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, Diamont 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. See FOOTBALL, page 11

Medical School gains community support

By C. JOEL MARINO
Asst. News Editor

After a decade’s worth of plans to establish the first public allopathic medical school in South Florida, FIU officially submitted its formal proposal to the Florida Board of Governors on July 8.

Described as “the next step in a long, hard path” by FIU President Modesto A. Maidique, the proposal coincided with several announcements regarding the future of the highly promoted medical school initiative.

At a conference held in the MARC International Pavilion, the university was presented with a $10 million ceremonial check on behalf of Herbert A. Wertheim, a 15 year member of the FIU Board of Trustees, a donation referred to as “the Wertheim Challenge” by President Maidique.

The gift was granted in hopes of stimulating enough public interest in the project to raise another $10 million which, when paired with financial support from the state government, would result in a $40 million fund to be used exclusively for medical school purposes.

Along with the grant, the university formally announced a future alliance with four of Miami’s most important hospitals (Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Mercy Hospital, Baptist Health and the Miami Children’s Hospital), an arrangement which would supply the incoming students with on-the-job medical training and clinical residencies.

“The history of FIU is a history of responding to the community’s needs,” said President

See MED SCHOOL, page 2

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.

By MARYANLY HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

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, where students can mainly buy coffee, smoothies and pre-packaged sandwiches. The Oasis is open until 4:30 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and until 2:30 p.m. on 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.

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.

Sparks said that the factors taken into consideration were the number of students on campus and the amount of revenue.

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
NATIONAL

Officials speculate Al-Qaida planning major attacks in advance of elections

Bush administration officials released a warning on July 8 of possible “large-scale” Al-Qaida terrorist attacks before the November presidential election that are intended to influence the outcome. According to a White House source, federal and state agencies are stepping up security efforts in response to the latest threat.

A senior administration official said there was evidence that Al-Qaida plans for an election-linked attack are under way or near completion. Osama bin Laden and other senior Al-Qaida leaders may be directing the attacks from their hideouts along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, the official said.

Some of the current concerns grew from investigations of recently arrested terror suspects in England, Jordan and Italy. Police recovered ingredients for explosives, such as ammonium nitrate fertilizer, chemical agents and caches of weapons, according to news reports.

Kerry chooses former opponent Edwards as running mate

Democrat Senator John Kerry announced his selection of North Carolina Senator John Edwards as his Presidential running mate on July 6 morning by lauding Edwards as a courageous “champion for America.”

To news reports.

He portrayed Edwards as a potent challenger to Vice President Dick Cheney and, in an e-mail to supporters, said he looked forward to the two men going “toe-to-toe.”


With Edwards, experts say that Kerry adds a Southern-fried charismatic face to his sometimes stiff Yankee demeanor and offers his background of Ivy League privilege with a political whose roots are planted in the working class.

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 work-force, 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.

“If 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 work-force 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.

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- Apartment for Rent All included. TV, Fast Internet. Private entrance. Parking $375.00 per month. Arc3 49th St. SW. 67th AVE. 5 min. from here. Call 305-553-3099.

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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 returning students.

Thus, students have been informed of missing documents or awards they are eligible for without having to wait days or weeks for the information to reach them through snail mail.

“Students can correspond with us quickly. The system has enabled us to look at the system and the verification process used for federal aid requires manual interaction,” 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 will take time for everyone to become comfortable with the PantherSoft system.

“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 is also responsible for the food court and the Oasis opening half an hour earlier than last summer’s starting time.

The commission to the university,” Sparks said.

“Those who are hungry here on campus for them [BBC food court] to stay open and make a profit,” Bucklin said.

Sparks explained that BBC is a retail facility, which offers only a declining balance meal plan. Without an all-you-can-eat facility offering a fixed cost, BBC is driven by profit.

Aramark-owned Fresh Food Company, which offers an all-you-can-eat system at University Park, closes at 2:00 p.m. The remaining options are Pollo Tropical, Subway and Java City, all Aramark franchises.

Edy’s, Smoothie Time and Barnes and Nobles Café also stay open.

After these places close, the student can opt for the Breezeway Café in University Towers, opened until 9 p.m. Mondays through Friday and until 7 p.m. on Saturdays.

Bucklin explained that even though there are summer camps each summer, food court employees are laid off because they work with a skeleton crew, the minimum amount of workers needed.

Despite the current problems, the hours of the Oasis have been considerably altered when compared to last summer, being that the place was not opened at all on Fridays.

Sparks also responsible for the food court and the Oasis opening half an hour earlier than last summer’s starting time.

ARAMARK, from page 1

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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 wieners 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 Gatieno, who has been manager of Dogma Grill since it opened a little more than a year ago.

From Chilidogs to my all-time favorite, sausage, or 100 percent veggie. The list continues:

**Live:**

I/O, 30 NE 14th St.

There’s no doubt that The Cure’s blissful summer BOREDOM Fight summer doldrums with inexpensive Miami outings

**Cheer up!**

Inexperienced people who have been manager of Dogma Grill since it opened a little more than a year ago.

**Evening:** The District, 35 NE 40 St.

Veterans of Poplife, an independent music and dance night, will remember the glory days of the old Piccadilly venue. The club is back as The District, the latest hot spot in Miami’s Design District.

On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, the restaurant becomes a late night lounge at 11 p.m. with DJ’s spinning music and bartenders dealing drinks.

If you pop in on Thursday nights, you can catch DJ’s spinning eclectic mixes of modern pop and rock.

The District is quickly becoming favored in the nightclub community.

**Food:** Smoothie Lounge 1689 107th Ave.

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

**Live:**

Rainer Maria & Engine Down

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.

**Cheese:**

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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.

Leading the charge is Michael Moore, with “Fahrenheit 9/11,” the anti-war, anti-George W. Bush film he says he made to affect the November presidential election. “Fahrenheit” earned $23.9 million to become the top-grossing documentary of all time, 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 will 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 Bush’s radar is filmmaker Mike Wilson’s “Che: The Life of Che Guevara.” 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.”

The AWFUL TRUTH: In just one weekend at the box office, Moore’s “Fahrenheit 9/11” became the top-grossing documentary of all time.

Dubminded: Moore’s documentary “Fahrenheit 9/11” disproves of decisions made by the George W. Bush administration. After being told “America is under attack” on the second plane hitting the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, George W. Bush continued to read “My Pet Goat” in a Florida classroom for the next seven minutes.

THE AFRO PUFFS: Moore, presumably, is delighted about all of this.

HEALTH NUTS: Ayinde Howell, a lifelong vegan, owns the vegan sandwich shop Hillside Quickies, in Seattle, Wash.

Hip-hop artists spread word on healthy diet styles

By LESLIE FULBRIGHT
The Seattle Times

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 Vegan Sandwich Shop, where the Howell family serves up Tempehstrami Subs and Maca Puddings. “I’ve eaten all the hip-hop, dance hall and reggae,” she told “America is under attack.”

“We get a lot of artists that come through here,” said Ayinde Howell, who’s 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 The 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.

“We has always been cook- ing food on 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 people who are not largely vegans,” 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.”

As the foreground is rap mogul and entrepreneur Russell Sim- mons, 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, radio a public 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 evi- denced 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 Genera- tion,” speaks to young people about diet and health. Created by filmmaker Supa Nova Sloan, the 110-minute documentary features appearances by artists Badu, rapper Koolgum and Soci- man from Dead Prez.

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

Such conversions are chang- ing the look of soul-food res- taurants 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 heav- ily 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.

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.
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 take care of the needs of Miami,” said Raul Moncarz, FIU’s BBC Vice Provost 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 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.

“Where 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 fund 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 Cuba getting caught up in the supplier, result of a boom in development, concrete and construction materials have become expensive items.

Continued on pg. 4

Custodian Blanca Gonzalez fights to free her son

By ILLEANA MORALES
Staff Writer

Freedom of speech – sometimes Americans forget it is a gift, when in places like Cuba, people only dream about it. Blanca González, an FIU custodian, knows this on a personal level. Her son, Nor- mando Hernández, is imprisoned in Cuba.

According to Cubanet, a Cuban website, Hernández and five other journalists wrote over a hundred articles. He wrote before being imprisoned was “[Si reclamo, me torturan]” (“If I speak, they torture me.”) He talked of ideas against it and removes the restrictions put in place.

Hernández was spending the money on and for his writing. The last article Hernandez wrote before being imprisoned was “Si reclamo, me torturan” (If I speak, they torture me.) “I think it’s up to the students who have the money and are supporting 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. Despite several calls the FCC was not available to comment.

“We were told of hearing that they were going to broadcast to more people when they never did,” Mintz said.

Continued on pg. 4

SGA cuts funding for FIU radio station

By SARA EATON
Senior Lariat Editor

“We are now listening to WRGP,” said Sean Rosen, a junior in the School of Communication. “I love the different programming and the music and news.”

WRGP can be heard in the morning and at 11:30 a.m. weekdays when listeners of the FIU radio station, called WRGP, can hear in the morning. “I want the campus to become a more modern facility.”

Partly because of these signal problems, the Student Government Association (SGA) has cut WRGP’s budget for 2004-2005.

“We couldn’t tell what the radio station 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 cut the radio’s budget from $123,000 to $98,000 because the FCC denied WRGP’s request for a transmitter, says Mintz. “It 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 radio, broadcast and television.”

“We from MIAMI...”

Continued on pg. 4

Funding for FIU radio station

By JESSICA NOEL
Staff Writer

“We couldn’t tell what the radio station 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 cut the radio’s budget from $123,000 to $98,000 because the FCC denied WRGP’s request for a translator, says Mintz. “It 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 radio, broadcast and television.”

“We from MIAMI...”

Continued on pg. 4

Custodian Blanca Gonzalez fights to free her son

By ILLEANA MORALE
Staff Writer

Freedom of speech – sometimes Americans forget it is a gift, when in places like Cuba, people only dream about it. Blanca González, an FIU custodian, knows this on a personal level. Her son, Nor- mando Hernández, is imprisoned in Cuba.

According to Cubanet, a Cuban website, Hernández and five other journalists wrote over a hundred articles. He wrote before being imprisoned was “[Si reclamo, me torturan]” (“If I speak, they torture me.”) He talked of ideas against it and removes the restrictions put in place.

Hernández was spending the money on and for his writing. The last article Hernandez wrote before being imprisoned was “Si reclamo, me torturan” (If I speak, they torture me.) “I think it’s up to the students who have the money and are supporting 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. Despite several calls the FCC was not available to comment.

“We were told of hearing that they were going to broadcast to more people when they never did,” Mintz said.

Continued on pg. 4

SGA cuts funding for FIU radio station

By SARA EATON
Senior Lariat Editor

“We are now listening to WRGP,” said Sean Rosen, a junior in the School of Communication. “I love the different programming and the music and news.”

WRGP can be heard in the morning and at 11:30 a.m. weekdays when listeners of the FIU radio station, called WRGP, can hear in the morning. “I want the campus to become a more modern facility.”

Partly because of these signal problems, the Student Government Association (SGA) has cut WRGP’s budget for 2004-2005.

“We couldn’t tell what the radio station 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.”

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Continued on pg. 4
Yasumicon karate chops back

By PAMELA CASTRO
Senior Layout Editor

Anything Goes Anime (AGA), a fortune-telling company, will hold a karate chop off its self-made anime characters and warm up for the day's events at last year's convention. COURTESY PHOTO

GO NARUTO GO: Cosplayers show off their self-made anime costumes and warm up for the day's events at last year's convention. COURTESY PHOTO

For more information:

Anything Goes Anime
Internet: http://www.fiu.edu/~aganime
Email: AGAnime@fiu.edu
Yasumicon's Yahoo! Group
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Yasumicon

Kovens Center hosts innovative church

By ELIZABETH PROCHET
Copy and Layout Editor

DAD: Bishop W. Duane Swilley
COURTESY PHOTO

It is a bit unusual to find a church discreetly nestled in a well-known campus building. What is even more unusual is to learn that the students who actually attend the university are unaware of the church's existence. And yet, A Place Called Hope (yes, a church), its driving focus is to reach the university with representation of many different nations. “Hope is a multicultural church with representation from many different nations,” Bishop W. Duane Swilley and his wife of 29 years, Pastor Deborah “Sunny” Swilley, packed up their three children, Joshua, who is now a youth pastor, Joan and Esther, and moved from Atlanta, Georgia to further his vision of a better Miami.

The church’s motto—“At A Place Called Hope we’re a… Family!”—its Bishop Swilley’s revelation. Swilley, also this reason, among others, that Bishop W. Duane Swilley and his wife of 29 years, Pastor Deborah “Sunny” Swilley, packed up their three children, Joshua, who is now a youth pastor, Joan and Esther, and moved from Atlanta, Georgia to further his vision of a better Miami.

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North Campus library upgrades technology

By JENNIF SKLAR
Photo Editor

“Imagine being able to go to a library, and do everything!” said Ms. Antonie Downs, library associate director, as she excitedly showed 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 together with 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 the community.

The new computers are equipped with a scanner, CD/DVD Drive, Zip Drive, and DVD Drive, along with soft-}

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Athletes endure off-season training

By CHRIS TALBOTT
Page Editor

Many students sleep in late, wake up late, 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. The only thing that some with some of FIU’s athletes.

“I’m in here [the training facility] four times a week, since I’m only taking 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 Deneen.

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 anguishes 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, conditioning speed.” 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 anguishes 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 Iris Gonzalez, health teacher and strength and conditioning coach.

Kids enjoy summer swim/sports camp

By BARRY KAMINSKY
Page Editor

“Kids enjoy summer swim/sports camp”

AND 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 from ages four and up have the opportunity to partake in activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, basketball and tennis as well as field games.

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 stroke. In addition, the counselors explain the basics of training for competitive swimming.

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 at the FIU All Day Swim/Sports camp.

Some of the activities of Kids enjoy summer swim/sports camp include:

- Swimming: Kids enjoy swimming in the pool and have an aerobics studio, a fitness center will be loaded with other 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. An aerobics studio is anticipated to be a “hit” because, in addition to aerobics, it will also host boxing.
- Fitness centers will also include new state of the art body machines, including the Body Master, a variety of treadmills and bicycles. Of course no fitness center is complete without weightlifting. 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 it helps the school educate 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 have shown that since the 1990’s the risk for developing these diseases is greater for African American women than whites and Hispanics. Men are more likely than women to be diagnosed with hypertension which is referred to as ‘the silent killer’.

Additional studies have shown that due to cardio-respiratory diseases and one of the ways to prevent those diseases is exercise.

The old fitness center will remain open while the new one is completed. It is located on the third floor in the Wolfe Center above the Food Court. It is very similar to the soon to be BBC fitness center, but not quite.

“The fitness center on the third floor is not going to be the ‘fit center,’” said a staff member for the recreation department.

“The new center is going to be bigger, more spacious and have an aerobics studio, which the other one doesn’t have.”

It is uncertain what will happen to the old fitness center once the new center is built. Until then, students can get their money’s worth, because tuition helps fund the fitness center.

Construction begins on the new center at the end of July. If everything goes well, the fitness center will be open as early as December.” Everyone is welcome to join in on the fun, though. Students are the only people who can use the BBC Center. Faculty and staff can also work out for just $35 a semester, and members in the community can also work out by purchasing a pass from the front desk.

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 take advantage of its benefits and develop a healthier lifestyle.

“I think it is a great idea to build a new fitness center,” said Steven Rubin, head coach of men and women’s track and field and cross country.

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.

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Page 8Spectrum2004
The Phi Gamma Deltas are the only fraternity on the FIU campus. 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. 

The 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 skills, giving back to the community, and educating young men of the power of responsi-bility. 

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

There are many mandatory qualifications to hold and ritual values to be learned before you can 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 approxi-mately three years ago for $2 million budget. There are 16 rooms, two boys per room, with one handicap room 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 becoming a brother. 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 have a 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.

The Spectrum is a high school student publication funded by the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Florida Inter-national University. The school will also be built on Biscayne Boule vard, just north 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 to our- selves and there is only one road connecting us.”

No plans for an additional road have been announced.

VISON OF THE FUTURE: Scale model of the marine biology facility after completion in 2004. FIU WEB SITE
OPINION

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
What do you think keeps many students from voting?

• I think most students do vote.
• Students often feel their vote doesn’t count, that’s why many aren’t even registered to vote.
• A lot of students don’t vote because they’re unaware of the issues and have “more important things to do” than find them out.
• They’re still trying to cure their weekend hangover.

Cast your vote at www.beaconnewspaper.com

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.

QUOTEABLES

“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 changes to the Bush Administration tax cuts should the Democrats win the upcoming election.

“No, it means stupid, dirty girl.” – Richard Riordan, former Republican mayor of Los Angeles, correcting a 9-year-old who volunteered the meaning of "I bet you they find Osama Laden is caught, everything will be swayed to believe this in September,” one of my roommates said.

“Let freedom reign!” – President George W. Bush, upon receiving notice of official reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 400 words.

PHREW [FIU] philanthropists

By Luis Nin

Phew! [FIU] philanthropists
They’ll probably say
Not only is it an interesting field, but I get to help people!

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 legalizing 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 young and/or student 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 a candidate who does not believe in God.

So what does this say about us? Well, for one we’re not apathetic. We realize how important it is to elect the government we want.

Two-thirds of us think we will have a hard time finding employment after graduating so we are acting for an administration that we can trust with our futures. These results make for a very realist youth.

Back to the conversation my friends were having. They did not sound very optimistic about Bush and the integrity of his administration.

“I bet you they find Osama in September,” chimed in another friend.

The problem, as they see it, is that Bush is making it seem like the terrorists are the source of all of our problems, and that once bin Laden is caught, everything will be perfect.

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.
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.

Former Golden Panther voted into All-Star team

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 homrers, 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.
**LADIES 2004 SOCCER**

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**EDWARDS**

Sunbelt Tournament at Miami, FL

Bold denotes home games

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**Get in shape with help from free campus fitness center**

By NATALIE SABIA  Staff Writer

Want to fit into a new bathing suit? Tired of paying over priced fees for local gyms? 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 use has already been paid for by tuition costs. Junior Emily Garcia uses the Fitness Center because “it’s convenient, it’s paid in 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 $4 a class, Ballet Dancing and Knockout for $2 a class, and BLT (Butt Legs and Thighs) and Awesome Abs classes are free.

Personal trainers are also offered for guidance while working out in order to ensure safety and provide guidance 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 Miami 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 their first term here at FIU, starting 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.