in the background complemented the atmosphere.

Overseeing all of this was Allan Liebman (wearing a black dinner jacket, a bow tie and pink silk boxer shorts), a hotel and restaurant management major who served as Maitre d'.

When everyone was seated the show began. The men swaggered on stage wrapped in Giorgio Armani bath towels in burgundy, powder blue and light grey. They teased the audience by undoing the towels just a bit--just enough to keep the girls in suspense.

Next came the bathrobes--a parade of silk and terrycloth. Julio Martinez carried a bottle of cognac and a glass as he strolled down the runway wearing a green robe with blue checks.

Looking around the audience, one could see women of all ages. Two very proper middle-aged females said "We're here to see a friend's son who is in the show." The only man allowed in the room who was not a Sig Ep brother was an off-duty police officer who was guarding the Ballroom. "I feel the whole thing is very ingenious," he remarked. "A real brainstorm. I had reservations about working a male lingerie show, but when I heard it would be an all-female audience I was persuaded."

After intermission, the skits began. Men dressed in fatigues and other military gear stripped down to their minimalest bikini underwear while dancing. The women crowded around the stage and crammed dollar bills into the bikinis, getting kisses in return.

Following the military skit, three men--one in a double breasted suit, one in a newsboy cap and suspenders and another in a leather suit appeared. They stripped down to their bikinis as girls ran up to them waving dollar bills. This was followed by a group of construction workers who shed their clothing and ripped their tee shirts while bumping and grinding to Diana Ross's "Muscles." By the end of the skit, the men had dollar bills pouring out of their bodies. They danced on tables and into the audience. The crowd was in a frenzy.

Laura Redondo, a spectator, was celebrating her birthday that night and was treated to a special surprise when she was pulled onstage and serenaded by the frat brothers. The birthday girl appeared to be embarassed but amused at the same time.

All the ladies questioned had the same thing to say about the show: "It was really great and done in good taste. The guys were really classy."



Tom Jelke "takes it off"





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New film series

starts this week

evenings at 8:00 pm starting February 2. The films, which will be shown in the University Theatre, Room 140 of University House, will be preceded by a ten-minute description of the film and its significance by an expert from the faculty or from the Community Advisory Council.

Admission to the films will be \$2.50 for faculty and staff, \$2.50 for the number of the staff,

order) all the men she's ever loved:

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Tuesday, February 2, 1988

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A ride on the shuttle "Galaxy"

TERE LANTIGUA Sunblazer Staff Writer

The bumps and bolts infiltrate my body. They are as natural as my heartbeat or my pulse or my breathing. The lights pass by me in varying degrees of brightness. I hear muffled voices in the distance. periodically an emphatic phrase or word. The air is stale and stagnant. I can barely see my page through the shadow of my hand as the spotlight blares from above. I am on a Galaxy Bus from North Miami to University Park, better known as "The Shuttle." I am a bi-campus student.

When I first decided to migrate north for the Spring and enroll at "the other campus," I dreaded the idea of commuting 45 miles each day to attend class (I barely attend class when it's five minutes from my house). But now that I've actually been commuting these past few weeks, my dread has turned to realized hate.

I tried to tell myself the commute would be great for studying. While en route, I would have two hours each day guaranteed study time. Little did I know how inappropriate a bus is for studying. I can barely read the printed words as they appear to be dancing on the page in response to the perpetual bus vibrations (that would be a good name for a band: "And now, we have the Perpetual Bus Vibrations and their latest hit, "Hell on Wheels"). Between the freezing temperatures (the air conditioning must be kept on to ensure ventilation), the vibration sickness and the dim lights which point to one specific spot that I can never find, studying becomes unthinkable.

It's hard to be sociable on a bus. Bus behavior resembles elevator behavior, but worse. Elevator isolation syndrome mixes with "I can't believe I have to ride a bus" attitude

(not omnibus). On the shuttle, like in an elevator, you know you're only going to be with the person next to you for a short period, so why bother being nice? You isolate yourself mentally. You stare out the window and wonder if you'll ever graduate. You write crazy essays. You pretend to read, but forget to turn the pages. The best way to cure elevator isolation syndrome is to stand on your head in the aisle and sing "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean.'

and the results are ominous

The only friendly person on the bus is the bus driver, Joe. Joe's always smiling and greeting passengers. He even goes as far as actually waiting for a student who's running down the street yelling "Wait!" Joe's got a great job: he meets interesting people who ignore him. He gets to drive through the Miami expressways during rush hour, and he gets to wear a safety belt (unlike the rest of us).

As I approach University Park in the distance, I can't believe another hour on the bus has passed. Only 90 more for the semester, excluding special trips that would unexpectedly require my commute.

The entire vehicle shakes and rattles. The interior lights blink on and off. I hear books and papers shuffling. Eyes open, focus and readjust. I am minutes from my car, which is minutes from my home. Despite the commute, I like North Miami. I have discovered an entire new facet of FIU, like meeting a lost brother I never knew. A world where Hillel gives away free matzo ball soup. A world where the elderly outnumber younger students. A world where a gorgeous bay is within a few steps from any building. A world where the cafeteria smells like roach spray. A world where a new library provides a beautiful setting for students to study but has no books. A world where many times University Park does not exist.



THE INDEPENDENT FIU SUNBLAZER Florida International University The State University of Florida at Miami

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Photo: Jose Lopez/FIU Sunblazer

There will be a staff meeting for anyone interested in working for the Independent FIU Sunblazer on Friday, February 5, 1988, at 2:00 pm in UH-315 (University Park Campus).

Students interested in writing, photography, or the business of running a newspaper are encouraged to attend. For more information call the Sunblazer office at 554-2315.



Karl Herzog (left), Staff Writer for the University of Florida's newspaper, the Independent "Alligator," visits with Sunblazer Editor Michelle Dreseris

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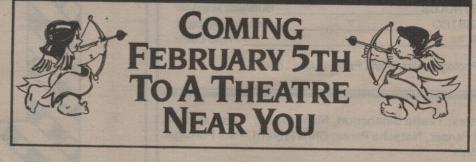
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Photo: Jose Lopez/FIU Sunblazer

Counseling services can help you cope

MATTHEW PENZER Sunblazer Staff Writer

The FIU Counseling Services Center offers Lee personal counseling and career/lifestyle planning for students. Funded by the Student Health Fee, the center sponsors a number of seminars and workshops for the entire FIU community and individual counseling services exclusively for students.

The qualified staff members at the center, each of whom has either a Masters or Doctoral degree, can assist students experiencing problems such as anxiety, depression, or stress. The staff also aids students in developing coping skills. All counseling is strictly confidential.

Another goal of Counseling Services is aiding the student in career/lifestyle planning. The center administers a number of standardized career inventories and these, together with individual assistance by a counselor, can help the student in selecting a career or simply choosing a major. For the student who is undecided about his future, this service can be invaluable.

Debbie Tyson, Ph.D. is the Associate Director of Counseling Services at the University Park Campus. She handles the administrative duties and also plays an active role in the individual counseling of students. Along with Tyson, Rosy Sanchez, M.S. and Rod Williams, Ph.D. make up the staff at University Park. Kathryn Trionfo, M.S. is the Associated Director at the North Miami Campus.

Besides individual problems, the staff also takes an active interest in social concerns such as the AIDS epidemic. "I see a lot of people with fears about AIDS," says Tyson. "Where Counseling Services comes in is education and prevention."

Unless there is a crisis, the center operates by appoint, ment between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. It is located in UH 340 at the University Park Campus and in SC 260 at the North Miami Campus. There is also literature on an assortment of topics available at the center.

If you are having a personal problem, whether it be depression or difficulty in choosing a major, or if you just want someone to talk to, call 554-2434 (University Park Campus) or 940-5813 (North Miami Campus). A counselor is there for you.



Secretary Renee Danna and Counselor Rosy Sanchez of FIU Counseling Services Center

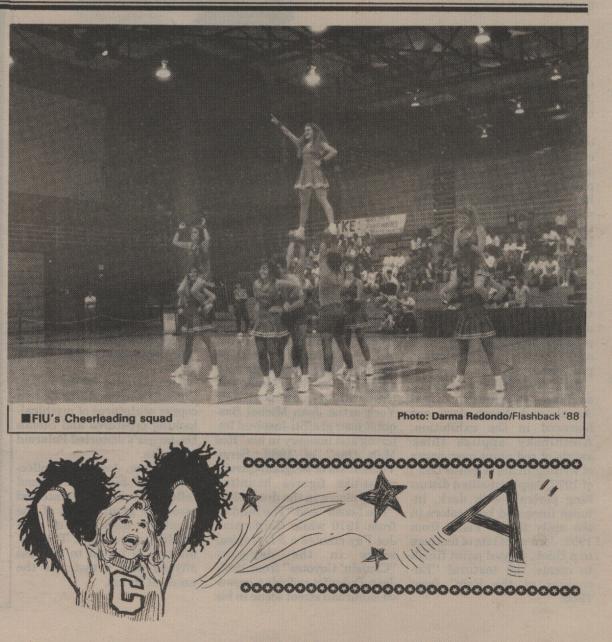
FIU Cheerleaders: Give 'em an A!

PAUL PORTUGAL Sunblazer Sports Writer

Cheerleading at FIU is reaching new heights. Various cheerleading teams have evolved from the onset of Florida International as a state university, yet none has ignited as much positive feedback from the student body as the 1987-88 squad. The team is made up predominantly of freshman and sophomore talent with only one junior and no seniors in the group. It is coached by Michelle Ciochetti. who choreographs routines and provides guidance for the young cheerleaders. Practice sessions run from two to three hours a day on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. This year's team has taken on a new dimension: the addition of male members has provided color and flexibility to the group's performance. Like any new kid on the block, FIU's cheerleading program has had its share of obstacles to overcome in order to achieve its goals. The Student Government Association and Nike Corporation have provided some much-needed funding. SGA has supported the team by footing the bill for their uniforms and Nike has provided the athletic footwear.

Current priorities include additional uniforms and megaphones, and other forms of sponsorship are being investigated.

The cheerleading squad is led by its bubbly freshman captain, Patty Sordo. She spoke about the team's experiences this past year and says she feels really close to her teammates. "I consider the team a group of students much like a harmonious family working together to promote school spirit and reaching to be the best we can be," Sordo said. A ecent memorable exp for Sordo was the group's trip to Orlando, where they cheered for the Golden Panthers in a game against one of their in-state basketball rivals. the University of Central Florida. That trip was the first of several engagements requiring travel that are planned for the near future. The Cheerleading program at FIU is emerging with confidence, pride, and hard work. Inspired by the team's energy, the crowds at the Sunblazer Arena are now louder than ever. They are actually cheering back, and the cry seems to be "Give'em an A!"



10 Tuesday, February 2, 1988

Keep away from Ringwald's latest

FLORA SCHULE Sunblazer Staff Writer

I didn't want to see yet another Molly Ringwald movie. Why pay the price of a small steak to sit through an hour and a half of teeny-bopper heartache when such high school traumas were behind me? But I thought "For Keeps" would be different. Maybe Molly had grown up. I was wrong.

The press release advertises the movie as a comic romance between Darcy Elliot (Molly Ringwald) and Stan Bobrucz (Randall Batinkoff), the "perfect teenage couple, bright and attractive, the envy of the senior class at their Kenosha, Wisconsin, high school." Until Darcy gets pregnant. Then the fun really starts!

After seeing Darcy and Stan make love in the rain, the audience is treated to a vivid. blow-by-blow account of Stan's sperm racing up Molly's fallopian tubes until, finally, an exhausted lucky devil finds refuge in an egg. Then we see the unsuspecting couple innocently making plans for col-lege, him at Cal Tech and her at the University of Wisconsin. They believe their unusual bond will see them through the

four-year separation so they can be married after graduation from college. Yeah, sure. Instead, they break the bad news to their parents at Thanksgiving. ("I'm pregnant, pass the turnips," Darcy says). Then we see an animated version of Madonna's "Papa Don't Preach" when Stan and Darcy

reject abortion and decide to keep their baby. When they tell their parents (at Christmas this time), Stan's father objects: "You had a gerbil last year. You forgot to feed it. It died." When Darcy becomes "Mrs. Bobrucz," it is in a potentially comic language-barrier scene (an unintelligible Asian preacher) which was much funnier the first time around in "Best Friends" with Burt Reynolds and Goldie Hawn.

There are a few worthwhile elements in the film. Screenplay writers Tom Kazurinsky and Denise DeClue ("About Last Night...") took a chance in writing about such a politically sensitive father, has some of the most topic. According to their research, every week in the United States there are 10,000 pregnant teenage girls who decide to keep their babies. The happy ending seems to be condoning such a choice, and that takes guts. John ("The from her. High School Karate Kid") Avildsen also guidance counselor Mrs. Giles directed several moving (Janet MacLachlan) plays a



"For Keeps" stars Miriam Flynn, Molly Ringwald and Kenneth Mars

scenes, most notably those between Marcy and her misguided mother (Miriam Flynn).

Kenneth Morse, as Stan's memorable scenes in the movie. But I especially liked Mrs. Bobrucz' (Conchata "L.A. Law" Fenell's) performance which, although relatively minor, had the warmth and dimension I've come to expect

convincing role in advising but still the old egg managed Darcy that it would be in to survive!"). Even worse, "everyone's best interest" if aside from a few laughs, "For she attended night school. The film does make you sympathize with their position (I ing on the new film "Fresh wouldn't advise seeing it if you're more than a couple of days late with your period).

Overall, however, the movie is ridiculously cliched and heartburn. preachy ("Hey, kids, watch out! Stan and Darcy were smart, she was on the pill, they only actually 'did it' six times,

Keeps" was boring.

Ringwald is currently work-Horses" starring opposite Andrew McCarthy. I think I'll buy a greasy burger instead. More entertainment, less

Review: "Portrait of a Collector"

CHRIS PROIETTI Sunblazer Staff Writer

Currently on display at the Art Museum (PC 112) is "Portrait of a Collector: Stephane Janssen," an exciting collection of the off-beat and chaotic.

Janssen, a former art gallery owner who turned to personal collecting, has assembled a selection made up primarily of paintings and sculptures from his wealth of holdings. The works reflect his attraction to the COBRA (Copenhagen, Brussels, and Amsterdam) movement of art that originated in Denmark during the 1950's. The COBRA style includes the frenzied works of the untutored that children and mental patients might produce. Brilliant, deep colors and heavy, rough paint predominate. Notable COBRA artists such as Pierre Alechinsky, Karel Appel, and Asger Jorn are featured in the exhibition. Alechinsky applies thick swirls of red paint over pages of writing in his "Genius Loci" of 1977. Appel creates a disturbing portrait with dark, intense lines and bold colors in the aptly titled "Fear" from 1952. Jorn adds bits of feathers to a thick, jagged paint finish to create the textural "Encounter at the Fair" from 1956.



Jean Michel Busquiat's "Anybody Speaking Words?"

Janssen's collection does not only include COBRA members, but also artists with similar styles that closely link them with the movement. New York artist Jean Michel Basquiat uses graffiti-inspired lettering and imagery in his "Red Man One" of 1982. Serge Vandercam of Belgium unveils ghost-like figures haunting shady places in the dream-like "The Looks" and "The Studio" from 1970 while Californian Joe Fay creates a 3-D tropical scene in the day-glow "Cruisin' Coyotes" from 1985. Jean Dubuffet unfolds a crowded suburban street scene in his

highly-charged painting "Paris-Montparnasse" from 1961.

Also included in the collection are Reinhoud's brass and copper sculptures of mythicallooking creatures and Stefan De Jaeger's distorted Polaroid portraits.

Stephane Janssen's collection is of high quality and reflects his ability to locate and assemble great works of the creative disorder of the COBRA movement. This exhibition is bound to impress anyone with a taste for the unusual in art.

Photo: Jose Lopez/FIU Sunblazer

"Indian Bird," made from half-red copper

Tuesday, February 2, 1988

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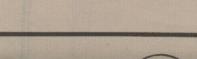


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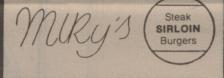
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