

the sunblazer



■ Dan Sera and Yocie Galiano show us how they got to be the winners of the "Dirty Dancing" competition at last Thursday's Valentine's Day Dance. Photo: Maria Padron/FIU Sunblazer

Spring Break is safe for '88

LOURDES RIVERA
Sunblazer assistant news editor

The debate continues over the fate of spring break at Florida International University.

Although spring break is secure for 1988 and 1989, a decision on the future of the mid-semester recess remains unresolved.

In an October 27, 1987 meeting, the Faculty Senate voted to cancel spring break to allow a longer recess between the spring and summer semesters.

Hedy First, secretary to the Faculty Senate, said: "The Senate never wanted to do away with spring break, but they didn't have an option. They just felt there wasn't enough time [between semesters]," she said.

Bruce Hauptli, chairman of the Faculty Senate, said more time between semesters is crucial if the university is going to conduct its business in an efficient manner. He explained that much of spring semester's business is still incomplete when the first summer session begins. This affects the students as well

as the faculty, he added.

Hauptli said an example would be if a student is taking a pre-requisite course in the spring semester, he might not know if he passed the course until about a week into the summer semester, when he might already be enrolled in the next course. He also said the longer recess will give the faculty more time to prepare for the next semester.

Robert J. Correnti, vice president of student affairs, is not in favor of cancelling the break. "I think it's important to have a break in the academic calendar. It's very important for students to have a break in the semester for R&R and for very legitimate academic activities such as working on papers, reports and studying for exams," he added.

Chuck Elkins, FIU's vice provost, said a committee is being set up to examine the situation.

Elkins said Tobi Berk, a professor in the computer science department, will chair the committee. It will include students appointed by

the division of student affairs, members of the administration and faculty members from different departments.

According to Elkins, the committee will try to develop an academic calendar including everything from registration to final exam dates for the next five years.

"Up until now, the academic calendar has been developed one year in advance. The committee will set up a system so that everyone knows what the schedule will be for the next five years," Elkins added.

Hauptli said that this year's academic schedule has worked out worse than others. This year the last day of final exams for the spring semester is April 29 and classes for the first summer session begin on May 9, allowing five weekdays between semesters.

"The committee will be trying to make everybody happy without sacrificing spring break, but there are just not enough days in the year," said Hauptli.

Construction of KFIU is complete

YVETTE BETANCOURT
Sunblazer staff writer

On the third floor of the University House building, tucked away into a cozy corner, are three small rooms where very big things are happening.

No, it's not a hidden insane asylum, but close. KFIU, Florida International University's student-sponsored radio station, is preparing to make its debut on the airways. Broadcasting begins in March on AM 530, but the exact date and time is a surprise, according to the radio station's executive council. The executive council consists of 12 students who are actively involved in the planning of and production for the station.

KFIU consists of three rooms separated by sound-proof walls. The rooms hold large equipment that fill up the space available. The first room is the air studio where the Disc Jockey plays his

records, tapes and cd's. Directly behind him is the production studio where all the recording and producing for the station takes place. The news studio will broadcast FIU news along with other news throughout the day.

Turning an empty room into a radio station has taken two years of Student Government Association support and \$175,000 of SGA funding. Stewart Blanck, though not an FIU student, has been heavily involved in the designing of the complex from the start. Blanck said that SGA support began two years ago when Ed Iturralde was SGA president. The current student government has also shown tremendous support of the project. "Let's put it this way, we've had Fred Jorgenson behind us all the way and the Senate Budget Committee as well," he added. The equipment for this type of facility is very expensive and \$100,000 has been

spent on equipment alone. Roy Pressman, LOVE 94's Chief Engineer, is KFIU's main technical adviser.

Who will be the DJ's? Can a student be a DJ? These are two of the questions most frequently asked by students. The very diverse group of students who make up the executive council will be the first ones trained on the equipment and they will train others. The station, which will supposedly air 7 days a week for 15 hours a day, will supposedly hold a series of training seminars, and interested students will be asked to produce a 10 minute tape. Twenty-five students will be picked and trained 5 at time for the air.

The kind of music that will be played is still a mystery, but you can count on Progressive New Wave, New Age Jazz, Hard Core Punk, Metal

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Caribbean Students Association: academics and fun, tropical style

College Bowl team heads for UF despite problems

REY QUINTANA
Sunblazer news writer

Florida International University's College Bowl Team headed up to Gainesville last weekend to compete in the First Annual Sunshine State Invitational tournament, held in the Reitz Union Building on the campus of the University of Florida. The event was attended by twelve teams from six universities across the state and consisted of thirteen rounds of rapid-fire question and answer sessions dealing with topics ranging from history to classical music. FIU's team did not make the top of the rankings, which was no sur-

prise. The surprise was that there was a team at all in Gainesville.

"The other universities have full-time coaches and big budgets," said Matthew Penzer, FIU's team captain. "We have to coach ourselves, and we usually end up footing most of the bill for our trips."

For the College Bowl team, that means putting six people in a two-person hotel room. For team member Aurora Suarez, the lone female, it means getting another room at her own expense. "SGA should be a little more cooperative," she commented. "We are a legitimate school organization representing FIU in a legitimate competition, and we should receive more funding."

The three man-one woman team (Besides Penzer and Suarez, Nelson Remy and Keith Donnelly round out the squad), along with College Bowl club advisor Jim Finn, left for Gainesville Friday afternoon. The six-hour ride was accompanied by a glorious sunset and gave the team members a chance to quiz each other as a means of preparing for the next day's competition. Penzer and Suarez are strong in the fields of literature, geography, and current events. Donnelly's forte is sports, and Remy is knowledgeable in science. "You have to have a well-rounded team in order to succeed in competition," Penzer said. "If each of us knows information about different subjects, we have a better

chance of answering more questions."

The following day, as the tournament progressed, it became clear that the FIU team's problem is not lack of knowledge but rather speed at the buzzer. A first-round 100-25 victory over the University of Miami's "B" team was followed by ten consecutive losses, all due to slow reflexes. Remy was especially frustrated after round 10, when Stetson University's "A" team edged out FIU by only five points, 110-105. "It's awful when you know the answer to the question and they beat you to the buzzer," he said. "We could probably improve our speed if we had some good coaching."

Bob Sutton, coach of the UF College Bowl Teams,

agrees: "You need someone who isn't an active player to keep things in focus. A coach can help a team with technique and strategy. These competitions are won by smart teams that are also quick."

The smartest and the quickest were the "A" and "B" teams from Florida State University. They finished one-two in the standings. FIU was nowhere near the top, and it is clear that unless the College Bowl Club receives more financial support from the Student Government Association, Florida International University may not be represented in future tournaments. "The potential is there," Penzer said, "but the money is not. It's hard to keep up the effort when the odds are against you."

Experts discuss Bolivia

MICHAEL MALONE
Special to the Sunblazer

Students, faculty and members of the local community gathered on Friday evening, February 5, in the presidential suite at the Florida International University Park campus to hear Latin America experts Dr. James M. Malloy and Dr. Eduardo Gamarra discuss "Stabilization and Reactivation: the Political Climate for Investment in Bolivia".

Malloy is chairperson of the political science department at the University of Pittsburgh and author of various books on Latin America, including **Bolivia: the Uncompleted Revolution**, as well as editor of several others. Gamarra, an assistant professor in the political science department at FIU, is a native of Bolivia and the author of numerous articles on the country and a soon-to-be-published book on the democratization there.

Malloy established a historical framework over the last 25 years in Bolivia, focusing on political leaders and economic trends. He stressed the limited options open to the South American country and the vulnerability it suffers in the international sphere. Gamarra concentrated on more contemporary developments in the country, pointing out its recent economic improvement—no small feat considering the country's 24,000 percent annual inflation rate of only several years ago.

The forum was co-sponsored by the Latin American and Caribbean Center of FIU and the Bolivian American Chamber of Commerce. The Caribbean Center is helping to establish FIU as a notable contributor to scholarly work on Latin America by continuing to sponsor lecture series, conferences and professors from the region to conduct research here in Miami. This type of event is also part of an effort to bridge the university with the local community and improve its reputation as a focal point for viewing and participating in developments in Latin America.



COLUMBIA PICTURES Presents A Forty Acres And A Mule Filmworks Production A Spike Lee Joint "SCHOOL DAZE" LARRY FISHBURNE GIANCARLO ESPOSITO TISHA CAMPBELL KYME JOE SENECA ART EVANS ELLEN HOLLY and OSSIE DAVIS as COACH ODOM Casting ROBI REED Choreography OTIS SALLID Production Design WYNN THOMAS Original Music Score BILL LEE Editor BARRY ALEXANDER BROWN Photographed By ERNEST DICKERSON Executive Producer GRACE BLAKE Co-Producers LORETHA C. JONES and MONTY ROSS Produced, Written and Directed By SPIKE LEE

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For further information, call the Sunblazer office at 554-2315 or 940-5684.



---Raphael

"What I would like most is for the most beautiful girl in the world to propose to me!"

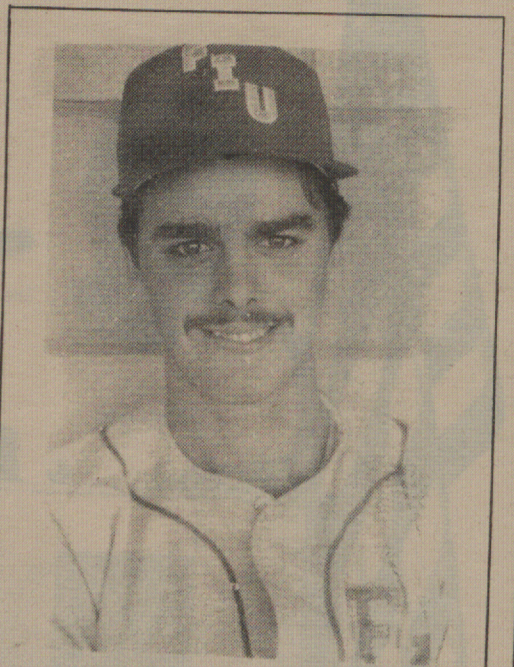


---Ricky Gonzalez and Gisela Smara

The most unusual gifts they have ever received for Valentine's Day?

Ricky: "I got a pair of edible underwear".

Gisela: "I got a white chocolate coach, 5 feet by 7 feet, last year, given by an admirer".



---Peter Lopez

"The wildest thing I ever got for Valentine's Day was a pair of pink boxer shorts with big hearts that had lace trimming!"

PHOTOS: Maria Padron

Happy Valentine's Day '88!



---Teresita Padron & Jesus Lamus

The most unusual gift that you have ever received for Valentine's day?

"My boyfriend, Jesus, gave me 300 roses for last year's Valentine's day," said Tere.

Jesus's fantasy? "Once we're married, for Valentine's Day, I want to drift into a sudden and frantically heated romantic evening with Tere."



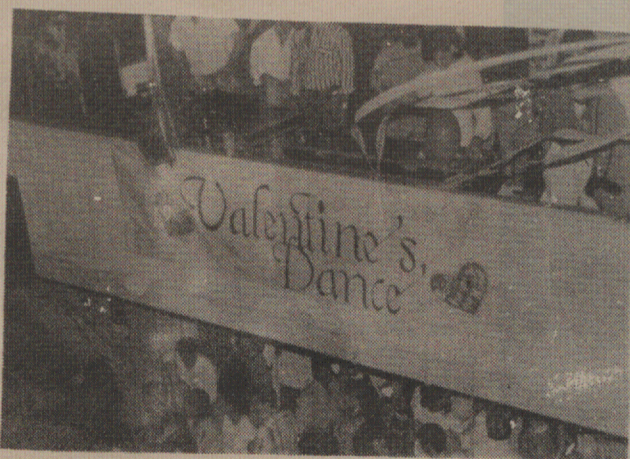
---Erika De La Paz

"If I had a boyfriend, I would like him to cook dinner for me and have him plan a romantic evening."

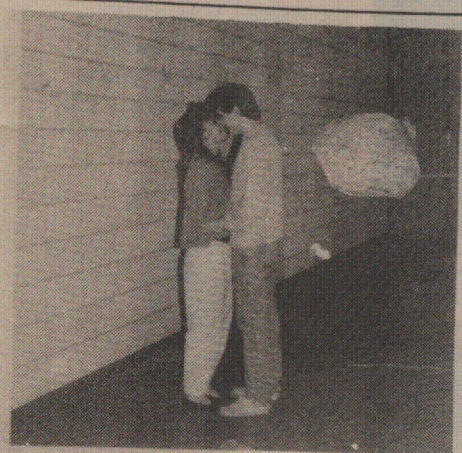


---Jorge Manzur

"I would like my girlfriend to kidnap me for the whole day!"



Thursday night's Valentine's Dance in the UH building at UP



Valentine's night party in the UH building: Jorge and Maria share an intimate kiss on Thursday night on the second floor.

With dove,

Do women need to "give their bodies a break" from birth control pills?

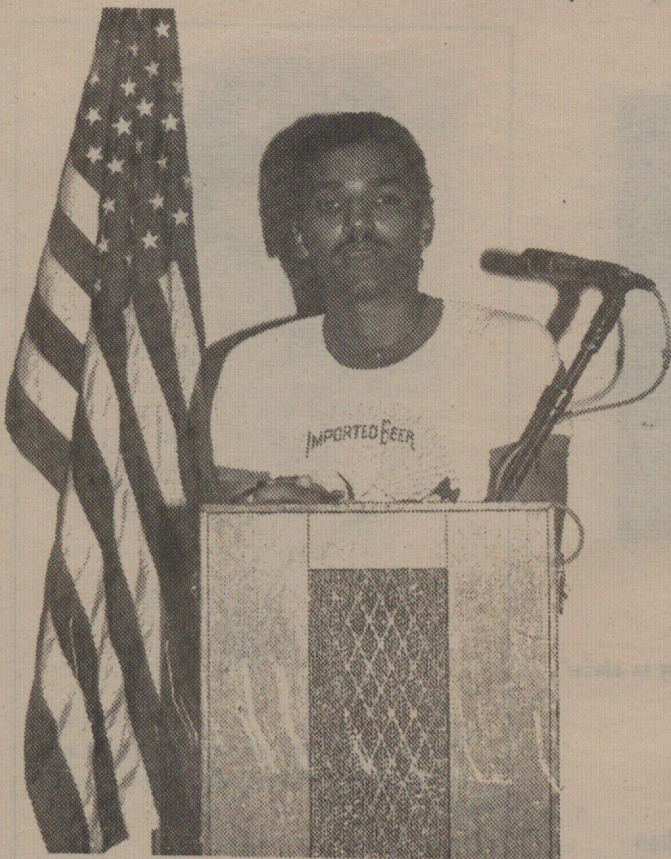
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Photo: Jose Lopez/FIU Sunblazer



Caribbean Students Association: academics and fun, tropical style



MATTHEW PENZER
Sunblazer staff writer

The Caribbean Students Association (CSA) offers personal and academic support for FIU students hailing from the Bahamas to Trinidad and everywhere in between. As president of the Association, senior Paul Robinson creates a "home away from home atmosphere" for Caribbean students and also promotes academic achievement among them.

Because of the difficulties often involved with adjusting to personal and study life in a new environment, CSA members assist each other as needed. Assistance may

come in the form of tutorials, textbook exchanges, or simply a push in the right direction. "If we can't help them, we find someone who can," Robinson emphasizes.

The Association is also planning several fun activities for the coming year. To expose others to the Caribbean culture, CSA is sponsoring "Carifesta." The celebration will take place on Wednesday, March 2nd, as part of International Festivals Week. There will be Caribbean food and reggae and calypso music. Later in the evening, "Caritheatre" will take place, which features the performance of a Caribbean drama and a comedy. Finalizing the festivities will be the traditional "Round-up dance."

A strong sense of national heritage and culture pervades the Caribbean Students Association. Members consistently support and encourage each other. Do not be mistaken, though - they do not wish to alienate themselves from the FIU community. On the contrary, they wish to acclimate themselves to their new surroundings and assist each other in achieving this end. "We want to be recognized as what we are (Caribbeans)," affirms Robinson, "but we want to be incorporated. We want to show we can get along with everybody."

■ Paul Robinson, President of the Caribbean Students Association



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FACT: Over 20% of the fatally injured in alcohol-related crashes are passengers in the drinking driver's vehicle.

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Liz Corsini • Boston University • Class of 1990

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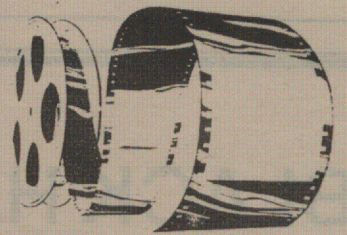
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Review: "Judith Hearne" a real bummer



FLORA SCHULE
Sunblazer staff writer

"The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne" is advertised as a "bittersweet romance." It should be called "a downer." Jack Clayton directs this film which is based on Brian Moore's acclaimed novel. The book is a classic; the movie is depressing.

In the film we watch two middle-aged people grow old as Judith Hearne (Maggie Smith) and James Madden (Bob Hoskins) finally lose what few romantic ideals and dreams they have left. Hearne is a pathetic alcoholic who will grow old alone and lonely because her lust for life was stifled early on in childhood by her puritanical Aunt D'Arcy (Wendy Hiller). By the time the old witch finally keels over during one of Judith's boring piano recitals, it is too late to save Hearne from her upbringing.

Now, years past her prime and seemingly doomed to old-maidhood, she focuses her last romantic hopes on Madden, a man interested only in bagging the fortune he

believes she controls. When Madden dumps her after learning she is not wealthy, he also dumps his life-long dream for a prosperous business. He ages with the realization that, for him, there will be no more "big business deals." He will amount to nothing.

The tragedy continues. Judith has visited the family of her only friend (Prunella Scales) every Sunday after church for as long as she can remember. We learn, however, that the family secretly dreads her visits and that the children ridicule the prim Ms. Hearne, who interprets their furtive giggling as a sign of her acceptance in the household. Towards the end, we find out that Hearne has never even liked the woman who is her sole "friend."

Two of the most powerfully traumatic scenes involve religion and a rape. After a life of abstinence from all pleasures in order to ensure an eternal life with Christ, Judith turns to the bottle as her doubts about immortality grow. When a priest chastises her for her sins, she begs him to assure her of the



■ "The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne" stars Maggie Smith and Bob Hoskins

existence of an afterlife; if none exists, she has wasted her life. But the priest, facing the prospect of his own possibly pointless life, is as incapable of helping her as he is of helping himself.

The only pleasure in the boarding house occurs in the sexual encounters between

the landlady's lecherous, disgusting son, Bernard (Ian McNeice), and the teenage maid. When Madden learns of their youthful fulfillment, his jealousy leads him to beat the girl and ban Bernard from her room. When such methods fail, he reasons he must "punish her for her sins." One night when she is expecting Bernard, he rapes her in her bed as she cries and begs him to stop. She cannot scream for help; she'd lose her job.

The anti-religious moral seems to be "don't waste your life." The movie is well-done. Acting and direction are tops. Yet, unlike other "artsy" pictures with a message, there is no enrichment. Just hopelessness. We learn that all our sufferings in our insignificant lives are probably just exacerbated by our attempts at behaving "correctly." The film is perfect if you have a gaping mouth hoping to copulate with a spare bullet.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT FIU

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Thursday, Feb. 18, 11:30 am
UH Forum
\$3.00 (Proceeds to benefit the Black Student Scholarship Fund)

The 1st Annual Amebe Ngei Indoor Sports Gold Medal Olympics-Competitive events include chess, checkers, billiards, table soccer and table tennis.

Thursday, Feb. 18, 4-10 pm
Friday, Feb. 19, 11am-4pm
Monte Carlo Game Room
\$1.00 Registration Fee

Gospel Extravaganza-Featuring a variety of inspiring church choirs and gospel groups from the Miami community.

Saturday, Feb. 20, 7:30 pm
AT 100

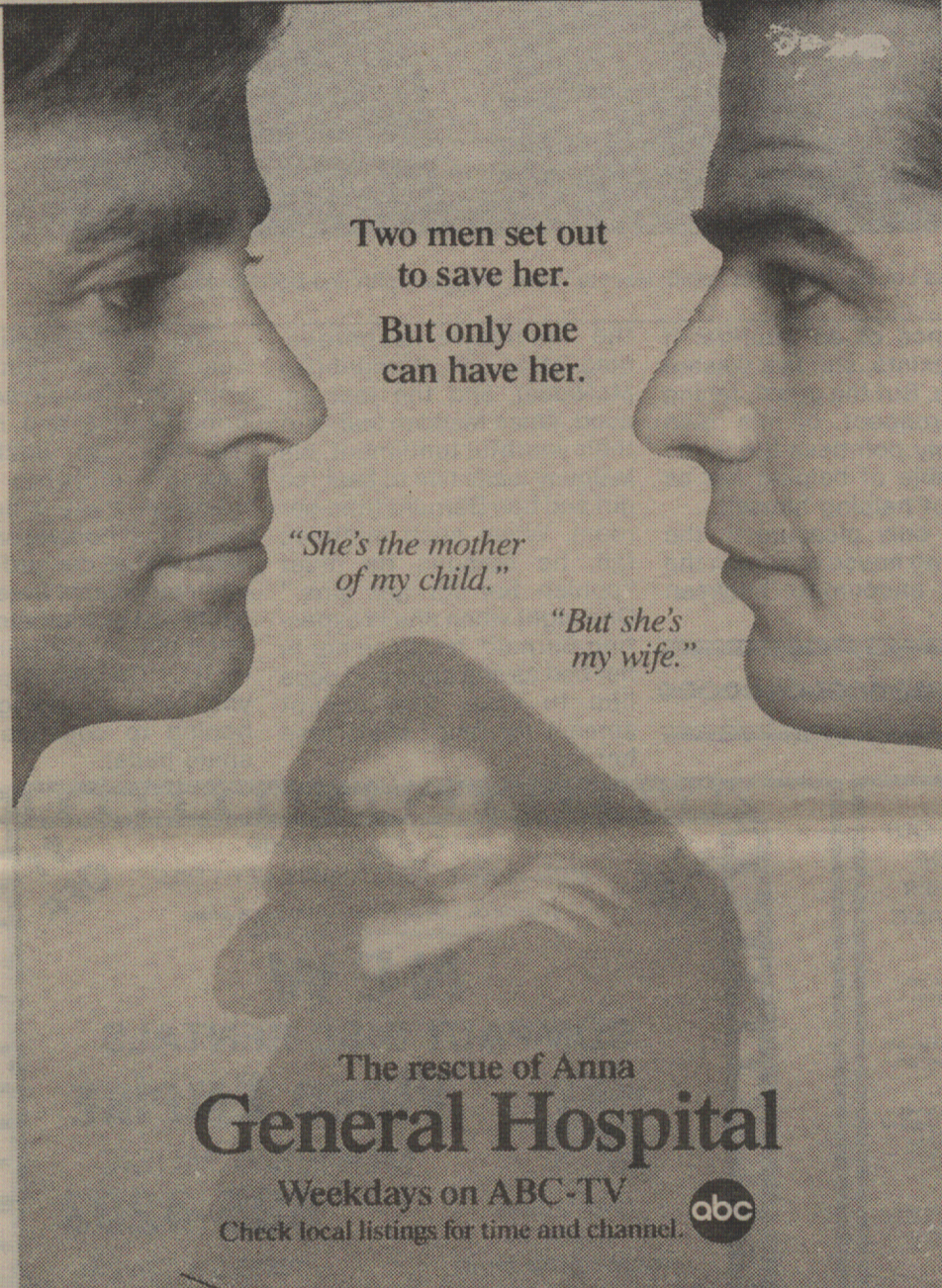
North Miami Campus:

Gospel Extravaganza-A musical spectacle featuring various individuals and choruses from the North Miami and Miami areas.

Friday, Feb. 19, 7pm
SC 230

"Black Races of the World-An Anthropological Survey"- Slide presentation by Howard H. Hirschhorn, Professor, FIU English Department.

Thursday, Feb. 18, 8pm
Presidential Suite



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IMMEDIATE OPENING

For the position of
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The election for the position of Features Editor for the Independent FIU Sunblazer will take place on Friday, February 19, 1988, at 2:00 pm in the main office of the newspaper, UH 315. All interested students should be present.

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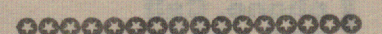
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SGA "travel" policy under criticism

ILSE PALENZUELA
Sunblazer news editor

The College Bowl Team went to Gainesville this weekend to represent Florida International University in the Sunshine State Invitational Conference, but the Student Government Association didn't foot the bill. They couldn't.

The present SGA policy for funding is that travel expenses cannot be included in a club's budget proposal, according to Ralph Patino, SGA comptroller and in charge of distributing funds.

Patino said, "It's very hard to draw the line. We're here to provide a service for students, but it has to be a service that benefits all students."

The College Bowl Club is on-

ly one of many clubs that have been hurt by SGA's present travel funding policy, said Jim Finn, Associate Director for Student Activities and advisor of the College Bowl Club.

"I think we're going to see some kind of proposal (at the upcoming SGA budget committee) where clubs that meet certain criteria, such as bringing recognition to the school through competitions, will get that type of funding," said Finn.

In order to compete in state and national tournaments, the College Bowl Team, whose five members are chosen from the College Bowl Club, must purchase question packets for the team to practice with. According to Matthew Penzer, president of the College Bowl Club and president of the team, these packets run as high as \$450, but SGA only provided them with an initial

allocation of \$75.

"Luckily, Paul Franzese (Coordinator of Programs in North Miami) was able to use academic funds to purchase the question packet because of the academic nature of the club," Penzer said.

Patino said that the initial allocation is based on the amount of activities and services the clubs have provided for all students in the past, but that clubs are free to ask for more money if their initial allocation runs out. "We have limited funds, and no club is to exceed \$550; however, they might say 'yes, we'll give you more money' if you proposed a good thing for the students," Patino added.

Penzer was upset to find out that representing FIU in a competition did not fall under the category of 'benefitting the student body according to SGA', at least, not when it came to getting money for travel expenses.

"We're the ambassadors of FIU. We love representing our school in the competitions, but it's hard when you don't have the money to go anywhere," he said.

Patino admitted that the present policy needs to be amended. "Funding travel expenses for clubs that are representing FIU has to be considered by the SGA budget committee in March. We have to wait for a club or committee to make such a proposal so that there are more gray area in our policy-let's not make everything so black and white," Patino said.

However, Patino feels that the

clubs expecting a lot of money from SGA should take a close look at the administrative, faculty and student support and at the credibility of the organization. Patino wants each club to consider how accessible it is to all FIU students.

"They should ask themselves, 'what are we planning to do for the student body with this money?' SGA wants to provide something for all 16,000 students at FIU," Patino added.

Penzer argued that the College Bowl Club has sponsored College Bowl competitions during Homecoming and Greek Week. He plans on sponsoring more activities and competitions for students, and points to the academic benefits because of the nature of the questions asked.

"All of the questions asked in College Bowl competitions run along educational lines; hopefully, they pertain to what a student might be covering in school. We (the College Bowl Club) love to give to the students and the school, but it's very difficult for us not to receive anything," he said.

Patino countered, "It's not SGA's duty to totally support the 60 to 70 clubs here-we only subsidize them. They have to raise the rest of the money through club fees and fundraisers."

What Penzer objects to is the fact that SGA makes an exception for the Executive Board committee and other SGA travel expenses. "It's not fair that they

tell us they won't fund travel expenses incurred by clubs, but that it's OK for them to do it," he said.

Patino said that student leaders need to go on the workshops they attend throughout the year in order to learn different techniques in management to benefit the entire student body. "In April, we're going to Tallahassee to lobby against raising the state tuition at the state Congress," he said by way of example.

Finn said that the club was thinking of looking into corporate sponsors. "I heard that Florida State University's College Bowl Team was funded through a bank. Maybe a corporate sponsor like that would help us out with some expenses," he said.

Finn added that other clubs, especially those dealing with indoor recreation such as table tennis, need the sort of travel funding that would allow them to go on competitions and perhaps improve FIU's image.

"Travel is an important part of the leisure program, and we have to make SGA aware that the social and cultural programs they sponsor are not the whole picture. The College Bowl Club is the other side, the academic side; one that's necessary to complete FIU's reputation as a well-rounded university," he added.

Photo: Maria Padron/FIU Sunblazer



Members of the KFIU radio station wait anxiously for their first broadcast. L-R: Roy Pressman, John Villate, Charles Michaels and Stuart Blanck

-KFIU, cont. from page 1

Mania and various talk shows, according to senior John Villate, station manager of KFIU. The DJ's will be on in three hour blocks and their programs will vary. Thirty to 40 percent of the air time will be dedicated to specialty shows. A 60's show has been proposed.

Eventually the station hopes to be sponsored by private companies to take some of the load off SGA, said Villate. "We're still having a lot of problems with details but they will get taken care of easily," Villate said. He added that KFIU just received its Federal Communications Commission [FCC] application for an FM frequency. Local stations who will have to hook KFIU's 200 pound antenna onto their

tower have to approve this. Villate expects it to take anywhere from eight to 18 months before the station hears from the FCC.

People who are actively involved in KFIU's formation are proud of their efforts and see a bright future for KFIU. Peter Dubowsky, junior, said, "For someone like me who loves radio, this is great." Dubowsky will host a talk show from seven to ten on Monday nights. Blanck waved his arms at the equipment and said, "This is a first class, state-of-the-art facility and will be recognized as such by other stations."

The station will be a training ground for students who are pursuing or thinking about pursuing careers in radio. KFIU will soon be on your radio.

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"'Cry Freedom' is powerful...An exciting adventure of escape...A movie of passion!"

—Gene Shalit, TODAY SHOW / NBC-TV

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—Marshall Fine, GANNETT NEWSPAPERS



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MICHELLE DRESERIS
Independent Sunblazer Editor

The Facts of Life...

Last semester my staff would take bets, while one of them held up a wastebasket, as to whether or not I would throw up before I'd finished chairing our weekly staff meetings. No, I wasn't suffering from a hangover, just from a bad pregnancy.

Last semester I stopped driving to NMC because I was worried that I wouldn't be able to drive the hour and a half back home safely. I started taking the shuttle there three or four days a week instead of five or six as I'd been doing for the past two years. I've averaged about twelve to fifteen hours a week, just in traveling time, to and from the paper for the past two years.

Last semester four news editors and one features editor decided that this newspaper took too much time, and demanded too much from their grades to be worth the aggravation of trying to produce a section without staff and with few stories. Another section editor got a job at the Miami Herald and our business manager graduated. As each new section editor came on board, I had to train them to

use our typesetter and explain how things worked around here. These machines have been the source of more frustration and aggravation than anything else (just about) on this paper. As I type this, our printer is not working. We will have to go outside the newspaper (again) to get this printed before we can even paste it up to go to the printer to be on the stands on Tuesday.

The worst thing is that as Editor I have to write the bank a check every month for \$406.19 for this monster that doesn't work most of the time. Anyone want an albatross? Anyone have an Apple desk-top publishing system to donate? Specifically, an Apple Mac II with the new Laser writer plus. Keep dreaming, right?!

Last semester I went in and did sections whenever there was no one else to do them. Doing a section means interviewing people, attending events, trying to get copy from other writers, writing copy, assigning photos and designing pages, typesetting feet of stories on to photographic film and doing the pasteup of those pages. Along with all that I

tried to keep on doing the things that the editor of this paper needs to do - little things like figure out how we'll pay our printer and money to the university each month for rent and telephones, etc.. Sometimes I went to class.

Looking back on it all, I don't know how I made it through last semester and still got this paper on the stands each week. With "all day sickness" I lost 25 pounds between August and October without even trying.

Then **WHY** do you keep on doing this? I can hear you asking. Because this publishing thing gets in your blood. That's why. Because through working on this paper I know that my Bachelor's degree in Communications is more than just a piece of paper, it's what I want to do as a career, in spite of the long hours, deadlines and pressures. I didn't know that for certain two years ago.

That's what this newspaper is all about. It's about a few students who will work twenty-five to fifty hours a week each, along with other

jobs and families, to produce a newspaper that gets no funding from the administration but which gets on the stands every week providing information, news and a historical record for this university. We get no class credits for doing this, and we don't get internships either.

Everybody (faculty included) thinks that we operate with the help, support and blessing of the Communications department. Nope. We operate in spite of the lack of it. For the past two years Dr. Arthur Heise, the department's chairman, has been saying he's too short staffed to help us out. We need a structure, he says. He needs more funding for the department, he says. So we've struggled on by ourselves and tried our best and somehow managed to publish this newspaper every week for the past four years.

About three weeks ago I moved our production equipment to University Park and with it relocated our main office to this campus. After last semester, it feels really good to have so many

students coming in to our office who want to write and take pictures.

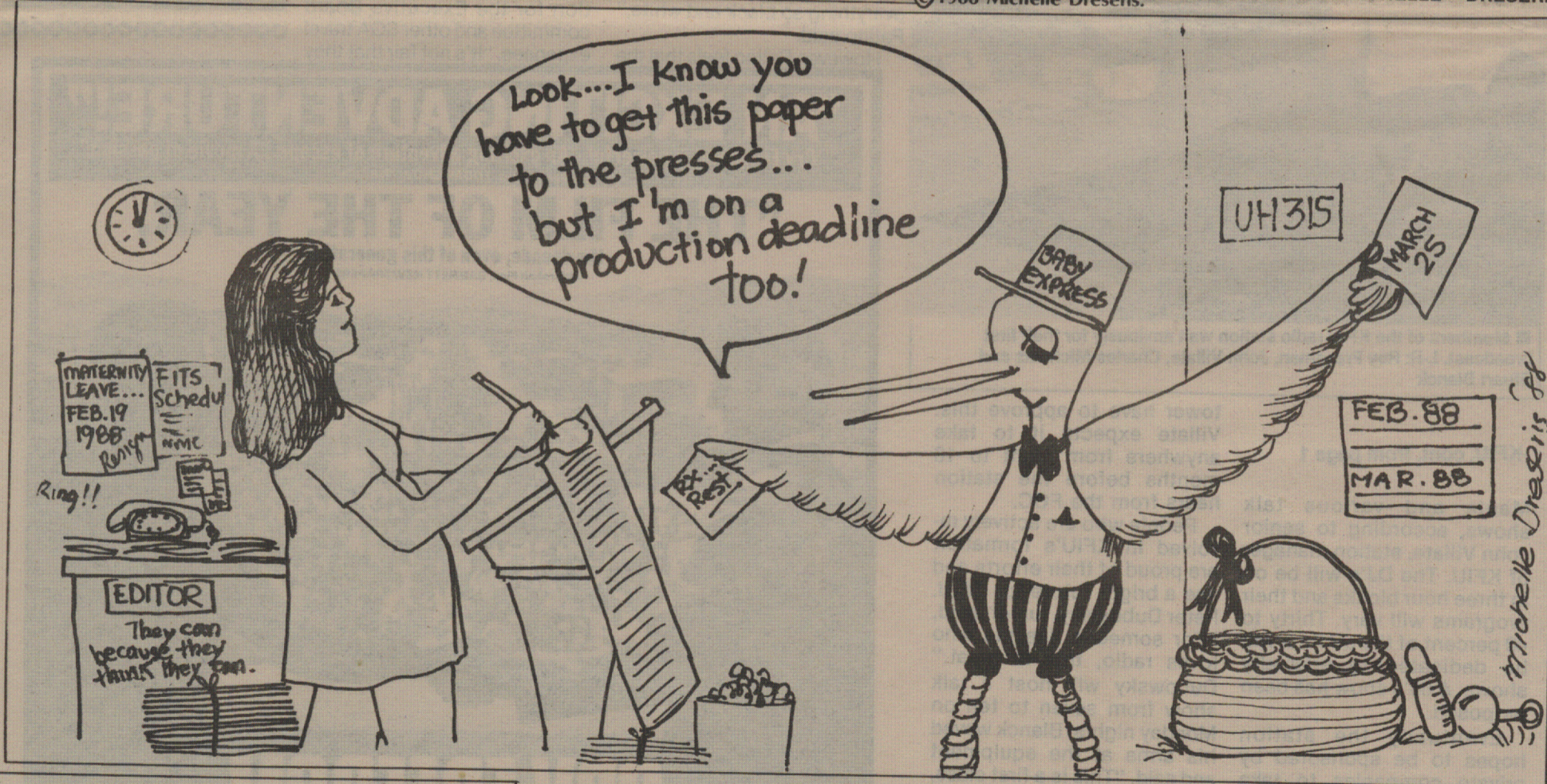
When I became Editor last year there were a lot of complaints about the quality of The Sunblazer. One of my goals was to make this a better, more interesting and informative publication. I've had many people - students, faculty, staff and people outside the university - tell me that The Sunblazer has really improved a lot since last Summer. I know we're not perfect but we operate with a lot of things stacked up against us, and it's been nice to hear that the time and energy I've put in as Editor has made a difference.

You don't do this for the money. You might do it for the clips if you're a journalism major or the experience in layout and sales, if you're an Ad major. I've seen one or two people who wanted the title as an ego thing, but they've left in frustration and aggravation because there's no glory and too much hard work. And then for others of us, it's a challenge. A commitment to try to do something we've never done before.

Campus Sides

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MICHELLE DRESERIS



Letters Policy

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

Letters must be typed and signed with the writer's name and his relationship to the university. Telephone numbers must be included so we may verify your letter.

The Sunblazer reserves the right to edit letters for content and style. Please address letters to: The Independent Sunblazer, Florida International University, UH 315, University Park Campus, Tamiami Trail & SW 107 Avenue, Miami, FLA. 33199.

Editor's note: This has been one of the most challenging positions that I have ever undertaken. There have been people who have shown that they cared along the way, sometimes with advice, sometimes a direction or two, sometimes just a smile or a word of encouragement and suggestions for improvement. I did not have anyone to show me either of my jobs on this paper, and as I resign to have my baby, I am glad that there will be an outside consultant who will be able to help the new staff members. I wanted to leave this paper better than I found it, and I believe that I have at least laid the foundations for a better newspaper here at F.I.U. There is more work to be done, and it needs students of all majors and interests because there is too much pressure put on a few students who cannot possibly do their best without resources and training.

We will be one of the top universities not only in Florida, but in the nation, in the next few years and our newspaper should reflect that. The Sunblazer is produced by the sweat, available skill, sleepless nights, skipped classes and donated weekends of students, and for more than two years we have tried our best. It may not be good enough for some people, but then if you aren't helping solve a problem you're a part of it.

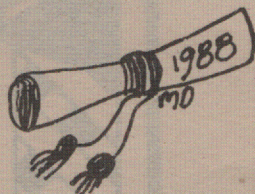
With appreciation to Mike Fowler and Kevin Hall: For your advice, criticism and encouragement, and for your faith in a free student press. To "others along the way" including Dr. Richard Correnti, B.O.G. University Park and Frank Janisch, President Maidique, Ruth Hamilton, Carlos and Rebecca, Joel Montgomery, Darma Redondo, Sophie Sniman and Flashback, Kathy Trionfo, Pat Russell, Tom Riley and Dr. Judy Blucker, George Wilson and the B.O.G. at NMC, Natalie, Tim and others, and especially my staff this year.

Special love and appreciation goes in this Valentine's issue and my last as Editor, to my husband Kes and my family, for putting up (barely!) with my long hours and work on this newspaper.

Michelle Dreseris.

Editor's Mailbag

This is our graduation, not some football game in Tamiami Park!



To the Editor:

As a student graduating from Florida International University, I am distressed at the Administration's intention to hold our Commencement ceremony in the football stadium at Tamiami Park.

It is my understanding, after having attended a meeting of the Commencement Committee, that this decision was made by the Administration, not by the Committee. It is the Administration's desire to move our Commencement ceremony closer to campus, in order to foster a feeling of spirit and continuity among our students.

Many of our students may not yet know that the Commencement was originally scheduled for the Miami Beach Convention Center on April 22nd. When I first spoke with Fred Jorgenson, our Student Government President, he told me it was he who discovered that April 22nd was the last day of classes. Mr. Jorgenson alerted the Administration to this and they apparently decided to hold the ceremony at Tamiami Park on April 29th, after the majority of students had finished their finals.

If we have our Commencement at Tamiami Park, we will run the risk of rain or heat or high humidity. We will have a most important milestone in our lives, one which is a symbol of years of hard work and achievement, take place in a football stadium. Our families and friends, who have lent

us emotional and sometimes financial support over the years, will sit in bleachers. We, dressed in suits and dresses, caps and gowns, will sit in folding chairs on the field of a stadium which has no meaning to us.

By the time the Commencement ceremonies end, it will be quite hot. If it isn't hot, but it rains, there will be a canopy under which we, the graduates, will be able to stand. There will be no provisions made for our families and guests. I was informed at the meeting of the Committee that most people would bring umbrellas, like at a football game, but to those of us who are graduating, it means much more.

At the meeting of the Commencement Committee on February 10th, I discovered that Mr. Jorgenson was entrusted with the responsibility of informing the Student Senate of the Administration's plans, in order to air this decision before the students. According to a representative of the Student Senate, Mr. Jorgenson never mentioned this to the Senate, and in fact did not do the job we elected him to do, namely representing the students and their wishes to the Administration and the University community in general.

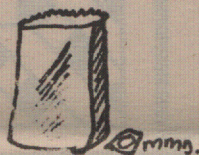
If we are to influence the Administration to consider alternate plans for Commencement, we need to make our voices heard. We cannot depend on Mr. Jorgenson to represent us since he has not made an effort to find out where we want our

Commencement. Our apathy will send a message to the Administration that we don't really care. If you care, as I do, and many other graduating students I have spoken with do, you will join in our effort to convince the Administration of the inappropriateness of their choice of Commencement sites.

We ask your support, in the form of your signature on a petition we will present to the Administration, if you oppose the plan to hold Commencement in the football stadium at Tamiami Park. Please join us in our attempt to get the Administration to change the site, or the date, in order to hold Commencement in a suitable enclosed facility. In the February 10th issue of The Sunblazer, I was quoted as having said that we preferred Hollywood Sportatorium because it wasn't far away. In fact, I said we preferred the Sportatorium because it is enclosed, and it isn't much farther from FIU than the Convention Center is.

Voice your opinion about the plans for the Commencement, either by signing the petition or by making phone calls to the Administration. Don't be shy—this is your graduation—and it is your right to make your voice heard.

Respectfully,
Leslie Disch
Accounting major



FIU's Clinic: Take those condoms out of the brown paper bags

To the Editor:

We have all heard by now that AIDS may be the twentieth century's answer to the Black Plaque. In New York City, it has become one of the top causes of death for young men and women. Closer to home in Miami, we rank third in the country in both the number of AIDS patients and the percentage of individuals who test positive for the antibody. Studies indicate that victims of this disease may test negative for the antibody for up to 14 months, and may not exhibit symptoms for periods up to ten years.

This lack of a positive test, and of symptoms, means that the disease's victims will continue to have active sex lives, and to pass on the virus to their partners. The only prevention is not having sexual relationships, or the use of the condom. Sexually active young adults are not going to stop having sex, no matter what some religious leaders preach. This brings me to the reason for this letter.

Recently I visited the health clinic and noted that the clinic had no condoms, or notices regarding AIDS in its front waiting area. As a graduate of the master's in public health program I was amazed at this situation, so I followed it up.

Poor Ol' Sergio Periera!

To the Editor:

Talk about bad luck!! All us hard working folks can understand how ol'Sergio could forget about making a measly \$70,000 + + + profit on some real estate deal he arranged with his good ol'buddies. It's very understandable when we consider the D.A. was breathing down

When I questioned a member of the staff, I was told that the students could come to the inner door and ask for condoms, which would be given to them in a small brown paper bag! I am surprised that they didn't have to wear trench coats and masks as well. This approach to the distribution of condoms seemed like a remake of a bad fifties sex movie.

Public health workers have been working hard to encourage the use of condoms among sexually active people. This attempt to 'hide' condoms from the public view not only smacks of religious overtones, but increases the likelihood that some sexually active persons will risk the disease rather than expose themselves to this humiliating procedure for obtaining condoms. In defense of the clinic staff, I was told that they had originally put condoms out for the students to take freely. However, the student association informed them that they must follow the procedure they use now.

Exactly what medical or psychological knowledge does the student association possess which allows them to decide what is the best way to approach the control of AIDS, and pregnancy? I personally know of no public health professional, or other professional, who is a member of the

student association. Even if there is one in the association, is their knowledge about how to control AIDS better than the ideas presented by the top researchers in the field? I think not.

As a member of the American Public Health Association, I am privy to much of the latest information on the control and spread of AIDS. This association and CDC have not recorded a decrease in the spread of the disease among straight, in fact the opposite is true. The disease is spreading in the straight community. We must take lessons from the homosexual community now. They have decreased the spread of the disease to almost nil in the gay community by open advertising, and the handing out of free condoms.

The clinic must be allowed to freely distribute condoms, if we wish to control the spread of this disease. Attempts by individuals with religious viewpoints, to discourage sexual activities should not be allowed to hamper a sound prevention program on our campus.

The see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil philisophy has not, and will not prevent the spread of AIDS or any other disease.

Roe Ann Roberts, MPH
Doctoral student.

his neck about those designer suits ol'Sergio bought off the rack at another of his buddies apartment "discounts" in Hialeah.

Fact is ol'Sergio just might have the perfect platform for the next election. All he has to do is promise every hard working Miamian the same discount he gets on his suits. That's sure to make him the front runner!! In case

ol'Sergio feels real generous, he can let us in on his next big real estate deal. That shouldn't make much difference to ol' Sergio since he can't remember how much money he makes on those deals anyway.

M.W. Smyser
College of Business

OPINIONS

i on campus.

FLORA SCHULE
Sunblazer Staff Writer

Just who is this Hart person anyway? A guy who will make such a good president that we should ignore his private-life failings, or a schmuck who wants the limelight so badly that he's willing to put his family through hell to get it?

Hart's back. But not better than ever. His plea to "judge the platform, not the past" is a sound political move in light of the increasing withdrawal from the original Puritan ethic in all aspects of modern life: movies, books, politicians. He has found a sympathetic audience in the high school/college age bracket, people who grew up in the post-Vietnam post Nixon era. We are jaded. Unshockable. So what if he screwed around? Kennedy did. At least he picked a babe. Good taste.

But actions have consequences. Forget the adultery. It's not a voting issue ("Mr. President, what's your stan-"

on Latin America, capital punishment, oh, and did you ever cheat on your wife?"). The real issue is Hart's frightening history of copious lying, reckless judgement, and shady "incidences" covered up in his private life (Hello? More adultery? "Problems" with Bimini customs officers?) His biggest supporters, and, incidentally, two of the first to urge him back into the race, are Warren ("How many chicks can I bag") Beatty and Richard ("I am not a crook") Nixon. No surprise there.

Hart's return is not an act of courage. Rather, it's consistent with the childish behavior of a man who will do anything to get what he wants at the moment, including jeopardizing a presidential race or the welfare of his family. It's also consistent with the stupidity evident in his previous behavior and, most notably, in his getting caught.

THE INDEPENDENT FIU SUNBLAZER

Florida International University
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Main office: University Park
UH 315, Tamiami Trail & SW 107 Avenue,
Miami, Florida 33199
(305) 554-2315

North Miami office
SC 253, North Miami Campus
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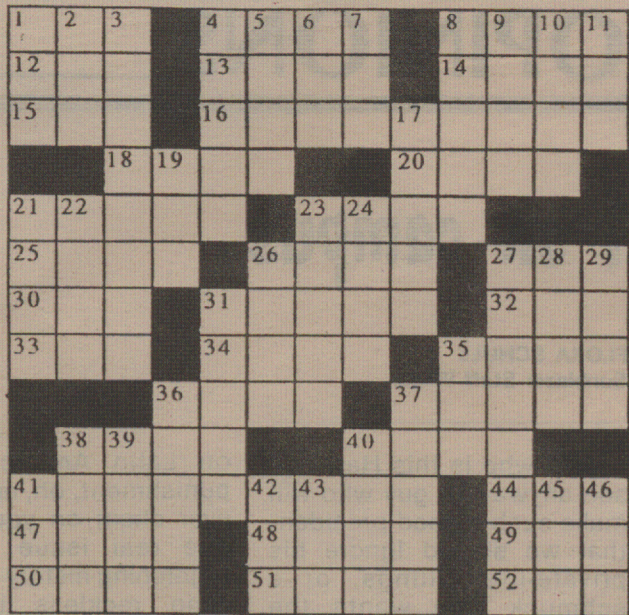
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The paper is independent of the University, Student Government Association and all university faculty. The editor is the chief administrator and publisher.

Unsigned editorials represent a consensus opinion of The Sunblazer's editorial board. Guest articles are the writer's own views and do not necessarily represent the views of the board. Guest article status is granted only to students, staff or faculty of the University. Written responses are encouraged.

The Sunblazer is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, and is distributed free on the University Park, North Miami and University Tower/Broward campuses. Circulation: 7,500.



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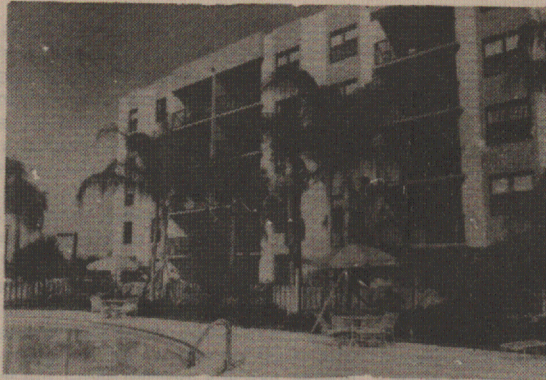
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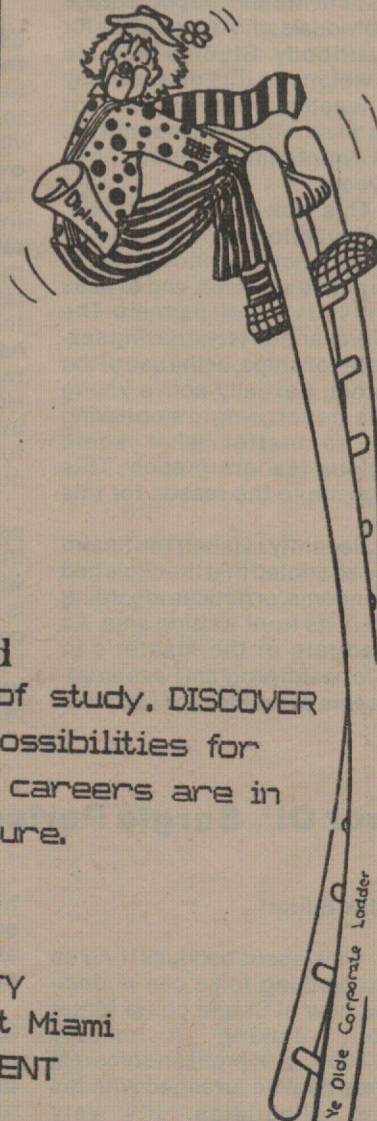
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The Florida Student Association will be hiring several interns to work in Tallahassee with the Florida Student Association staff during the 1988 legislative session. You will work directly with legislators and legislative aides lobbying for student interests. This is a unique opportunity to actually take part in formulating policy and law in our state.

You must be willing to relocate to Tallahassee during the legislative session. You will earn a stipend and possible class credit.

Obtain an application from your student government office and mail it directly to the Florida Student Association Tallahassee office. They must be received by February 25. Interviews will be held at the Florida Student Association, Tallahassee office on Saturday March 12, 1988. If you have any questions, call the Florida Student Association office.

Profile: Mary Alice Manella

New Assistant Athletic Director



PAUL PORTUGAL
Sunblazer sports writer

Mary Alice Manella, director for the past two years of the Sunblazer Arena, was named Assistant Director of Athletics at Florida International University in an announcement made by Athletic Director Dick Young on January 27, 1988.

Manella, a native of Tallahassee, Florida, is a graduate of the University of Illinois and acquired her Masters degree from the University of Miami. She has excelled in the classroom as well as out and has dedicated numerous hours to volunteer work for the Jaycee's fundraising, women's concerns groups, political campaigns and a great deal more.

Manella has used as tools of inspiration, the hard work of her parents, who have raised eight children. Frank Manella, her father, is a recent emeritus retiree as a sociology professor at the University of Illinois for outstanding achievement in his field. "University life to me became like a mainstream of life," said Manella. University life has been a vital part of Manella's upbringing.

Mary Alice Manella is married to Ted Fisher, chief executive officer of the Broward County Medical Association, a native of Miami. "I love Miami, both my parents attended the University of Miami," added Manella. Loving Miami has made her extremely active in community projects. She is involved in three professional organizations - the National Association of Concessionaries, the National Association of Exposition Managers and the International Association of Auditorium Managers.

During her collegic years as a student, Manella was part of the intermural sports activities at the University of Miami and later went on to become its' Women's Recreational Sports Director.

The first objective for Manella in her new job is to bring together unity and a sharing of ideas, as well as helping provide integrity to women's programs rich in talent. "Florida International's sports program looks very bright, but it all depends on attendance," said Manella. "We need support to both men's and women's teams, that are very competitive in all sports."

"Mary Alice is familiar with

the university, the state system, and has the interest and expertise to perform all that might be expected of a primary administrator in women's intercollegiate athletics," said Dick Young, FIU's Athletic Director. Manella's new tasks will include scheduling of all of FIU's athletic facilities and overseeing the women's athletics program.

When asked to describe herself, Manella stated, "Enthusiastic and interested, an optimist of all tasks in hand." Attitude tends to be the key to success. With Mary Alice Manella, the right attitude is there.

Photo: Maria Padron/FIU Sunblazer



"Florida International's sports looks very bright, yet it all must start with attendance," said Mary Manela. "We need support for both men's and women's teams..."

Photo: Darma Redondo/Flashback '88



Robin Fraser makes his way into the limelight.

BETTY NUÑEZ
Sunblazer sports writer

Inside the weightroom, the members of the Golden Panthers men's soccer team test

their strength against the weights. They work hard. One player seems to work harder, concentrating on a small, but important goal. Being the best.

No doubt Fraser is thrilled about the award, but he feels he could not have done it without his teammates. "Any individual award is a tribute



FIU Baseball has grown in its Division I status. The Panthers have gotten off to a great start this season.

Robin Fraser : On soccer's road to success

Robin Fraser, defender, has been with the Golden Panthers since 1984. An '86 All South selection, the 21 year old athlete's hard work has finally paid off. He was voted All American (second team) for 1987, the Golden Panthers' first All American in Division I.

At first, Fraser's reaction was not as enthusiastic. He figured that being in the top 22 players (11 for each team) in the country wasn't so tough. Later, he realized only three defenders are chosen per team. Being chosen one of the top six of the country is a much greater feat.

to the entire team, because soccer is a team sport." said Fraser. Fraser also gives credit to his coach Karl Kremser for backing him up.

Coach Kremser feels that Fraser is one of the most outstanding players he has ever had the pleasure of coaching. "He's a self-motivated individual with a strong desire to succeed." said Kremser. "He's just beginning to get the point where he realizes his capabilities. He's building his confidence to almost an arrogance out in the field, needed to dominate in a game. He's the difference between a good player and a great player."

Injuries seem to have kept Fraser in the training room for some time during the season. He thanks head

trainer, Rey Jaffet along with the rest of the staff. Fraser said, "They have been very helpful. They're always willing to work with me."

Coach Kremser feels the injuries are due, partly because he plays with such disregard for his safety. That's why Fraser has hit the weights and trained so intensively. With added strength and muscle, he is less likely to suffer injury.

Fraser's determination has gotten him far, but he has yet to reach the finish. He is hopeful that about getting an Olympic team tryout next month.

Coach Kremser feels that Fraser has just begun. "We have yet to see his best performance."