The Beacon, July 26, 2004

Florida International University

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Changes in places

FIU seeks to increase efficiency through several administrative and academic reorganizations

By ERIKA TAVERAS
Staff Writer

FIU is currently undergoing structural changes in its administration in addition to an academic reorganization, according to Mark Rosenberg, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

In a memorandum, the provost assured the FIU community that these alterations will result in overall benefits to the school. “These changes will improve our ability to achieve our vision as a top urban public research university,” he said.

However, the main concern surrounding all current and planned university changes is the decline of state economic support that might be associated with the school’s status as a top urban public research institution. Rosenberg states that “like the administration, the provost assured the FIU community that these alterations will result in overall benefits to the school.”

Despite these challenges, most of the planned changes will be implemented as planned. Several have already taken place, such as the merging of the College of Urban and Public Affairs with the College of Health and the creation of the Chapman Graduate School of Business. In addition, the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management has been joined to the College of Business Administration.

Any further options for possible reconstruction within the different university schools will be submitted by the Deans of each college to provost Rosenberg by Dec. 1, 2004.

Along with the academic mergings, FIU President Mejado announced several changes soon to be occurring within the administrative board itself.

Paul D. Gallagher, who has served as vice president for Business and Finance, has now been given a position as senior vice president and chief of staff for the president. Many of his duties will include dealing with governmental relations, athletics and real estate development. In addition, Gallagher will oversee the University Technology Services and the Office of the Inspector General.

Another position, that of university treasurer, was given to Alexander Zyne, an FIU alumnus who has also served as a vice president for the Business and Finance department. As the university’s treasurer, he will be responsible for the managing and investing of assets, along with the overseeing of any investments within the FIU foundation.

The new vice president for the administration was announced to be Marcos Perez, also an FIU alumnus. Areas included under his new administrative role will be those of Facilities Management and Planning, Physical Plants Operations, Business Services, Public Safety and, Environmental Health and Safety. In the past, Perez has served as chief of staff to the university president and as a member of the executive council. Despite the mass restructuring these shifts will bring to the school’s administrative and academic systems, Rosenberg states that they will eventually bring cohesion to the FIU community.

“I believe we can successfully address these challenges if we work smarter, focusing our energy on promoting greater collaboration and efficiency across the entire spectrum of our curricula and our research,” said Rosenberg.

Famished no longer: Biscayne Bay food court extends hours

By MARIANY HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

Who says speaking your mind won’t change things? The Beacon published in the July 12 issue a story (“Famished at FIU”) that explained how, to the dismay of many students, the Biscayne Bay Food Court extended its hours until 6:30 p.m. on weekdays.

“After reading the article, I made the decision to change the hours for summer session B,” Paul Sparks, the BBC food services director, announced. “We listened to the students’ voice in the paper.”

As of July 19, the food court’s Subway will open Mondays through Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays until 2:30 p.m. The Oasis will close at 2:30 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays. From July 12 through July 16, the Oasis extended its hours until 6:30 p.m. with the food court closing at 2:30 p.m. Sparks said the Oasis extension for that week served as a trial run to test the amount of possible clients received.

The hours will be reviewed weekly according to the traffic and profits, and adjustments will be made on an as-needed basis. “I would like to see the Oasis stay open until 6:30 p.m. and the food court close at the same time because we can still get the pre-packaged Subway sandwiches in the Oasis [where] they have more variety,” said Gaby Gonzalez, a major in communications.

Sparks said there is an open door policy for suggestions and encourages students to leave comments through the BBC website.

Students, faculty and staff can give feedback at www.fiubbcdining.com or in UP at www.pantherdining.com
On October 1, 2004, Professor Richard Vedder, an economics professor at Ohio University, released a book titled "Inefficent Spending at Colleges: Why Tuition is Too High and How It Can Be Stopped." Vedder argues that public and private universities are inefficiently run, with a bloated administrative bureaucracy, and that the cost of tuition is too high. He believes that the government should intervene to control these spending inefficiencies.

Vedder disputes the claims that the extra revenue is used to fund academic programs and instead insists that it is used to fund quality of life improvements, faculty pay raises, and a bloated administrative bureaucracy. According to Vedder's calculations, only 21% of tuition revenue is actually used to fund academic programs.

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9/11 Report examines lack of government preparations in face of terrorism

COMMISSION, from page 2

Bush administration officials said they’d consider the commission’s ideas for restructuring intelligence gathering—just did congressional leaders—but made no commitments.

Congressional leaders have said they doubt Congress would have time to work on the problem before the end of the year, largely because of the impending congressional and presidential elections.

“I don’t think it’s a matter of whether there will be intelligence reform,” said National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice. “I think it is a matter of precisely what will be done.”

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The 10-member commission, divided evenly between Republicans and Democrats, was appointed amid partisan bickering in late 2002 and began working in January 2003.

The White House feared initially that the commission would become a vehicle for political attacks during the presidential campaign, but Sept. 11 victims and family members pressured the administration to endorse the idea.

The commission’s work occasionally became grist for the partisan haggling and guerilla warfare that have come to characterize political life in Washington. But commission members mostly managed to remain above the fray, unanimously endorsing their investigation’s factual findings and recommendations.

The 567-page report constitutes what’s by far the most comprehensive account to date of the evolution of the terrorist threat, which operatives planned attacks from 1993 to the so-called millennium plot in January 2000, in which operatives planned attacks in Los Angeles and Jordan, the commission said terrorists affiliated with Osama bin Laden made known their intention to cause harm.

Yet the government’s reaction was tepid, the panel said.

It said that as late as 1997, bin Laden was viewed primarily as a financier of terrorism, not the leader of a terrorist group who plotted operations and was able to deploy well-trained, well-financed operatives.

Intelligence officials began receiving a flood of information in the summer of 2001 suggesting an attack was imminent, but lacked specifics. Former CIA director George Tenet told the commission the intelligence system was “bloated red” then, but that most of the information was pointing toward an attack overseas.

Had intelligence agencies not been so compartmentalized, the panel said, more progress might have been made.

The commission faulted the FBI for failing to understand the significance of the arrest of al-Qaeda member Zacarias Moussaoui on immigration violations after he’d sought instruction at a Minnesota flight school.

It said diplomatic efforts by the Bush and Clinton administrations failed to dislodge bin Laden from his Afghan redoubt.

“Both Presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush and their top advisers told us they got the picture—they understood bin Laden was a danger,” the commission said. “But given the character and pace of their policy efforts, we do not believe they fully understood just how many people al-Qaida might kill.”

“This report carries a very simple message for all of America about the security of all Americans. We can do better—and there is an urgency to our doing better.”

John Kerry
Democratic Presidential Candidate
Block tuition undermines education opportunities

By SUE ARROWSMITH Guest Columnist

The box of Cheerios I was carefully balancing on my lap tipped over as I braked to avoid rear-ending a white van that cut in front of me on I-95. I had to close my eyes and take a deep breath to steady myself. The bits of cereal scattered under my feet was lunch. I had no idea when I chose journalism as my major that the school was located at the Biscayne Bay Campus, considerably far from my home in Kendall.

Sitting long hours in dense traffic, adjusting work schedules to make it to class on time, skipping lunch or dinner, those are things I’ve become accustomed to.

After all, I’m just one of the many trying to juggle life and a college education, all the while keeping in mind how narrow the job market has become.

Still, I always believed the hard work would eventually pay off. Then, very recently, something happened that stifled my determination.

I read an article in the Miami Herald about drastic changes proposed for Florida universities’ tuition. In light of an audit performed by the state’s Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, it was determined that too much money – $62 million to be exact – was going toward the education of students who don’t graduate in the expected four years.

The auditors concluded too many students were retaking failed classes and experimenting with different majors, suggesting the majority of students are leisurely taking their time to graduate. FIU was mentioned as one of the highest to have the “luxury” of spending more than 12 credits because they need to work. “Block tuition” would penalize those students who have been attending full-time.

For many, 12 credits is already a heavy load, more credits might lower the size and open the program.

An important truth, one not mentioned by the auditors, is that the average college student is not 18 and living at home. We aren’t talking about Ivy League schools nestled on piles of “donations” from wealthy parents, flanked by pristine, upper-class neighborhoods. Public universities, like FIU, are composed of working-class individuals.

Sen. Ken Pruitt, a chairman for the Senate Appropriations Committee, commented, “We don’t have the luxury of having a student stay there for six years.” I agree. Most students at FIU don’t have the “luxury” of going to school for six or more years, it’s a sacrifice, and many times a struggle as they work to sustain themselves and their families simultaneously.

As I exited the interstate, I wondered if I would make it to graduation. It seems every semester, more hurdles accumulate along the path to success. On my way, I sped past high school kids walking home from North Miami Senior High.

Would “block tuition” increase the number of high-school drop-outs if the idea of a college education became frighteningly unreachable? Would it affect the unemployment rate? The future suddenly seemed like the summer sky above, bleak and uncertain.
Chuck Close artwork highlights MAM

By JOHN LOVELL
Managing Editor

Staring down at you from the tall walls of the Miami Art Museum are the behemoth-sized prints of Abramovic's printmaking artist Chuck Close.

Only until you stand numb, face to face with Close's image—a big, bald head with two ominous eyes staring out behind spectacles and thick, dark facial hair—do you finally understand why the assortment of dots, shapes and colors that often describe his art have challenged the way we view printmaking.

Close has practically reinvented his medium. When some of his pieces take up entire walls and consist of several exposures of the same photo. However, the intricate nature of his work makes up for this. If you take the time to get to know the abstract and sometimes awkward imagery, Close's work will reveal its treasures.

According to a survey by MonsterTrak, an online job board for students, 35 percent of 2003 graduates are still looking for a job of any kind, and only 10 percent of 2004 graduates had lined up a job before graduation, said Michelle Forer, senior vice president of Monster Campus, which like MonsterTrak, is part of Monster Worldwide.

If the class of 2004 continues that record, Moleta will have company in limbo.

Tyrone Favis Jr., a UCF graduate with a degree in business management, might have to stick it out in the Waterford Lakes Town Center Super Target job he held during college to make rent. The 22-year-old Orlando resident works in the guest services department. When he isn’t working, he searches job listings for a management trainee position and attends UCF employment sessions.

“I remember thinking at graduation, ‘There are all these kids in their caps and gowns, and this is my competition,’” Favis said. “I would love entry-level right now.”

Moleta has received offers for entry-level positions in her field but most have been non-salaried positions with no benefits at less
Kansas City, Mo. — White bread, a mainstay of the American diet since at least the 1930s, is under attack.

The Department of Agriculture is considering a recommendation that consumers drastically cut their consumption of fortified grains, which are used to enrich white bread, to 11 servings daily of bread, cereal, rice and pasta.

This would cut back on enriched grains offered by the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, which is part of the Agriculture Department's process of revising the food pyramid.

The pyramid came into being in 1992. As it now stands, the base of the food pyramid calls for 6 to 11 servings daily of bread, cereal, rice and pasta.

The next widest part of the pyramid is divided equally between whole-grain foods and plant oils, including olive, canola and peanut oils with recommendations that they be consumed at most meals.

The next level is comprised of nuts and legumes with a recommended one to three servings a week.

The next level up has dairy or calcium supplement (multivitamins for most people) and its recommended levels range from one to two servings.

The next level is comprised of vegetables, which are recommended “in abundance,” while the suggested number of daily servings of fruits range from one to two servings.

The next widest part of the pyramid is fairly simplistic, the one fromillet and Stampler is more complex, comprised of 11 elements, compared with six recommended by the Agriculture Department.

The health benefits of cutting back on enriched grains comes from the Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, which is part of the Agriculture Department’s process of revising the food pyramid.

The recommendation being banded about calls for men to cut back on enriched grains by 51 percent and adult women to cut back by 56 percent.

“It’s an issue of balance,” said Hentges, who stressed that his department has not put forth any formal recommendations.

However, two professors at the Harvard School of Public Health, Walter Willett and Meir Stampfer, in 2002 came up with what they say is a healthier pyramid.

In the prototype, the base of the pyramid is daily exercise and weight control. And while the Agriculture Department’s pyramid is fairly simplistic, the one fromill and Stampler is more complex, comprised of 11 elements, compared with six recommended by the Agriculture Department.

“The Harvard pyramid is divided equally between whole-grain foods and plant oils, including olive, canola and peanut oils with recommendations that they be consumed at most meals.

Next comes vegetables, which are recommended “in abundance,” while the suggested number of daily servings of fruits range from one to two servings.

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Graduates discover diploma, experience offered in diploma

GRADS, from page 5
than what she makes in retail.
She lowered her salary requirements to $25,000, down from $30,000, a year. She no longer expects an employer to cover moving costs, though her employer, 1993 Geo Storm probably couldn’t make the trip anyway.

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Berry speaks out on athletes and steroid controversy

ON THE JOB: Berry reports on the current season of the World Series Champion Florida Marlins. Giovani Benitez/The Beacon

Almost all of us were Colombian, which created a better chemistry," said Cano.

ON THE JOB: Berry reports on the current season of the World Series Champion Florida Marlins. Giovani Benitez/The Beacon

Cano from page 8

Colombia at school when she was 9, and then joined Bogota’s Junior League. When she came to Florida at 14, she played for Miami Coral Park during her four years of high school. By her sophomore year, she was playing on the varsity team.

Upon graduation, she was offered a scholarship at Lake Sumter Community College, where she made the all-freshman team for the National Junior College Athletic Association.

As a sophomore, she transferred to Miami-Dade Community College on a full scholarship, where one of her most glorious moments playing the game was created. As part of the Lady Sharks, Cano stated a state championship and went on to win third place at nationals with the Sharks.

“We had an awesome team; all the girls were very talented and had a lot of experience.

Colombia to battle for starting spot

Cano will make her season debut on Sept. 1 when the Golden Panthers take on cross-town rival Miami Hurricanes at the Golden Panther Arena. Mello

The inaugural season drew an average of 7,765 to the stands of FIU Stadium, with the largest crowd of 17,314 coming for the home opener against St. Peter’s. The home crowd failed to break 10,000 for the rest of the year and attendance dropped as the season progressed. In 2003, the stadium was equipped to sit 12,763 while plans for a seating capacity of 30,000 are still in the works.

“The school will work hard to put fans to the stands,” said Athletic Director Rick McClaugherty.

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FOOTBALL, from page 8

“Hey, whats wrong with you? I know you can do it,” yelled McCall to his teammate. McCall was a senior defensive tackle for the Golden Panthers, and his teammates were just as frustrated as he was.

“We never thought it would be this bad,” he said. “But we knew we had to stick together and continue to work hard.”

McCall was one of the few players who remained on the field despite the unraveling around him.

“I’m just trying to keep my team focused,” he said. “We have to be mentally tough until the end.”

McCall was a silent leader on the field, never letting his emotions get the best of him. He was a vocal leader off the field, always encouraging his teammates to believe in themselves.

“I knew we could win this game,” he said. “We just had to execute our game plan and trust each other.”

McCall was a true leader for the Golden Panthers, and his determination never wavered. He showed his teammates that anything is possible with hard work and dedication.

“McCall is a great teammate,” said teammate Andrew Rodriguez. “He always motivates us to do our best.”

McCall’s leadership was essential for the Golden Panthers to make a comeback in the second half. He led by example, never giving up on the game no matter what.

“I’m proud of my teammates,” he said. “We didn’t give up even when the odds were against us.”

McCall’s determination and leadership were a true inspiration for the Golden Panthers. He showed them that anything is possible with hard work and dedication.

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CBS anchor analyzes athletics, FIU football

Jim Berry: ‘The age of the dumb jock is over’

By GIOVANI BENITEZ
Contributing Writer

He says it all began with his love for sports, but while Jim Berry is no professional athlete, he’s clearly an athletic superstar ... on television.

Berry is sports director at WFOR-CBS4, a position he’s held for eight years. In that time, he’s been able to interview big names in sports and even host his own local sports show every Sunday night.

His late-night weekly show, “Jim Berry’s Sports Wrap,” often beats its competitors in the same time slot, according to ratings reports by Nielsen Media Research.

In a one-on-one interview with Berry last week, The Beacon asked wide-ranging questions from FIU football to steroid use among college athletes. Berry was quick to respond to every question and made an effort to talk about his beliefs on the relationship between education and sports.

Q: The FIU football team has been around for three years and was just upgraded to Division I-A. Does it surprise you that it’s only been three years and they were able to get to that division?

A: I’m led to believe that was the plan all along. You never know how quickly things are going to happen, and in a market where, frankly, we’re saturated by college football and dominated by the University of Miami, it is a bit of a surprise that FIU Football has caught on. I’m glad to see it. It certainly was a bold step by the university to go for it.

The same can be said for FAU up in Boca Raton, led by Howard Schnellenberger. At FIU, Don Strock has done a great job. I guess it just goes to show you that there is so much football talent here that there is enough left over after the big three (Miami, Florida and Florida State) get their pick of the litter, to still fill quality programs at other schools.

Being quick to recognize this divi-
sion, as a team, what do you think they need to focus on the most?

From a football point of view, obviously, they just need to focus on developing quality players. That’s probably going to be the challenge. I wouldn’t expect that their starting unit is probably pretty competitive, but I would think that depth would be a big issue.

So, for a program like FIU, I think the big issue is getting more good football players so that you can build a good foot-
ball program.

Then, the second part of that, obviously, is how you market it, how you sell it, how you get the community excited about

FIU football. That’s not easy because FIU is not a traditional school where you have alumni that’s devoted to coming back to it. That, I would think, would be a real big challenge to get the people that went to FIU interested in what the team is doing.

Q: With all your years as a sports journalist, you’ve seen all these different athletes as

they’ve gone through time, gone to other teams, and you’ve also seen the young ones, like Dwayne Wade. What would you say to a college stu-
dent or even a teenager that says, “I want to be the next Shaquille O’Neal. I want to be the next superstar athlete?”

A: A couple of things. See BERRY, page 7

Transfer eager to play for Coach Stevens

By VILMARIE ESTRELLA
Contributing Writer

At the tender age of 7, she’d watch the older high school girls do it. At 9, she gave it a try herself for the first time. And now, at the age of 20, she’s got many years of experience under her belt and is no longer much of a rookie.

At playing volleyball, that is.

Junior Carolina Cano, the newest addition to the Golden Panthers’ women’s volleyball team, is out to prove herself to her team, FIU sports aficionados and Florida State) get their pick of the litter, to still fill quality programs at other schools.

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Junior Carolina Cano, the newest addition to the Golden Panthers’ women’s volleyball team, is out to prove herself to her team, FIU sports aficionados and her coach and long-time friend, Cookie Stevens. For Cano, a recreational therapy major, it’s a privilege to play on Stevens’ team.

“I love the way she coaches. She’s strict and demanding and I’ve always wanted to be coached by her,” said Cano.

The two first met when Cano played for the South Florida Volleyball Club, where Stevens was the head coach and Cano was a setter. The way Stevens ran the practices was very well done and challenging, said Cano. And now that a handful of the girls on FIU’s team have graduated, spots have opened up and Cano received a full scholarship to play with the golden panthers.

Despite Cano’s rookie status, Stevens knows what to expect from the junior transfer.

“I have known her since she was a sophomore where I coached and trained her for a club team. I know what kind of work ethic and commitment she has,” said Coach Stevens.

Joining the Golden Panthers signified a change of role for Cano. Due to the overpowering height of most Division I players, at 5 feet 4 inches, Cano will have to switch positions. She will no longer play setter, a position she has played all her life. Cano will reccede to the back to take liberal defense.

“The change in position won’t change my love for the game,” said Cano of the switch. “I don’t think it will be hard to adjust to the new position. I just need to get my mind set on it. I’ve always liked playing defense.”

Stevens expects a smooth transition from Cano in switching to a defensive mind set. See CANO, page 7

Planning ahead: Football team hoping to reach 15,000 requirement

By ANDRES CORDERO
Staff Writer

The young Golden Panther football program, entering its third season of intercollegiate play, is growing up. The evolution from cub to alpha male begins as the team starts its 2-year transition into Division I-A football this coming fall.

In order to achieve the goal of becoming a full-fledged I-A program in the Sunbelt Conference by 2006, FIU will have to comply with certain requirements of the NCAA. The guidelines require that all Division I-A schools offer a minimum of 200 athletic scholarships (85 are for football), field 16 collegiate sports, include at least 5 I-A teams in the regular season schedule and average 15,000 in home game attendance.

The first three requirements are within the school’s power and budget, however, the 15,000 average attendance is not entirely under the program’s control.