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Florida International University

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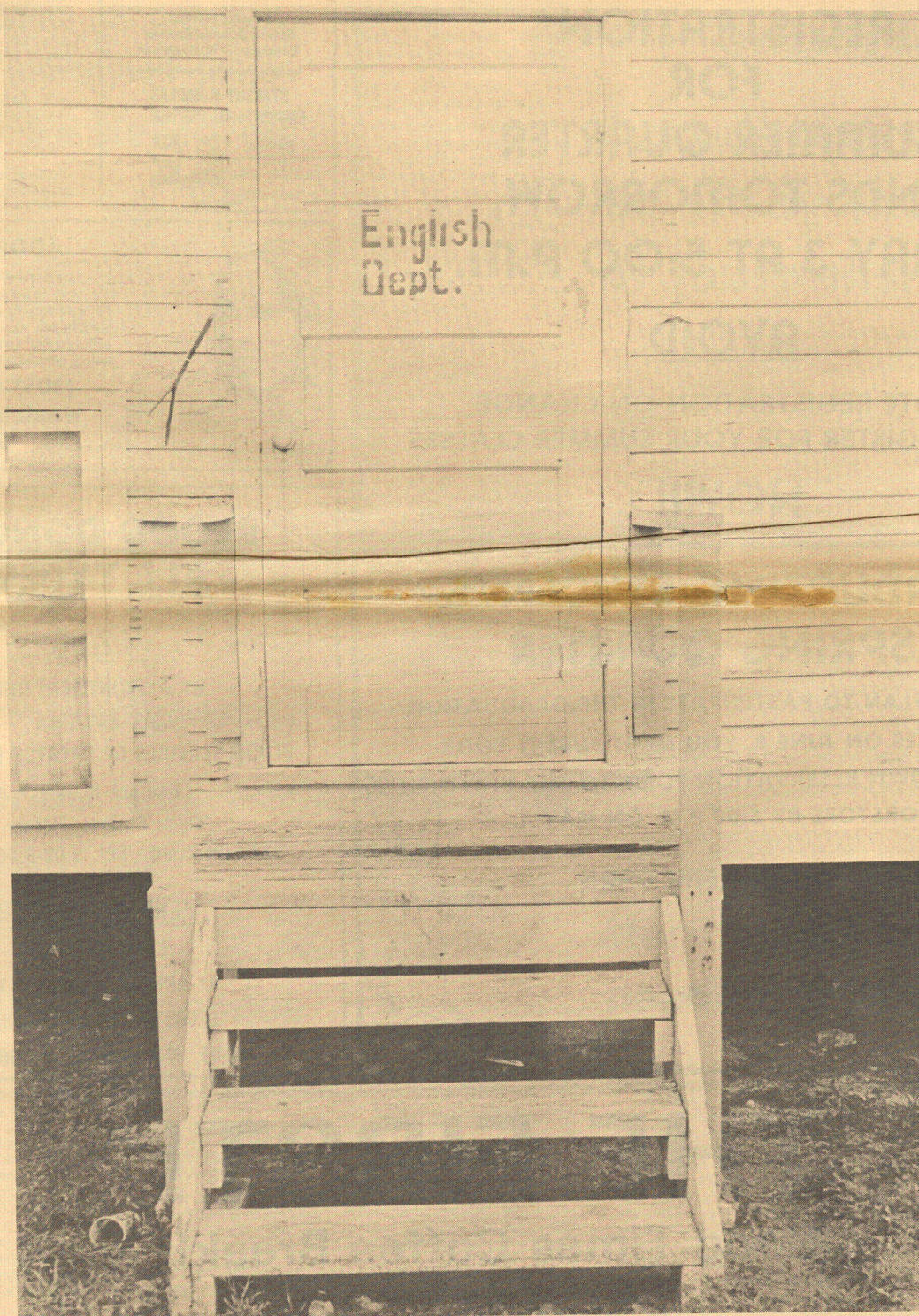
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The Good Times

Florida International University

VOLUME 2 NO. 13
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1974

English department takes a step backwards in time



Editorial page 7
story page 3

Although Florida International's master plan calls for a journalism department to be established, the English Department and College of Arts and Sciences has roadblocked the plans.



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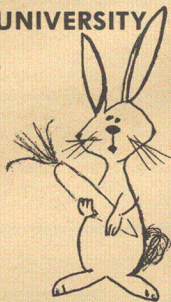
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Lack of journalism hurts students

STEVE MALONEY
Staff Writer

Janice Schwartz is one of those people that Florida International was designed to serve. Currently a student at Miami-Dade Community College - South, her main interest is the student paper, of which which she'll be the news editor next year.

After she graduates from Dade, she would like to study journalism at FIU and become a

news reporter. But Janice won't be able to do this because of one reason — FIU doesn't have a journalism program.

SYLVAN MEYER, former editor of the Miami News and consultant to FIU's Communication program, estimates that FIU could conservatively expect 250 students a year to participate in a journalism program by 1979 if it starts to offer one soon.

"The abundance of print media in South Florida offers FIU the opportunity to have a

journalism program that few schools could hope to equal," he says. But since FIU's inception, the initiation of journalism program here has been hindered by a lack of funds, and poor academic support.

The formation of a journalism program was initially stopped before FIU opened. On the week of January 20, 1972, the University Budget Committee recommended to the College of Arts and Sciences that they hire

no professor in journalism.

According to FIU's master plan, a journalism program was supposed to be included in the English department. The English department is in the College of Arts and Sciences.

BUTLER Waugh, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, says that they would have had a journalism program if they could've hire personnel.

"The Budget Committee with administrative approval cut back the College from originally 16 departments to 12," he said. "The journalism program was stopped along with many other efforts."

However, it appears doubtful that the College of Arts and Sciences would've started a journalism program even if the Budget Committee hadn't told them not to hire professors in that area.

On January 25, 1972, the same week the Budget Committee gave their recommendations, former English department chairman Paul Dwyer sent Dean Waugh a memo recommending the journalism be separated from the English department and that it should have it's own department at a future date.

HARRY ANTRIM, current chairman of the English department, says that decision was made because it was felt that a journalism program couldn't be conducted adequately within his department.

"Journalism programs have always been treated like stepchildren when they've been included as part of English departments," he said. "It was felt that journalism could be taught well only in a separate department."

But some people feel the real reason for College of Arts and Sciences inaction is due to their hostility to any program that trains people for employment.

This feeling has been caused largely by College policy-planning paper number one which was drafted on January 17, 1973, in which the College relieved itself of the responsibility of providing journalism, relinquishing such programs to the "professional schools", along with other professional programs.

"The College relinquishes certain professional programs such as Journalism, Technology, Broadcasting, and Library Science to the professional schools, although it must supply disciplinary courses to these programs."

DEAN WAUGH says the lack of funds has been the main reason his College hasn't had a journalism program.

"I have four other depart-

ments that have budgetary priority before I can consider starting a journalism program here," he said. "If we had the money, however, we would be glad to have journalism in the College of Arts and Sciences."

JIM COUCH, Director of Publications here, however, doesn't feel that it would cost that much to start a journalism program at FIU.

"FIU would need only one full-time professor to coordinate a journalism program here," he said. "The rest of the teaching could be done by adjunct (part-time) professors, of which there are plenty of potential candidates among working and retired journalists in this area."

The void left by the College of Arts and Sciences refusal to start a journalism program was filled by the offering of Communication courses by journalism program was filled by the offering of Communication courses by the School of Technology at the start of the Winter term. These courses are primarily in journalism.

WALT THOMAS, director of the Industrial and Engineering Division, says the School of Technology is offering journalism courses because the School of Technology is slated to have a department of Communication Technology by fall of 1975.

"We know that some people feel that Communication Technology doesn't include journalism, he said. "But, since nobody else is doing anything in this area we felt that we could offer journalism courses as a means of fulfilling our obligation to have Communication Technology under the master plan."

Thomas feels that the courses offered haven't been successful because of lack of coordination and resources.

"We haven't one faculty member to coordinate the courses," he said. "This has resulted in the courses being offered in a random fashion. This situation has also resulted in many of the resources necessary for a good journalism program not being available."

THOMAS says no full-time member can be hired to coordinate a journalism program until the Board of Regents approves a Communication Technology department.

Thomas feels that the Communication courses shouldn't be offered if the situation can't be improved in the immediate future.

"We're cheating the students and were harming any future efforts to have journalism here if we allow the present situation to continue," he says.

Accreditation team coming

Thirteen members of the Southern Association of Colleges will be on campus May 8 through 10 to consider Florida Inter-

national for full accreditation status.

After talking with students, faculty, and members of the ad-

ministration, the group will make note of weaknesses of the college compared to Southern Association give FIU students the ability to transfer a FIU degree to another school.

The 23 recommendations made last year will be followed up in the visit next week.

"Every recommendation made last year has been acted on and is in some level of accomplishment," Konkel, says.

Three volumes of statistics, facts, and opinions have been put together by the Accreditation Task Force of FIU. This information about the college, which includes results of a survey given to students and faculty to assess the college, will be given to the accrediting team.

Before leaving the college, the accrediting team will give an oral report to President Charles Perry. The written report of recommendations is expected late this year.

representing the College of Arts and Sciences; Gregory H. Perry, the School of Hotel, Food and Travel Services; William P. McClure, the School of Health and Social Services; William S. Hopkins is a construction major in the School of Technology; Mrs. Shirley Mae Lynn, represents the School of Education; and Miss Lois M. Rosen a graduate of the School of Business and Organizational Sciences

V.P. McDowell leaving FIU



Vice President McDowell of administrative affairs has turned in his resignation, effective July 1.

McDowell, one of the "founding five" of FIU has had a major role in the birth and growth of this university. He will forsake FIU for the post of Executive Director of Operations at Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tennessee.

Alumni affairs

Board will direct projects

To help guide the future direction of the Office of Alumni Affairs, Florida International University has appointed a six-member Alumni Advisory Board which includes four graduates of the University, one current graduate student and a current undergraduate student.

The Office of Alumni Affairs has gained more than 1,300 alumni since opening classes in 1972.

"We feel fortunate in having the services of such a diverse group of our initial Advisory Board," Terry L. Spence, Special Assistant to the President and Director of Alumni Affairs, says.

They were selected from recommendations made by Deans of the College of Arts and Sciences and each of the Five Professional Schools.

Members of the board include: Miss Gisela Casines,

French gathering

President Charles Perry and French Consul General Jean-Jacques Peyronnet (left) discuss possible future cooperative ventures at last week's reception honoring the diplomat, who visited the FIU campus from his post in New Orleans. Listening is French Cultural Attache Gerard Roubichou, also assigned to New Orleans. French speaking students and staff attended the affair.

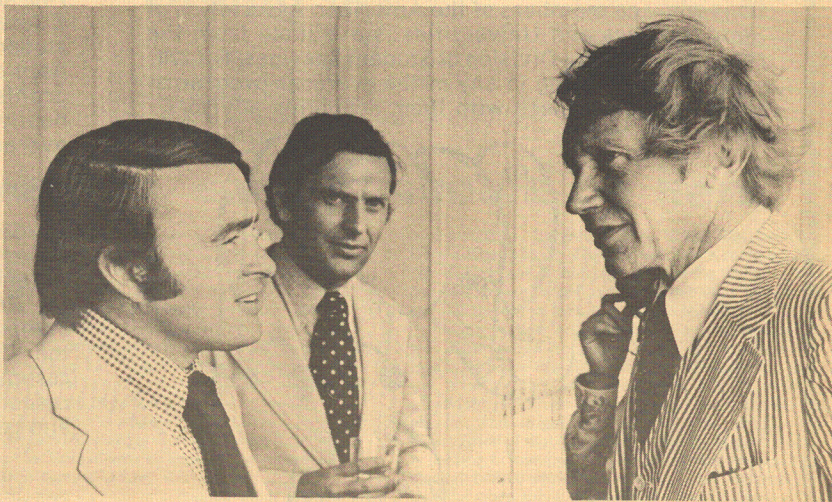


PHOTO BY BILL WHELAN

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REVIEW YOUR SCHEDULE CAREFULLY AND
CONTACT THE OFFICE OF REGISTRATION
AND RECORDS IF THERE ARE DISCREPANCIES.

News from Student Services

Attention Foreign Students

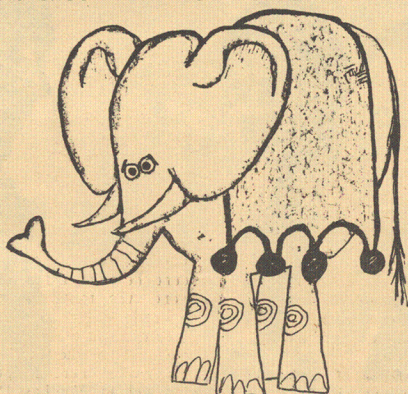
The Foreign Student Advisor has just received news from the Immigration and Naturalization Services that summer employment will be denied this year to all foreign students.

However, any F-1 student in need of employment for economic reasons due to unforeseen circumstances which arose after entry into the U.S. may apply for work permits. Applications may be obtained from Carmen Alvarez, Admissions Office, PC 210.

Overseas programs offered

A catalog of overseas programs offered by institutions who are members of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities is available from the receptionist in the Division of Student Services, PC 220.

Before enrolling in any of the overseas programs, students should check with their academic advisors.



Financial aid available

Although the date for priority consideration of financial aid applications has already passed (May 1), the Financial Aid Office is still accepting applications for consideration of any funds not expended in addressing the needs of those who have priority.

Since it is not uncommon for additional funds to become available during the course of the year, the importance of the submission of a financial aid application, irrespective of timing, cannot be stressed too strongly.

Students entering or continuing in a Florida community college are urged to consider applying for the Florida Student Assistance Grant by the State Board of Education. These grants are offered to undergraduate students who are United States citizens and who have been domiciled in Florida for two years or more. The grants range amount from \$200 to \$1200 and are annually renewable with the maintenance of a "C" average.

Writing a resume?

Students using a resume to contact potential employers are strongly encouraged to register with the Career Planning Office, PC 220, as soon as possible.

Registration will enable students to engage in on-campus interviews, review vacancy notices on file in the Career Planning Office, receive assistance in resume and credentials preparation, utilize the career resource material accumulated for students review and receive career counseling if requested.

Phil Giberson

Director inspires actors to motivate himself

MARY-JEANETTE TAYLOR
Associate Editor

Phil Giberson is an actor's director. He allows the artist to use his own imagination in the creation of a character. Dictating line by line interpretation is not his style, "especially because it's educational theater."

Bob Holtzman, currently working with Giberson in Marat/Sade, has acted and directed professionally. Holtzman talked about so many direc-

tors who come to a play with a "pre-conceived idea and try to stuff you into it."

Under Giberson's direction Holtzman is comfortable with the freedom he has to experiment, "knowing Phil's there to support or readjust the ideas I bring to the role of Sade."

Bob Gallo, cast as Marat and also a professional actor, respects Giberson as a director largely because he's strict.

"It's the better directors that

demand discipline on a set," says Gallo.

Discipline is something you see in the rehearsals of Marat/Sade. The actors know what is expected of them and work to produce it.

There is an undefinable quality about Giberson that drives the artist to concentrate. Perhaps it is the actors' awareness of his demand that they work. However, his ability to communicate is what facilitates that awareness.

Following rehearsals Giberson talks with the cast of 38. Responding to so many bodies is a tremendous job.

"I try to give positive feedback," Giberson says, as well as correction, "but, I don't even take as many negative notes as I would with a smaller cast." It's a situation that can be very frustrating for the learning artist. The cast is aware of this difficulty, but they know that he is there and will make the time to listen to them if they need his response.

There are other problems with the direction of Marat/Sade. "Any time you include live music, you add a whole other dimension," says Giberson. "Eventually, though, it enriches the production."

"The complexity of the play itself," is another problem. Giberson recognizes; attending to all that's going on.

"It's a sophisticated piece of theater," says Giberson.



PHOTO BY TRISH TANNER

GIBERSON DIRECTS MARAT/SADE "PATIENTS" INTO THEIR CORNERS.

Throughout rehearsals Giberson's comments and instructions are explicit, more importantly his attitude is positive and cooperative. He is there to help the actor develop and expand.

One doesn't get the impression that Giberson is a deity to be awed. He remains on the same level of the actor, a friend and co-worker.

In rehearsal Giberson may

be offstage viewing the progression of scenes, but he is with the play totally. As director he is not a separate entity but an integral part of the impetus of the play.

All these qualities are what draws the actor to Giberson, inspires them to develop, and motivates them to work with him.

Above all, Giberson is the type of person that prompts Bob Gallo to say, "I believe him."

The Persian Boy combines history and good literature

w b s
Staff Writer

"The Persian Boy", newest of several books about Ancient Greece by Mary Renault, is perhaps her finest effort. It weaves the saga of Bagoas, a well-born Persian youth who, through treachery is sold into slavery and gelded, with the continuing story of Alexander the Great — begun by Renault in her immediately previous novel, "Fire From Heaven".

THE STORY, told in memoir-form by Bagoas, spans the period from Bagoas' capture — at about the time of Alexander's becoming King of Macedonia, to Alexander's death, some twelve years later. The reader does not, however, "meet" Alexander until well into the book; indeed, not until Bagoas does. In the interim, the youth is successively: slave, harem servant, male prostitute and, his fortunes rising considerably, ultimately bed-boy of Darius, King of Persia.

After Darius is defeated and slain — in the course of Alexander's famed conquest of the Persian Empire — Bagoas, after escaping the debacle, is presented to Alexander, ironically by one of the slayers of Darius, on the assumption that he will be used in much the same capacity by Alexander as by the Persian King.

Such, however, is not the case; at least not immediately. For Bagoas must overcome two obstacles: first, Alexander's innate disinclination to abuse his servants and captives (which one gathers, he feels "forcing" Bagoas to become his paramour would do) and, second, the fact that Alexander already has a lover, albeit, a virtually platonic one.

THIS IS Hephaestion, one of Alexander's greatest generals, his boyhood friend and historically, his closest intimate. Like Alexander and Hephaestion,

Bagoas is a historical figure — indeed most of the book's characters are. But the relationship between Bagoas and the king is largely speculative — both in respect to their physical and intellectual/emotional relationships; speculative, yet, as Renault insists in her epilogue, highly likely (one of the few references to Bagoas in history, per se, is in Plutarch, who refers to him, albeit subtly, as Alexander's lover.)

Thus, the book is a historical novel — not history, as such — but one of the most thoroughly researched, completely literate examples of the genre.

A MOOT point, but one which is quite difficult to answer after even the most thorough reading, is which is the more impressive character, Bagoas or Alexander — which is the more fully important.

For, although Bagoas is "The Persian Boy", fully two thirds of the book is about Alexander (from Bagoas' viewpoint) — and, too, one must realize from the fact that Renault is quite obviously fascinated by Alexander, having written a previous book about him and included a brief sketch in a third (prior to either of the others), that he is clearly her favorite.

The book is fascinating — on various levels — and important both as literature and quasi-history. Indeed, it is too good to miss, even for the "macho" male, who might anticipate being put off by the fact that it deals — with consummate subtlety — with a very literal love story in the homosexual milieu.

Indeed, the only persons who could conceivably be turned off by the book are those who would hope it to be either very gay or, in any way, pornographic — for even the very occasional sex scenes are always handled in the most utterly discreet, highly literate way that one would expect from a writer of Mary Renault's very high calibre.

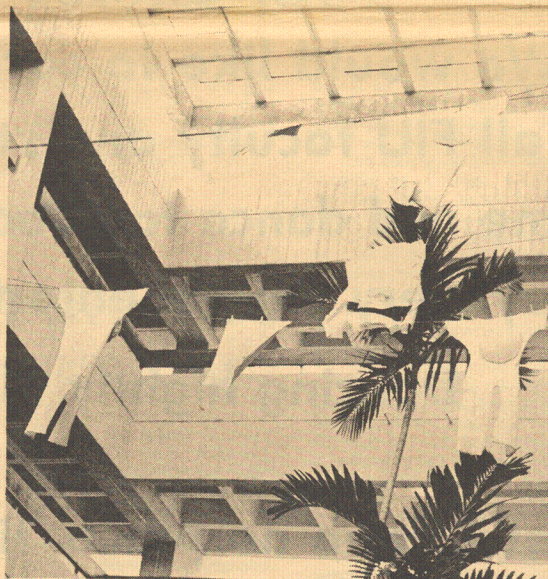


PHOTO BY BILL WHELAN

Drying art

Art is where you find it, and must always be in the mind of the beholder. This display at Deuxieme Maison represents one person's artistic taste, which another person might display in a home-drying machine!

County needs convincing, concert should be here

TOM RICHMEYER
Columnist

As often as I've listened to the song "Bennie and the Jets" on the radio, I can not understand many of the words except "she's got electric boots and mohair suits, you know I read it in a magazine, oh, Ba, Ba, Ba, Bennie and the Jets." If anyone can help me out on this I'd be most appreciative.

And speaking of Elton John, here's what I can piece together is happening concerning the tentative E. J. concert May 17th. The people organizing the concert want to use Tamiami Stadium as the site and Dade County is hesitant to lease it to the school for a concert. A couple months ago Dade County leased the Youth Fair Building to Leas Campbell for a Black Oak Arkansas concert. The concert was fairly well attend-

ed with the usual amounts of beer, hard liquor, and marijuana about, a typical concert scene with no unusual incidents. County officials were there to observe and got a good picture of what was happening. Their report stated that they felt county facilities should henceforth not be made available for such activities which indirectly promote beer drinking by minors, marijuana smoking, etc. This is now County policy. So what our guys need to do is convince County officials that what's going to happen isn't going to happen! I know that there was a somewhat tentatively scheduled Quicksilver Messenger Service concert at FIU planned for this time of year as Quicksilver is presently in the area doing a Disney World thing.

An finally here's a plan of action for all of you latent male streakers out there. The perfect site for a

mini-streak is the ground floor of the DM building. Here's what you do. Go into the men's room by DM 115, slip into one of the stalls and disrobe. Then you run out into the courtyard area, into one door of DM 100 and out the other, then back to the bathroom. The entire course covers only 64 steps or approximately 255 feet; I measured it myself. Masks are readily available in case you are afraid of recognition and I'm sure you could easily get two or three friends to hang around the courtyard to "accidentally" get in the way of anyone who might be pursuing you, though the possibilities of that happening are slim. If you're really seeking to make some noise on campus you'll streak through DM100 when there is a large class assembly or perhaps when there is a popular evening movie scheduled such as "The Last Picture Show." Any takers?

Free period

May 2 — 8

Thursday

"ZOO STORY" by Edward Albee, DM 150.

Women Students Business Association Meeting, PC 343.

Campus Ministry Meeting, PC 441.

Hillel Meeting, PC 533.

Friday

"ZOO STORY" by Edward Albee, DM 150.

Movies: "Anticipation of the Night" and "The Dead." Co-sponsored by SGA and the Fine Arts Association, DM 110.

Hillel Meeting, PC 223.

Monday

Rap With Women; Colleen Ryan and Sybil DeGroot, PC 422.

Accounting Association Meeting, PC 319.

Campus Crusade For Christ Meeting, PC 329.

Tuesday

Tuba Ensemble, DM 160.

Bahamian Student Club Meeting, PC 535.

Veterans Aiding Vets Meeting, PC 341.

Campus Advance Meeting, PC 433.

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Monopoly gives poor postal service

CLAUDE PINSONNEAULT
Staff Writer

How is the Post Office like the educational system in this country? They are both inefficient in the service they give this country. Each year the cost of service goes up and the service goes down.

The post system is basically a monopoly controlled by the government and in order to compete with rising competition in certain areas, the system has had to raise its rates to offset the

business it is losing due poor service.

There have been several holding actions taken by the Congress and the post office, most notably the advent of the zip code. However, this has only forestalled the collapse of the system. In the words of the present Postmaster General, there has been "little attention paid to new techniques and new ways to approach problems."

In the face of this problem, several solutions have been proposed, most noticeable the one

that operates the post office today. Former President Johnson set up the Kappel Commission to study and make recommendations on improving the postal office. When the commission turned in its recommendations they were not nearly as perceptive as its observations.

Perhaps reflecting the collectivist nature of this country's telecommunications system both privately and publicly owned, the Kappel commission in its report to President Johnson recommended that the postal system take the giant step from being a public agency to becoming a private corporation.

This proposal to convert the post office to a privately owned state controlled corporation is fundamentally wrong. Leonard Read of the Foundation for Economic Education, criticized the Kappel commission recommendation; ownership without control is a contradiction in terms, what it really means is state capitalism better known as Fascism.

An interview in "U.S. News and World Report Postmaster Blount" in 1969 concluded that nobody in the world of private business would want to take over a business losing a billion dollars a year. However Blount, The Kappel Commission, and President Nixon, who it would appear agreed with them, are wrong. There is in fact several firms who are crazy enough to think they can make a profit from the mails.

There are well over 200 who believe they can make a profit. Among the most note worthy; a Kansas City based Independent

Postal System of America serving 32 states with 18,000 employees and \$6 million in revenues in 1972, Northern California's National Postal Service, which delivered over 84 million ads and other third class mail at \$33 per thousands pieces, \$17 less than the postal services rates, Consumer Communications Service serving three states in the midwest and Fast Mailers based in Albany, N.Y. There are

those who are making a profit delivering the mail.

In the face of increasing poor service and higher rates the most logical way to correct America's mail crisis is to stop subsidizing the Post office and to free the companies, like the one's mentioned, from the legal constraints upon their service. In a word the solution to America's postal problem is free enterprise.

editorial

Accreditators need to study the lack of journalism here

When the Accreditation group comes here next week, they're going to be spending most of their time opposing what FIU has accomplished. But we also think they should examine the area where FIU has done almost nothing.

What we're referring to is the inaction by administrators, deans, and department heads in starting a viable journalism program.

According to FIU's master plan, a journalism program was originally supposed to be included in the English department. However, two months before FIU initially opened, the administration ordered the English department not to hire anyone for journalism. Soon after that, the College of Arts and Sciences "relinquished" its right to a journalism program with the English department's approval.

This situation has resulted in only a few journalism courses being offered in the School of Technology. Even people intimately involved in those courses agree that their quality is so poor that they should be possibly be abolished.

We hope the Accreditation team asks why this situation has occurred. There are many people in South Florida who would want to learn about journalism. It has been tentatively estimated that a journalism program here could have 250 students within five years.

Moreover, this area has the necessary resources for a journalism program. The abundance of print media in South Florida offers students the opportunity to work with experienced journalist that few schools can equal.

Service to the community is one of this school's prime goals. We hope the Accreditation team finds out why FIU hasn't been serving the students who are interested in journalism.

More students, faculty needed on task force

President Perry often states that he believes in significant student and faculty involvement in administrative decisions.

However, the composition of the Advisory Task Force that's supposed to visit him in replacing Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Don McDowell leaves his views in this area open to grave questioning.

The Vice President for Administrative Affairs is the chief budgetary official in this school. The decisions he makes have more influence on academic programs than any other factor. As one official here succinctly states "A university's budget is its final statement of academic policy."

But it appears that President Perry feels that students and professors shouldn't have a significant role in planning academic policy. On the eleven person task force there are no students and there are plans to appoint only one faculty member.

We feel that President Perry should rectify this situation by including more student and faculty representatives on the task force. The academic community should have a paramount role in picking the administrator who has the greatest influence on academic policy.

Reactionaries take note

Letters to the editor are welcome. Copy should be typed triple-space and submitted to PC 532.

New criminal bills need to be defeated

JERRY LANG
Columnist

The stamp of the Nixon administration will leave an imprint far more disturbing than even Watergate if two bills now pending in Congress pass.

These two bills are the first massive revisions of the U.S. criminal code since 1789. Each bill contains 803 pages of provisions proposed by the Nixon administration that would make a mockery of the Constitution.

Among the bills disturbing parts of the bill are:

- A seven year prison term and a \$5000 fine for printing classified national security information — whether justly classified or not. Under this provision the New York Times, Beacon Press, and Sen. Mike Gravel would have been punished for publishing the Pentagon Papers.

- One year and a \$10,000 fine for possession of marijuana for personal use.

Fifteen years and a \$100,000

fine for "mere advocacy or membership in an organization that allegedly calls for revolutionary change". This provision could be used to make a mockery of the first amendment. Anyone could be imprisoned for stating "allegedly" revolutionary change.

- Three years imprisonment and a \$15,000 fine for movement of a person across state lines in the course of planning and promoting a riot. A riot is defined as any assembly of five persons which "creates a danger to property". This law can also be used to harass people who advocate unpopular views.

The net result of these bills would be the severe limitations on civil liberties. Free speech and the dissemination of information would be threatened.

The constitution is to great a document to be destroyed by these bills. They should both be defeated.

response

Free period time hurts studying

From our perspective, the Free Period has had a disastrous effect on students, faculty, and classes. Class time is cut three hours per class per quarter. This is unfair to students and faculty, who were not given enough ad-

vance notice for curriculum adjustment.

Students don't want their education cut for extra-curricular activities. Many students have trouble adjusting

work schedules or finding jobs.

Although this period is beneficial to night students because it helps them avoid some traffic, the purpose of FIU is to provide an education, not to be a convenience facility.

Joe Kaplan, who wrote the proposal for the Free Period, did not ask the opinion of the students. As usual, a member of SGA feels he can speak for the entire student body. The faculty, as a whole, was unhappy about the Free Period.

Maybe we should reconsider this action. Perhaps a free period one or two days a week would not be so objectionable. Extra-curricular activities are important, but education is our first priority.

JAN HORNACK AND
FORTUNATO ARROYO

ROBERT K. WHITNEY

SGA wasting space

I have encountered a problem I hope you can help me with, I direct a weekly counseling session each week in FIU's PC 530 area. The sessions are for manpower trainees who are becoming paraprofessionals at FIU by participating in a two year education and on-job training program.

The problem is that the student government association takes all the tables in and around PC 530 for their trivial paper-

game meetings and thus disrupt otherwise legitimate functions centered in the student activity meeting areas. We are denied a roundtable counseling session because SGA ties up the tables for no obvious reason.

Somewhat my value judgments tell me SGA does not need all the tables for their gaming when others would care to make use of the state's tables.

GLORIA AKEL
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There's more than one side to Professor Joyce Peterson

DICK WALKER
Staff Writer

Joyce Peterson is a woman of many demanding and time-consuming interests and responsibilities. She is a feminist, a teacher, a scholar, a mother of two young and active children, and a wife. How does she manage to integrate such conflicting activities into a coherent life?

"Well, I'm not sure how well integrated they all are. The biggest conflicts probably come just because of trying to find enough time for everything. The area where I feel it the most is with the kids. They go to a day care center, and it seems to me that that's all right, because they're with other children and I think that's really good for them, and I'm confident in the kind of care they're getting at the place. But when they come home at night, there still are times when both Brian (her husband) and I have things that we have to do — have to do for the next day, to get ready for a class or something like that — that seems sort of unfair. They really think that that time is theirs, and that they should have it.

When I started preparing to teach the first course that I did here, I got really interested in it, and really wanted to read a lot, and I was really involved in it. And the more involved you get in some kind of project like that, the more time you want. It seems at first when you think all day away from children, well that's enough time for anyone. But after a while you get so that you want more time than that. You want every minute to be able to put towards this one sort of directed project for a while. And you can't do that. You just can't do that kind of going off by yourself for a couple of weeks and de-



MS. PETERSON PHOTO BY BILL WHELAN

voting yourself totally to one thing.

PROFESSIONS AND MARRIAGE

W. Many women who take on professions have chosen not to become involved in marriage or to have children, yet you're doing all of these.

P. IT ALL was taken on sort of gradually. And as far as getting married and having children, well that was while I was still in graduate school. But, I wanted to have children and I really enjoy having them. I like living around little kids and I like watching them grow up and seeing what's happening to them, and that really is a great joy. I always felt, — in fact, — I would get very upset by people who thought that the only thing you could do was not have kids, and that that was a solution. I can remember reading an article one time written by some people who had started a cooperative day-

...She's a teacher, scholar, mother, and feminist



MS. PETERSON PHOTO BY BILL WHELAN

care center in Canada, which talked about how they, as women, felt that one of the things that this society did to women which was horrible was to make them make that kind of choice between having children and having some kind of meaningful work. Obviously it was alright to want both and to demand that you live under conditions that would allow you to have both."

W. There are obviously implications in those conditions for change in the lives of men.

P. Sure. Obviously. I mean, I got married when I was twenty-eight years old, so I sort of knew what I was doing and I knew what I wanted, and there was never any question about how we were going to divide housework or childcare and things of that sort, and when we decided to have children we knew we were deciding as two people and not as one person. I wasn't just going to be mother; they were going to have a father, too. And, so while we fight about those things and the daily working out of who's going to do what isn't always smooth, there's a clear underlying philosophical commitment to the fact that it's supposed to be equally shared.

TRADITIONAL ROLES

W. Is it necessary for men, then, to sacrifice parts of their traditional activities outside the home, in order for women to be released from their traditional roles?

P. Yes. Operating inside a sort of conventional family, with mother, father and children, I think it does mean certain changes in what male roles have traditionally been. It means that you have to decide what your priorities are going to be. You have to decide that mother and father are both going to equally devote time to caring for children. And that doesn't necessarily mean that you have to both

take part-time jobs or that you have to give up some notion of having a full commitment to a vocation, but there are ways in which you can cut corners. You can cut corners in the way that you keep house, and there's a lot of stuff that you don't have to do that some people do.

But you can't really cut corners about some things. You can't cut them about giving time to your children and that probably means a change in the ways that a lot of men think about their lives. I don't think that there's any way that you can have a marriage in which two people share equally the work that's involved in that marriage without that meaning a change for most men. I mean they're really giving up a certain amount of freedom that they had before. They're having to commit time to things that they didn't have to do previously.

W. What do you see in this as a benefit for men?

P. OKAY. THE benefit for men as far as being fathers is that they get to know their children; that they get to have that kind of experience of enjoying their children and of feeling a daily responsibility towards them instead of just a kind of larger responsibility that revolves around being able to provide for them and being able to save enough money to send them to college. And it also means that, probably, men get to develop sides of themselves that aren't usually all that developed, so that they become more aware of their feelings and how they're responding emotionally, and then more able to respond in more human ways to all kinds of people, even outside of the family.

W. Joyce, how did you get into feminism? Is there some specific incident or moment in your life which you can point to as marking your break with the traditional female role and its implications?

P. No, there's no clear point. I can always remember when I was a child. I remember having discussions in grade-school classes. We would always talk about, oh, "are men superior to women?" I don't know why, I remember this happening over and over — Third-grade, fourth-grade, fifth-grade, that there would be at some point in the year a class discussion about this. And I was, always convinced that men were

not superior. And when I was a little kid, I always wanted to be a doctor. My parents never told me that being a girl meant that I had to be certain things. In fact my father had always stressed that it was important for everybody to have some kind of vocation. And he was really into that, that you couldn't really be happy if you didn't have that. So, although my mother never worked until I was a senior in high school and she was back teaching school, I don't think I had a sense from them that there were certain roles for women that I had to fulfill, although now when I talk to them I get the sense that they think maybe I've gone too far.

WORKING PROBLEMS

W. WHAT about women who don't work?

P. Okay. Women who don't work still face many of the same kinds of problems that women who work do. So that as far as the way their families are organized, who makes the decisions, what they feel is meaningful and important about their lives, they have a lot in common with women who work outside the home. The difficulty is getting to them and finding ways of talking about them, because they're less likely to be together in groups, they're less likely to be taking classes at FIU, although there are some women in that position taking classes at FIU, many of them are doing it in order to prepare for getting out of the home and doing something else outside.

One thing that I've never seen any statistics on but have an impression of is that night classes at FIU have many students who work, who have regular jobs. They tend to be more heavily male than daytime classes, which suggests to me that there is a group of working class men who are getting the opportunity to have a college education because of the existence of FIU, and opportunity that they never had before. That is not so much true for working class women, that the kind of women who come to FIU are older women who are middle class, or women who are just of normal college age and are doing it to go to college at that time. I would like to see more stress placed on trying to get working class women who are holding down jobs to come to FIU too.

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