Football players involved in robbery, held without bond

By HARRY COLEMAN
Sports Editor

Three Golden Panther football players arrested on July 3 are still being held in jail without bond.

Everett Baker, Diamos DeMerritt and Randy Arnold are under investigation after allegedly trying to rob two students in an incident that included gunshots being fired.

Of the three students, Defensive Back Baker, 20, faces the most serious charges of the three which include attempted murder for firing into an occupied vehicle, two counts of armed robbery, possession of a weapon on university grounds and two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Both Arnold, 20, and DeMerritt, 21, are charged with two counts each of armed robbery, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and possession of a firearm on school grounds.

DeMerritt also faces felony charges of a concealed firearm and possession of marijuana.

According to the FIU Public Safety Police report, two FIU students were headed to pick up a mutual friend, whom they were going to rob.

Three Golden Panther football players arrested on July 3.

HUNGRY SUMMER NIGHTS: As eating facilities in the Biscayne Bay Campus close earlier for the summer term, many students find themselves searching for other means to satisfy those after-hour food cravings.

BBC food services cut back hours of operation

By MARYANLY HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

As eating facilites in the Biscayne Bay Campus close earlier for the summer term, many students find themselves searching for other means to satisfy those after-hour food cravings.

Michelle Arean, a senior and communications major who works for FIU but who cannot have a meal for free, said she likes Oasis, where students can mainly buy coffee, pastries and late-night snacks.

Students complain that if you’re looking for a hot meal at the Biscayne Bay Campus after 2:30 p.m., you’re out of luck.

During the summer term, the BBC food court’s Subway, Little Charlie’s Pizza and Grille Works will be opened from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

After 2:30 p.m., the remaining option is the Oasis, opened from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Despite complaints that the short amount of hours are not enough to satisfy every student’s nourishing needs, those responsible for the decision stand firm behind their choice.

“We’ll see maybe two or three people walk by [after closing time]. That’s not enough clientele,” Paul Bucklin, the BBC supervisor for Aramark, said.

Aramark is the company in charge of the food services on both campuses.

Paul Sparks, Aramark’s BBC food service director, explained that he and Nicholas Diciacco, the executive director at BBC’s business and finance department, determined the food services’ hours of operation.

However, according to the bid contract between FIU and Aramark, the final decision falls on FIU. The contract states that the “contractor agrees to provide food service on days and during hours as required by the university,” Dr. Paul Gallagher, senior vice president and chief of staff (then executive vice president), whose signature appears on the contract, was unavailable for comment.

“If we are paying for tuition, we should be paying for the accessibility of all services,” said Michelle Arean, a senior and communications major who works for FIU but who cannot have dinner before class because her shift lets out after the amenities close.

Aramark has to pay FIU commission from a percentage of its revenues and a 6.5 percent sales tax. “We may not make a profit and we still pay tuition,” Arean said.

See ARAMARK, page 3

Summer activity guide fights boredom, eases wallet.

Get in shape at FIU gym. 12

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The Student Newspaper of Florida International University

Vol. 16, Issue 2

WWW.BEACONNEWSPAPER.COM

July 12, 2004
Classifieds

Help Wanted
POSITION AVAILABLE
Small local cloth-manufacturing seeking part-time help in assistant office management. Responsibilities include: Data entry, inventory management, house organization, telephone reception, web orders and sales. Flexible hours: 7-8 a.m. Contact Donald Fx 305-661-5551, 305-661-7200, email: sailang@ix.netcom.com.

Job Opportunities
WANTED: Beautiful girls to work as escorts. Ages 18-30. Flexible schedule. We offer drivers and have high class clientele. $14,000 to $500/week. Call 305-948-5111/954-929-9772.

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ROOM FOR RENT: All included. TV, Fast Internet. Private entrance. Parking. $375.00 per month. Arcs 46th ST. SW. 67th AVE. 5 min. from here. Call 305-553-3099.

Show Me the Money: FIU President Modesto A. Maidique (left) and alumna Adolfo Enrique hold a ceremonial check representing the $10 million grant offered to the university by Herbert A. Wertheim as part of the $40 million Medical School “Wertheim Challenge.”

FIU seeks to solve shortage of in-state doctors

Maidique, introducing the university’s reasons behind the initiative as presented by Provost Mark Rosenberg.

Among the facts presented, the one of most importance and urgency was considered to be the major shortage of 200,000 physicians currently being experienced by the state. Of the doctors presently involved in the workforce, 42 percent are over the age of 55 and a quarter of these are older than 65. Though Florida already sponsors four universities with allopathic medical degree programs, the provost acknowledged the fact that most of the young, graduating doctors have a tendency to find jobs out of state. “Florida is already importing 80 percent of its doctors,” Rosenberg said.

With these facts in mind, FIU officials and their supporters are lobbying for the M.D. program as an innovative solution to the dramatic medical workforce shortage.

“If there is a shortage of physicians, it’s also true that there’s a shortage of physicians who understand the changing multicultural diversity we face,” said Rosenberg, referring to South Florida’s ever-growing immigrant population placed in crisis by the lack of medical staff. FIU currently holds a Medical Honor program alliance with the University of South Florida and will be, next to the University of Miami, the only school with an M.D. program in the region.
PantherSoft leaves some students, faculty in the dark

By BRENDA ADRIANZEN
Contributing Writer

FIU’s new computerized administrative system, PantherSoft, is gradually becoming implemented university-wide, causing students, staff and faculty to look at the system and gauge its success; so, far the results have been mixed.

The system is expected to make all university transactions quicker and simpler to process. Although PantherSoft will not completely replace the old Legacy system until the end of the summer semester, several departments, including Admissions and Financial Aid, have been using the new system since the spring.

According to Ana Sarasti, director of Financial Aid, her office has been using the web-based system to correspond with students, "the students," Sarasti said. "We used to reach them through snail mail. The system has worked well, but not perfectly. However, I am very pleased with the performance," said Sarasti.

The Admissions office has been receiving undergraduate applications through the system. There have been errors due to conversion problems that have caused some new students to have to be admitted manually rather than electronically. The staff has gone through training and is trying to work through the small conversion problems they have encountered.

Jose Vasquez, a junior and engineering major, believes the system is user-friendly. "I know some people who are confused by it. I’m not exactly sure when I’m supposed to use it or not," Sarasti agrees that the conversion process has been and will continue to be hectic. Still, she is intent on overcoming the obstacles.

"I am optimistic the system will affect students in a major way," she said. Assistant director of Orientation and Commuter Student Services, April Mann, believes that the system is user-friendly. Although the system has not affected advising for the summer term, peer advisors and staff have used the system in preparation for fall orientation.

"The best thing about PantherSoft is that it interfaces with different offices within the university," Mann said. University departments are hopeful to get through the problems and make the system a success.

Other departments, such as Registration and Student Financials (formerly Cashier’s and Bursar’s offices) went live July 6.

"We have no clue as to what problems will come about, but we’ll take it day-by-day,” Registration staff member Lino Pico said.

Students complain about hours of operation at BBC food court

Sparks said that during each semester, food services check the class schedules to analyze how early the earliest classes start and how late the last classes end. This insures that the hours accommodate the majority of students’ schedules.

Kevin Cavard, a senior and business major living on campus, said "I have class at two o’clock and 6:25 p.m. and if I can’t leave campus I’m stuck eating candy bars out of the vending machine.”

Cavard also added, “Driving, traffic, all that stuff just wastes time. It’s a dissatisfaction to the students,” referring to students’ search for food elsewhere.

“I would love to be able to offer more variety and more products but I’m limited by my freezer space and my refrigeration,” Sparks said. “Our Grille Works and Café Features are monitored by our company’s headquarters and we have to bide by its menus and recipes.”

According to Sparks, some students at BBC have found a solution.

“Some students have even taken the shuttle down to South campus and eaten their dinner down there," he said. “They can have a meal plan at UP.”

Starting fall semester, food services at both campuses will go back to regular hours. Such food places as The Pizza Hut Express and Café Features will return to BBC’s food court.

For now, each student has to find his or her own solution to the problem. “Sometimes I bring snacks; sometimes I starve,” said Michelle Arean.

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Fight summer doldrums with inexpensive Miami outings by JOHN LOVELL
Managing Editor

Who would’ve thought that a summer in Miami could be so boring? Being stuck down here isn’t as fun as it seems, whether you work a mindless job, take some lame classes or just sit around in your pajamas all day.

To make things even worse, this isn’t simply a summer in Miami; this is a summer at FIU, and unfortunately there aren’t very many exciting things going on.

This brings you here, in the dead middle of summer with absolutely nothing to do. That must explain why you’re reading this issue of The Beacon, huh? Fortunately, this is your lucky day!

Here is a roundup of several interesting things to do and places to see this summer. It’s all on the fairly cheap side too; we’re college students damnit! There are no Bright Futures scholarships in the summer semester.

Food: Dogma Grill, 7030 Biscayne Blvd.

Celebrate the summer sunshine with a hotdog al fresco at Dogma Grill, a tiny oasis on a turbulent Biscayne Boulevard. These aren’t ordinary weenies and the “it’s a frank philosophy” slogan will suddenly make sense when glancing at the menu.

“It’s a cool atmosphere with friendly people and good food,” says Kearen Gat-tenio, who has been manager of Dogma Grill since it opened a little more than a year ago.

From Chilidogs to my all-time favorite, tostada’s Taco Shop (two franks wrapped in a warm flour tortilla with all sorts of other goodies), Dogma marries the simple hotdog with a wide range of tasty flavors.

After choosing your dog’s design, select a frank – either all beef, Polish sausage, or 100 percent veggie. The list continues:

Food: Smoothie Lounge 1689 107th Ave.

Excellent smoothies with a wide variety of flavors, directly across the street from FIU. Medium-sized smoothie is a meal in itself. $5 – 6.

Live:

Roberto’s Taco Shop 8845 SW 107th Ave.

24-hour Mexican food (except on Sundays), not only open later than Taco Bell, but tastier and more authentic. Don’t miss out on their signature Horchata rice drink. $5 – 8.

Live:

Múm

Electronic ambience from Iceland. Appearing at I/O on July 17 at 9 p.m. $14 cover, 18 and up.

Rainer Maria & Engine Down

Solid indie music by two bands who know how to rock. Appearing at I/O on July 20 at 9 p.m. $8 cover, 18 and up.

Evening:

Purdy Lounge 1811 Purdy Ave

Laid-back alternative to SoBe with varied music and inexpensive drinks. 21 and up, open until 5a.m.
The documentary boom couldn’t have come at better or worse time for the November presidential election, depending on your candidate of choice. A number of documentaries, most of them politically left-of-center, are heading into theaters. And, just as conservative radio programs haven’t generated much liberal radio response, liberal documentaries don’t seem to have led to a cinematic response from conservatives.

Leading the charge is Michael Moore, with “Fahrenheit 9/11,” the anti-war, anti-George W. Bush film he says he made to afflic the November presidential election. “Fahrenheit” earned $23.9 million to become the top-grossing doc of all time in just one weekend of release.

“These are mind-blowing numbers,” Moore told journalists. An informal poll of opening-weekend viewers in the Twin Cities suggested that most of them were sympathetic to Moore.

But the filmmaker cites the box office as proof his movie is influencing the national debate. “All of the predictions that the movie would only speak to the choir, would only be for those who don’t like Bush, I don’t think have turned out to be true.”

“Fahrenheit” isn’t the first documentary that takes issue with Bush. In 2002’s “Horns and Halos” was largely concerned with uncovering the truth about Bush’s alleged drug usage.

But it is the first movie specifically timed to, as Moore has said, change undecided voters to non-Bush voters.

Moore, who supported Ralph Nader in the 2000 election, has apparently not picked a candidate this time, but his Web site includes a link to www.NotBush.com.

Others in the wave of liberal documentaries include “The Corporation,” which hammers Bush’s support of big business (it opens July 9), “The Hunting of a President,” which tracks what the movie describes as a right-wing media effort to affect former President Bill Clinton impeached (July 20); “Control Room,” the anti-war documentary about Arab news organization Al-Jazeera (in theaters); “Taming the Lion,” which tracks aids in favor of same-sex marriage (no release date set); “Bush’s Brain,” a critical look at Bush adviser Karl Rove; and two John Kerry documentaries, including one about his service in Vietnam (no release date set).

Moore, presumably, is delighted about all of this.

He told www.indiewire.com, “If I had a dream years ago, it was that I wouldn’t be able to do documentaries that advocate political change) and that other people would start doing this. It is really our moment.”

What’s unclear is how long the moment will last. “There’s a worry that, after the election, these films may all be moyor,” said Emmon Bowles, president of Magnolia Pictures, which is releasing “Control Room.”

“I’m really glad we’re out ahead of the pack with ‘Control Room,’ because there are so many of these films, it’s like Cinema Against Bush. But when November rolls around, who knows? Who knows what the political or social climate will be on any given day?”

As a key distributor of documentaries, Bowles has seen many of the upcoming films, not all of which are good. He believes their varying quality will determine how much of an impact they have on audiences and on the election.

Meanwhile, he said no filmmakers with conservative agendas have approached Magnolia about distributing their films. The sole conservative documentary on Bowles’ radar is filmmaker Mike Wilson’s “Michael Moore Hates America.” (Wilson, who voted for Bush in 2000, considers himself a Libertarian.) But Bowles said, “He doesn’t have any footage to show yet.”

Why the shortage of conservative voices in nonfiction filmmaking?

Bowles has a guess: “I think maybe the independent film audience, in general, leans more toward personal expression and liberalism, whereas the people listening to the radio might be more conservative.”

SEATTLE – There are some hip-hop artists who don’t drink Tanqueray and Alize and want no part of the late-night trips to the BK.

Take the socially conscious rap duo Dead Prez, whose song “Be Healthy” includes the lyrics: “I don’t eat meat, no dairy, no sweets – only ripe vegetables, fresh fruit and whole wheat.”

In recent years, hip-hop artists have started publicly denouncing the unhealthy diets some of their counterparts have long embraced. They are pushing the benefits of holistic health in the black community, where high blood pressure and cholesterol are common problems.

Singer Erykah Badu, an active promoter of the vegan lifestyle, has been known to stop by Seattle’s Hillside Quickies Vegetarian Sandwich Shop, where the Howell family serves up Tempehstrom Subs and Maca-Na-Wee to the tune of hip-hop, dance hall and reggae.

“We get a lot of artists that come through here,” said Ayinde Howell, a 25-year-old vegan and local rapper/poet, “the ones who take care of their bodies.”

The low-key vegan/soul-food cafe has hosted the likes of T-Ross, Roots, Saul Williams, Black Angel, Blackalicious and the Lifesavas. Howell opened the business five years ago, inspired by his mother, who has prepared wholesale vegan foods for years.

Sister Ali, 29, came to help a couple years ago at Quickies, where she now handles all of the vegan desserts, including cook-ies, cakes, pies, bars and vegan soy cream.

“There has always been cooking going on in our family,” Howell said, “so we may as well make money.”

Seattle has strong vegan and hip-hop communities, and Howell is part of both. They don’t often intersect.

“Hip-hop is largely black people and black people are not largely vegetarians,” Howell said.

“With hip-hop, there is a little bit of machismo, so ‘Save the Animals’ is not the most popular slogan.”

“But now that the big artists are coming out, they are having some influence.”

At the forefront is rap mogul and entrepreneur Russell Simmons, a strict vegan who is active in People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Simmons has, among other things, signed on to PETA’s anti-fur ad in Women’s Wear Daily, recorded a public radio service announce ment promoting vegetarianism and participated in the PETA Celebrity Cookbook. The late Notorious B.I.G., who famously indulged in “T-bone steak, cheese, eggs and Welch’s grape” in his classic single, “Big Poppa” – and evidenced by his hefty frame – is probably rolling in his grave.

But the benefits of going vegan are taking root. A recently released DVD, “Holistic Wellness for the Hip-Hop Generation,” speaks to young people about diet and health. Created by filmmaker Supa Nova Stolen, the 110-minute documentary features appearances by artists Buda, rapper Common and So- man from Dead Prez.

Meanwhile, vegetarianism is gaining popularity not only in hip-hop but throughout the nation across the information. An infor mative survey of black vegetarians on the Web site www.blackveg ans.com reveals that the top three reasons given for eliminating meat are health (34 percent), ethical reasons (14 percent) and spiritual or religious reasons (12 percent).

Such conversions are changing the look of soul-food restaurants that are now trying to accommodate nonmeat eaters. Vegans like Common, Out kast’s Andre 3000 and Badu are spotlighting what could become a movement for young people.

Howell hopes hip-hop artists can deliver that message to their listeners.

As the youngest of three, Howell says his parents’ “hippie stuff” started with him. He was born and raised a Rastafarian in Tacoma, Wash., but still has roots and relatives in the South.

Though his parents are heavily involved in the religion, which promotes living naturally and not eating animals, Howell says it’s not easy telling his Southern relatives that he doesn’t want any chicken or ribs.

Liberals hold lock on leftist film documentaries

By CHRIS HEWITT

Knight Ridder Newspapers

The documentary boom couldn’t have come at better or worse time for the November presidential election, depending on your candidate of choice. A number of documentaries, most of them politically left-of-center, are heading into theaters. And, just as conservative radio programs haven’t generated much liberal radio response, liberal documentaries don’t seem to have led to a cinematic response from conservatives.

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“These are mind-blowing numbers,” Moore told jour-
Construction affects Biscayne campus

By PAUL GRECO
Profile Editor

The main focus of development for FIU is the construction of the new $14 million plus Marine Biology facility located on the Biscayne Campus. Regulated by Centex Rooney Construction, the project was put in motion June 9, 2004. This 57,000 square foot advanced laboratory is scheduled to be completed August of 2005.

"It will be a more modern facility," said George Parrack, superintendent with Centex Rooney. "Compared to the old facility, which was much smaller and rather primitive, the new facility will have much more space to work, and will receive state-of-the-art science equipment." FIU began planning the facility three years ago as part of a plan to offer more science courses to FIU's students, said Vice President and Chief Operating Executive Officer. "I want the campus to become an engine for growth in North Miami-Dade. I'd like to see the Biscayne campus as a top urban research university established separate from the South campus."

Additional structures included in the Marine Biology lab are 18 feet long by 6 feet high enclosed aquariums in every classroom and a shallow wet lab on the ground floor. The main structure is a three stories high, rectangular building connected on the second floor to a cylindrical facility 72 feet in diameter and also three stories high. Talk of filling in the lake adjacent to the construction project has been circling the campus. According to project manager Marko Gatica, the lake is going to be expanded one-third and all the removed trees will be replaced mostly with Sable palms. "What we've dug up is mostly mangrove roots," Gatica said. "The area for the Marine Biology facility was once an organic dump site."

Funding for the project is tight. "The progress is great but we have no private funding," Moncarz said. "Who ever will give us the funding for the Marine Biology facility would get their name on the building. We've been trying to find an organization to fund us but so far we've had no luck."

After six months of negotiation, a contract of $10,814,000 was settled with Centex Rooney. Due to the shift in the United States economy it is more beneficial for the U.S. to export goods, and with China eating up supplies as a result of a boom in development, concrete and construction materials have become expensive items.

Continued on pg. 4

SGA cuts funding for FIU radio station

By SARA EATON
Senior Layout Editor

Custodian Blanca González fights to free her son

By ILEANA MORALES
Staff Writer

SGA cuts funding for FIU radio station

Partly because of these signal problems, the Student Government Association (SGA) has cut WRGP's budget for 2004-2005. "I think it's up to the students to get a signal. I'm very positive about the radio station and I would very much like to have the station reach our campuses," said Vice Provost and Chief Operating Executive Officer, Raul Moncarz.

The SGA cut the radio's budget from $123,000 to $98,000 because of WRGP's signal problems and because SGA claims that WRGP's line item budget prospective was lacking detail.

"We couldn't tell what the radio was spending the money on and where the money was going. And we weren't going to continue funding the same amount for a radio station that was virtually never heard," said the Controller for SGA, Micah Mintz. "It was impossible to hear and it isn't that good."

In addition to the lack of detail in the line item budget prospective, the SGA decided that they would no longer heed promises made by WRGP to get a signal that would reach the FIU campuses. The SGA is very much aware that the radio station cannot get a translator to transmit a signal to the FIU campuses because of the FCC, which is a government agency responsible for the transmission of data and radio and television.

"From what I understand, the FCC will not allow the radio station to get a transmitter," says Mintz. According to Messod Bendayan, the FCC denied WRGP's request for a transmitter because it does not allow transmitters in a residential area and FIU is a residential area. Due to several calls the FCC was not available to comment.

"We were tired of hearing that they were going to broadcast to more people when they never did," Mintz said.

Contact with the prisoners is extremely difficult. Hernández said the guards pretend they are deaf when he calls for them, and at the time he said he hadn’t had lunch for nearly a week. Every day he says they get some food, but in fact, they don’t.

"They talk to each other yelling across cells. When the guards don’t like the content of their conversations they scream and curse at them."

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Yasumicon karate chops back

By PAMELA CASTRO
Senior Layout Editor

Anything Goes Anime (AGA), of course more on Yasumicon - a fun-filled convention for lovers of anime and all things East Asian - August 14 through the 15th. Yasumicon premiered its Japanese animation event on July 26th, 2003, and AGA aims to top past successes.

"Before the con [convention], I only expected about 500 people to show up at most," AGA member Joel Creme said in his interview with John Lovell, The Beacon's managing editor, for a past story about the club.

As stated in Lovell's article, Yasumicon drew a crowd of 1,200 anime fans from the South Florida area, some of whom flamboyantly dressed as their favorite anime characters, known as cosplayers. Others just casually dressed in anime-themed costumes and joy the convention's events. This year, AGA officers are expecting perhaps double last year's attendance.

"If they [the coordinators behind some events] confirm "If they [the coordinators behind some events] confirm their self-made anime costumes and warm up for the day's events at last year's con-" their self-made anime costumes and warm up for the day's events at last year's con- tention", we'll have dealers [sellers] and events from as far as new year Away," said Alexander Perez, Secretary for Anything Goes Anime.

Many events from last year – the Web Panel, the Mecha Panel, AMV (Anime Music Video) contest, Cosplay (skirts that are acted out by fans dressed as anime characters) contest, anything Goes Anime, and the Kendo club, is also the adviser for the event and one of the sushi chefs for Yasumicon 2004. Professor Haraguchi, along with her colleague Sekita, is scheduled to show convention-goers how to make sushi. Those who wish to also get to try some of their delicious delicacies.

Known for their studies abroad in Japan, China, and other parts of Asia, The Institute for Asian Studies is hosting Yasumicon for a second year in a row.

"It is a good opportunity to bring all of the [Oriental] clubs together and show others what the Institute for Asian Studies is all about," said Haraguchi.

Yasumicon will take place at the Graham Center Ballrooms at the FIU University Park Campus (South Campus). It will start around 10 am on Saturday. Sunday is still in the planning stages."

For more information:

Anything Goes Anime Club

Internet: http://www.fiu.edu/~aganime

Email: AGAnime@fiu.edu

Yasumicon's Yahoo! Group

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Yasumicon

North Campus library upgrades technology

By JENNI SKLAR
Photo Editor

"Imagine being able to go to a library, and do everything!" said Ms. Antonie Downs, library coordinator associate director, as she excitedly leaned over her desk to explain what's been happening at the media center at the FIU Biscayne Bay Campus.

Though the school has had some difficulty funding this project, the North Campus has recently received twelve new computers to enhance the Library's media center.

The new computers and the hi-tech hardware and software that are being installed will allow FIU students to go above and beyond what is required. The hardware and software will give students many new opportunities to advance their studies and allow them to be involved in a more professional atmosphere with options. The new computers are equipped with a scanner, DVD Drive, Zip Drive, and CD-RW Drive, along with software such as Adobe Photos- shop 7.0, Dreamweaver MX and Flash MX. Due to the software quality and computer speed, a password security system will be enforced. Only FIU students will have access in order to prevent possible misuse of the equipment.

One of the project's goals is to have specialized FIU student staff available to assist those who are not familiar with the new programs and computers.

"The FIU library computer expert Volante Lyseen, the computer should be installed and running by the end of June or early July. When asked what sort of outcome he predicted, he chuckled and said "I think that this addition to our library will make it better, but also a little more complicated to manage. I see good things, but also possible problems."

Ms. Downs is looking forward to seeing people use the labs. "The ultimate goal of this project is to teach the students something so that they can go out into the world and do good things," she said with a smile.

Kovens Center hosts innovative church

By ELIZABETH PROCHET
Copy and Layout Editor

It is a bit unusual to find a church discreetly nestled in a well-known campus surrounding. What is even more unusual to learn is that the students who actually attend the university are unaware of the church's existence. And yet, A Place Called Hope (yes, a church), not a church we are a … Family!" Bishop Swilley's revelation.

A Place Called Hope want to better serve the congregation. Bishop W. Duane Swilley and his wife of 29 years, Pastor Deborah "Sun- ny" Swilley, packed up their three children, Joshua, who is now a youth pastor, Joan and Esther, and moved from Atlanta to South Florida to further his vision of a better Miami.

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Athletes endure off-season training

By CHRIS TALBOTT
Page Editor

Many students sleep in late, relax, and hang out at the beach during the summer. However, there are a few exceptions, the athletes who are devoted to their sport and are staying in top physical condition even during the off-season.

The most common problem associated with working out and training is lack of dedication and devotion. Many athletes have the time to work out. They are just not willing to give up their free time to do so. Some do not have the desire with some of FIU’s athletes.

“I’m in here [the training facility] four times a week, since I’m only here for one class this semester. When I’m here I run, swim and lift weights to make sure I’m at the top of my game,” said golf team member Jessica Salazar, who is a junior.

“One advantage to off-season training is that students take fewer classes than in the fall. So they have more time on their hands,” said head strength and conditioning coach Lu Denen.

“All athletes have something that they can improve in themselves, but deciding what that is often proves to be a difficult task.”

“Summer for us is a break from the mental strains and anguish of competition. Yet, during the summer, athletes are still continuing to stay in top physical shape.”

Steven Rubin
Head Coach, men’s and women’s track and field and cross country

“There is no one main thing we work on. Some athletes need to be nutrition conscious, while others need to work on strength, condition and speed,” said Rubin.

“Since they have different areas to develop and different team workouts, athletes have specific workouts designed by the strength and conditioning staff to help them improve their abilities.”

“We recommend a workout routine as far as weightlifting and such, but beyond that, athletes pretty much train and work out on their own,” said Steven Rubin, head coach of men and women’s track and field and cross country.

Another advantage to off-season training is that the athletes don’t have to worry about having practice the next day. Therefore, they can endure much more strenuous workout sessions and enjoy the full effect of that workout.

“Summer for us is a break from the mental strains and anguish of competition. Yet, during the summer, athletes are still continuing to stay in top physical shape,” said Rubin.

“The key to any training is consistency. Consistency to me is the sign of progress. One workout isn’t going to help you get better,” said Louis Gonzalez, health teacher and strength and conditioning coach.

Kids enjoy summer swim/sports camp

By BARRY KAMINSKY
Page Editor

A Midsummer Night’s Dream. From 9am to 4pm, children ages four and up have the opportunity to partake in activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, basketball and tennis as well as fun-filled days in the sun.

Though there are many activities, the swimming pool is a source of constant entertainment and exercise. Throughout the week, the student camp counselors and lifeguards provided a summer with job or volunteer hours teach novice swimmers the fundamentals of water fun and safety. The older, avid learners practice the four basic swim strokes: freestyle, butterfly, breast and back strokes. In addition, the counselors explain the basics of training for competitive swimmers.

For the more adventurous, kids ages 10 and up participate in a Survivor Camp which combines kayaking in the scenic Oleta State Park and practicing survival skills.

“This camp is awesome. Kayaking is my favorite activity here,” said Menelik Dalley, one of the eager and enthusiastic campers who was preparing to vent out in a kayak with his group.

Though the focus of this camp is on aquatic activities, the kids are not restricted to water sports. Others prefer to release their energy by participating in basketball, tennis, softball, or using the fitness center. The younger children have the option of expanding their creative minds through arts and crafts or indoor games. When the children are not busy exercising and having a great time on campus they are taking fieldtrips around Miami.

“Some of the activities in the Hours: Counselor Danielle Wiedman teaches Mike Hasyn how to swim. JENNI SKLAR/SPECTRUM

New fitness center scheduled for BBC

By ANTHONY HOLMES
Copy Editor

Calling all Panthers, the time has come for you to get in shape! The BBC (Biscayne Bay Campus) has a new and improved fitness center coming your way. The fitness center will encourage students to give up its benefits and develop a healthier lifestyle. It is a “great idea to build a new fitness center,” said

“A good idea is to build a new fitness center,” said Vladi m i r Je u n e, President.

“A fitness center helps students relieve stress and also allows us to do something to a class.”

The new center will be located behind the Wolfe Center and will have a direct entrance into the pool. In addition to a pool entrance, the fitness center will be loaded with features. For example, the BBC center will include both a men’s and women’s lockerroom and an aerobics room.

There will be Aerobics classes available which will be exciting, stimulating and help you burn those calories. Aerobics studios are anticipated to be a “hit” because, in addition to aerobics, it will also be hosting boxing.

The fitness center will also include new state of the art body machines, including the Bodyscanner, a variety of treadmills and bicycles. Of course no fitness center will be open as BBC fitness center.

“The fitness center is complete without weight-lifting. The center will have an assortment of machines, including bench press, to help improve your muscular strength and endurance.”

Besides enjoying its great features, students will maintain good nutrition and health with the help of the new center. “The center is important to the campus because just going to school educates the mind, the center’s purpose is to educate the body,” said Fred Reel, a representative of the BBC Fitness Center.

The fitness center is a “life-saver”, because in today’s society millions of people have been affected by cardio-respiratory diseases. Studies done by the Center for Disease Control have shown that over 4 million Americans have cerebrovascular disease, which is a major form of stroke. In addition, 50 million Americans have been diagnosed with high blood pressure (hypertension), which is referred to as ‘the silent killer.”

Additional studies have shown that since the 1990’s the risk for developing these diseases is greater for African-American whites and Hispanics.

By JENNI SKLAR
Photo Editor

Splash! Splash! But these kids aren’t taking a bath. Each weekday during the summer, swarms of little bright eyed and excited children flock to the Biscayne Bay campus to enjoy a fun-filled day of activities at the FIU All Day Swim/Sports camp. From 9am to 4pm, children ages four and up have the opportunity to partake in activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, basketball and tennis as well as fun-filled days in the sun.

Though there are many activities, the swimming pool is a source of constant entertainment and exercise. Throughout the week, the student camp counselors and lifeguards provided with a summer job or volunteer hours teach novice swimmers the fundamentals of water fun and safety. The older, avid learners practice the four basic swim strokes: freestyle, butterfly, breast and back strokes. In addition, the counselors explain the basics of training for competitive swimmers.

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When I returned my sophomore year I took charge and started the dance squad over again,” Essiet said.

Senior Monica Davis, a member of the FIJI fraternity, is also a member of the SPC Comedy Show, MCF Business and Health Fair, Miss Black and Gold Pageant, and the SPC Comedy Show, MCF Business and Health Fair, Miss Black and Gold Pageant.

“Why isn’t the radio station here,” asked Moncarz. “Broadcasting since 1998 on AM frequency 88.1 for approximately 11 years, WRGP first applied for its signal with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which is a government agency responsible for the transmission of data through radio and television, the station received just four watts of power. “Just to let you know exactly how much power that is, well let’s just say, your toaster at home probably gives more power then what we got,” says current WRGP General Manager Messoud Bendayan. WRGP currently runs on 160 watts of power and is now known as “Radiate 88.” Along with this captivating name, WRGP also found a new place on your dial, becoming an FM station in the fall of ’99, at frequency 88.1.

FIJI, The Smart Fraternity
By TAWNY DANGER
Staff Writer
The Phi Gamma Deltas are nothing like the stereotypical fraternity. With high standards and exceptionally prominent G.P.A.’s, they don’t trash hous-es, or drink until the sun comes home. The young men that join this fraternity are the elite of their school and make sure everyone knows it. The Phi Gamma Delta’s attend almost all school functions, bringing their excellence to show off to the rest of the stu-dent body.

Phi Gamma Delta, also known as FIJI, has a colony on the South campus at FIU. The colony is based on five righ-teousness values, friendship, knowledge, service, morality, and excellence. Many of the brothers explain how fraternity like FIJI has impacted their lives by building speaking like FIJI has impacted their brothers explain how fraternity knowledge, service, morality, commitment.

Joining a fraternity is a com-mitment. With Greek week, banquet, many social activities, and obligations, time is always a factor. “It is hard to manage family, friends, a fra-ternity, and school,” Daniel Ruiz, a brother of FIJI. “But if my fraternity taught me anything, they taught me how to manage time efficiently.”

There are many mandatory qualifications to hold and rituals one must first enter FIJI. For example, they must have a G.P.A. of 2.5 or better and pay dues of $450 twice a year. If you happen to be an exceptional student with a 3.0 G.P.A. under your belt, FIJI will award you a scholar-ship of $250. The rituals are kept top secret. Every brother is supposed to take them to the grave without slipping a word.

FIJI is the only fraternity in FIU that has a house. The house was built approximately three years ago with a $2 million budget. There are 16 rooms, two boys per room, with one hand-picked young man available. The best part of the house is that the money donat-ed to build the house was given by a former fraternity brother. The brother was visiting and asked how things were going. One brother jokingly suggest-ed the idea of building a house. One thing led to another and a check was written to start the project. Brothers from the fraternity explain that to get the true ex-perience of college and a real feeling of brotherhood, it is important to live in the house. Living on campus helps to get the brothers involved in school activities and form a bond only roommates can acquire.

The house has distinct and clear rules that every house-mate is made aware of before stepping into their new home. For example, there are no drugs or alcoholic beverages permitted on house grounds, cleanliness is mandatory, and guests must follow all rules that apply to house members, and much more.

Since FIJI has been so suc-cesful for the past three years, Pi Kappa Alpha, also known as “Pike,” has begun creating their own house.

FIJI is going to become the first fraternity on the FIU cam-pus that transfers from a colony to a chapter. On July 10, ban-quets will be held in the honor of the brothers of the FIJI frat at FIU becoming founding fa-thers.

Marine, continued from pg. 1: The project will cost construction management an additional $114,000 just for concrete. FIU is not liable for the additional payments, because of the contract it ne-


Gotuated. The contract puts the company in charge of the entire project, including hiring sub-contractors for con-struction of any additional structures that do not fall un-der the company’s expertise. Extensive development around Biscayne cam-pus will urbanize this once remote area which was predominantly mangrove swamps and dump sites.

South of 15th street and FIU. A new public elementary school will also be built on Biscayne Boulevard, with a charter school nearby. “The traffic will definite-ly become an issue soon,” Moncarz said. “We used to have the area all to our-selves and there is only one road connecting us.” No plans for an additional road have been announced.
WINNER & LOSER

WINNER

Geraldine Williams: The 68-year-old cleaning lady of the University of Massachusetts-Lowell hit the second largest jackpot in North America, a whopping $249 million in the Mega Millions lottery.

LOSER

The New York Post: The esteemed publication erroneously sent out their recent Monday edition proclaiming Dick Gephardt as John Kerry’s pick for running mate in the upcoming presidential election.

QUOTABLES

“This is the next step in a long hard path.”
– FIU President Modesto A. Maidique, at the School of Medicine Initiative meeting recently, referring to the university’s submission of the official proposal to the Florida Board of Governors.

“No, it means stupid, dirty girl.”
– Richard Riordan, former Republican mayor of Los Angeles, correcting a 9-year-old who volunteered the meaning of her name.

“It’s unfortunate when terrible situations like this occur and of course, we are disappointed and concerned.”
– Hillary Clinton, at a conference with wealthy supporters, referring to charges brought by the Bush Administration tax cuts should the Democrats win the upcoming election.

“We’re going to take things away from you on behalf of the common good.”
– Leslie is in the Institute of Politics here at Harvard, and her committee has just finalized a national survey of college students’ political inclinations and how we are likely to vote.

“According to the survey, 62 percent of us will be heading to the polls in November, and right now most of us will be voting for Kerry. In the last survey in the fall, most of us supported Bush. Why the change?”
– Rick Mello, director of Intercollegiate Athletics, regarding recent criminal charges against three football players.

“We’re going to take things away from you on behalf of the common good.”
– Hillary Clinton, at a conference with wealthy supporters, referring to charges brought by the Bush Administration tax cuts should the Democrats win the upcoming election.

“I could have made it an easy schedule but I like challenges.”
– Everton Edwards, head coach for FIU Women’s Soccer, on the new season’s match-ups.

“Let freedom reign!”
– President George W. Bush, upon receiving notice of official

Why Bush may win next election

By ROMINA GARBER
Knight Ridder Tribune

I was furiously typing my paper on Hamlet as my friends were sitting around my common room when the discussion on politics turned to the upcoming presidential election. The question on the table was what way college students would vote. Are more college students supporting Bush? Are more of us becoming Republicans?

Fortunately, my best friend Leslie is in the Institute of Politics here at Harvard, and her committee has just finalized a national survey of college students’ political inclinations and how we are likely to vote.

According to the survey, 62 percent of us will be heading to the polls in November, and right now most of us will be voting for Kerry. In the last survey in the fall, most of us supported Bush. Why the change?

Our support for the war in Iraq has dropped from 58 percent six months ago to 49 percent, and Bush’s approval rating fell from 61 percent to 47 percent.

We also support legalization gay marriage, which Bush strongly opposes.

“There’s been a reaction to Bush’s policies and so support for Bush has gone significantly down. The feeling now is anti-Bush, but that doesn’t necessarily make it pro-Kerry. Students are reporting they would vote for Kerry just because they are now anti-Bush,” Leslie said.

“The switch is from being actively pro-Bush to being actively anti-Bush... now we’re the same as the rest of the population,” she added.

It also turns out we are a very moral generation. Most of us would not vote for a candidate who cheated on his wife, tax returns or resume. It’s interesting to compare those convictions to a survey of the total population (not just youth) that shows that less than half care if a candidate has cheated in these areas.

We also are more religious than previous generations, but a majority of us would still vote for Kerry just because they are not believing in God.

So what does this say about the American people?

While most of us are informed enough to know that this is far from the truth, there is a large part of the population that will be swayed to believe this in September, when this becomes the Republican platform.

Whatever happens, it’s good to know that we care and that we will be casting our vote with the rest of the country. Maybe we can give these elections a dose of morality.

Phew! [FIU] philanthropists

By Luis Nin

Next time you ask someone who’s majoring in Pre-Med why they chose their major

They’ll probably say

Not only is it an interesting field, but I get to help people!
Players face felony charges as serious allegations are investigated

FOOTBALL, from page 1

at Building K. Located at University Park apartments, Building K is closed to students for the summer, according to the FIU housing department.

Upon arrival, the two students parked southbound of Building K. Within five minutes, five black males approached them wearing bandanas to conceal their identity.

The driver was ordered at gunpoint to get out of the car twice by one of the subjects.

Thinking the pointed gun was a joke, the driver pushed the firearm away from the subject. At this point, the subject struck the driver on the mouth with a closed fist.

According to the report, after the produced gun and fist to the mouth, the student realized the subjects were serious and accelerated the vehicle.

As they sped off, Baker allegedly fired at the vehicle, shattering the rear left window and penetrating the driver’s headrest.

The driver was not hurt, but the passenger was nearly hit with the bullet, which had penetrated from the driver’s headrest.

“It’s unfortunate when terrible situations like this occur and of course, we are disappointed and concerned,” said Rick Mello, director of Intercollegiate Athletics. “These are serious allegations and after due process is served, the matter will be dealt with appropriately and in accordance with university policy. We will cooperate fully with any and all police investigations.”

In the meantime, according to Mello, all three of these young men have been suspended indefinitely from the football team. According to a newsletter sent to the university community by FIU President Modesto A. Maidique, the university has issued a no trespass warrant to the three football players involved in the incident.

FIU police has no information regarding the other two suspects who are still at large.

According to the arrest report, the incident was caused by a foiled drug deal involving a half-ounce of marijuana. The guns involved in the attack were taken from DeMerritt’s car when FIU police arrested him.

The three football players were denied bond in their first court appearance on July 5 and are currently locked up in a Miami-Dade County jail. Their next hearing is set for July 26.

At press time, both of the victims declined comment.

BACK, BACK, BACK: Mike Lowell of the Florida Marlins, formerly a Golden Panther was elected to join the 2004 All-Star Team. COURTESY PHOTO

Beacon Staff Report

FIU Alumni and former Golden Panther baseball player, Mike Lowell was selected to represent the National League in the 2004 All Star Game.

This will be his third year representing the Florida Marlins. His current stats stand at 51 runs, 96 hits, 19 home runs, and 52 R.B.I.’s. Lowell’s .353 batting average ranks fifth all-time the history of FIU. Earlier this year, his number, 15, was the first Golden Panther jersey retired.
Womens soccer to kick off against rival UCF

Everton picks challenging schedule for 2004 season

By NATALIE SABIA
Staff Writer

Heading into their 20th season, the Florida International University’s women’s soccer program will enter into one of their most challenging schedules in history.

Consisting of a pair of conference champions and five NCAA teams, FIU’s schedule includes University of Central Florida, from the Atlantic Sun, Denver, from the Sun Belt, Texas, Florida State and Florida.

The Golden Panthers will return with 13 letter winners from last year, including seven starters. “I could have made it an easy schedule, but I like challenges,” said Head Coach Everton Edwards.

Several new forwards, who could even possibly be new starters, consist of women from various cities and states.

Newcomers Chantelle Crosby and Whitney Rezendes, who are both from the same high school in Littleton, Colo. are just a few of the fresh faces who will appear on the field.

Crosby spent two previous years at Northern Illinois, where she was the second-leading scorer her freshman year and played in all 18 contests as a sophomore.

Another newcomer, a local one, is freshman Sofia Frayle, who was one of the top prep players throughout the Miami area. After scoring 107 career goals, along with 63 assists, she was named All-Dade 6A Girls Soccer Player of the Year.

Among the midfielders, FIU welcomes Julie Mushiin, Francesca Chong and Andrea Tarasivk to the team this year. As her high school’s leading scorer with 60 career goals and 32 assists, Mushiin was named First-Team All-State recognition and was named twice all-conference.

Chong was also in the spotlight as a two-time First-Team All-State selection at Felix Varela High School.

The Golden Panthers are secure among their defenders, after the return of five letter winners, along with four talented newcomers. Maya Ozery, who is among the Israeli National Team, is just one of five players from the National Team venturing to the U.S. to compete on the collegiate level.

Kristin Hurst, Whitney Perez and sophomore transfer Yanesch Donaldson are among the returning FIU as defenders. Hurst was selected first-team All-State as a senior in high school and was recognized as team MVP twice. Perez was named Sun-Sentinel Player of the Year for Class 6A-5A and a four-time All-Area and All- Conference.

Donaldson, who is transferring from Clearwater Community College, competed with several successful teams including high school and college.

After a sad ending throughout the last two seasons, FIU will turn their attention towards a major goal they need to focus on: offense. In the last seconds of a game when goals were desperately needed, the Golden Panthers were unable to pull through. "If you get competition within, then you get competition out too,” said Edwards.

The Golden Panter’s schedule also includes familiar teams such as cross-town rivals University of Miami on Oct. 13 in Coral Gables. "Playing Miami is always a rival we enjoy,” said Edwards.

This season kicks off with the first five games away. Their home opener is on Sunday, Sept. 12 against South Florida.

The Golden Panthers will host the 2004 Sun Belt Conference Tournament beginning on Nov. 5.

Despite coming in last place in the Sun Belt Conference last year, Coach Edwards is hopeful his player’s will not only carry their team with magnificent strength and ability, but hopes they will be strong throughout the season. “Life is full of challenges, this will be one,” said Edwards.

Get in shape with help from free campus fitness center

By ANA SANCHEZ
Contributing Writer

Want to fit into a new bathing suit? Tired of paying over priced fees for local gym? Want to show off the six pack of abs you’ve always wanted? Grab a water bottle and head to the Fitness Center located on the University Park campus.

This summer take advantage of all the Fitness Center has to offer. Show your FIU Golden Panther card at the entrance and enjoy a good workout while socializing with other students.

Here is the best part: Fitness Center offers unlimited use because it is covered by tuition costs.

Senior Emily Garcia uses the Fitness Center because “it’s convenient, it’s paid by our tuition and friends from school motivate you and make it easier to work out.”

Current FIU students, professors, staff and alumni use the Fitness Center’s services and with the growing number of students, a new facility is on the way.

There are a wide variety of classes offered to accommodate personality and taste. Yoga and Spinning classes are offered at 7 a.m, 6:30 or 7 a.m, 5:30, Knock Out for $2 a class, and BLT (Butt Legs and Thighs) andAwesome Abs classes are free.

Personal trainers are also offered for guidance while working out in order to insure safety and provide assistance for new students who want to learn the proper guidelines to working out.

Helpful staff and friendly hours are other reasons why students go.

“I go four days a week, which includes unlimited use because it is covered by tuition and the staff is also really helpful,” said Emily Edmond, graduate student.

The gym, located on the grounds of the Golden Panther Arena, has accessible parking and is a good place to relieve stress from schoolwork.

“It’s close, especially if you live in housing, it’s free and you can socialize while you work out,” said freshman, Giovanni Mora.

Setting goals for the summer and achieving them motivate students to make exercising part of their daily lifestyle.

For students currently on campus, the gym can help you achieve a new self image and help you maintain active through work out routines.

“I’m going to try to come everyday. So far I love it, and by the fall I would like to tone up,” said Jaclyn Morris.

It is recommended for beginners to begin a routine with a certified physical trainer and attend three to four times a week. Combining weights with cardiovascular workouts will add endurance and help you feel better.

Students should take advantage of the opportunities Fitness Center offers to maintain fit, feel healthy, and have fun while you’re at it.

So whether it means getting toned or making new friends, the Fitness Center is the place to be this summer.