Donations keep solar-powered construction house on track

By C. JOEL MARINO
Senior Staff Writer

Circling the once-busy Parking Lot 14 at University Park Houseing Quadr, the chain-link fence set up by the Turner Construction Company on Feb. 28 signaled the first building phase of a new 250,000 square foot residence hall tentatively known as Lakeview Housing.

“I went to visit a friend at Panther Hall the other day, and I was surprised to see all the cars gone from the parking lot,” said junior Mike Del Rey, a student living in the UP Apartments. “[Friends] told me what it was for, but I didn’t even know they were going to build more [residence halls].”

According to James Wassenaar, the Director of Student Affairs, Auxiliaries, and Operations, the construction of Lakeview has been in the planning phase for the past two years.

“Money is the main issue, and the project is cumbersome, but we are enthusiastic about this project,” said Strange. FIU will compete against high-ranking universities including the University of Michigan, Virginia Tech and Cornell University.

“I went to see what has been built so far in January and we stand strong. I believe that FIU will easily finish in the top three,” said architecture student Josh Freese, who has been with this project from the beginning.

According to the faculty advisor for Construction Management, Professor Ronald Baier, the chance to compete on a national stage will be important for FIU.

“This is a great opportunity for FIU to be recognized on a national level. It is important for students to participate with each other.”

“This is a great opportunity for FIU to be recognized on a national level,” said Baier. “It is important for students to participate with each other. Through this project, they are learning real life lessons through discipline. [The project] demonstrates the viable use of solar energy.”

In addition to the construction cost, the solar-powered house must also be transported to Washington, D.C.

According to Diane Marshall, the group task leader, the team has designed a modular home which will be built at FIU, taken apart, loaded onto a truck and reassembled again in Washington.

Once in Washington, the team members will participate in a three-week-long demonstration at the National Mall where judges from all over the United States will evaluate every one of the 18 competitors expected to attend this competition.

Judging is set to take place Oct. 7-15. The winner will be announced in the middle of the day on Oct. 15.

The solar-powered home must be able to maintain all the comforts of a regular electrically-powered home including temperature control, computers and a washing machine. Not only is the team be judged on efficiency, but it will also be judged on architecture and design.

“The students who participate in the Solar Decathlon walk away with real-world project experience. They gain leadership, human resources, budgeting and research skills. Perhaps even more importantly, they learn about the environment and that they can make a difference – a positive difference,” said Marshall.

“This is the coolest project we’ve ever done. We are competing against old universities who have been open for a 100 years and can get sponsorship easily. We want to prove that just because we aren’t endowed with a lot of money, we can still compete. We are competing against old universities who have been open for a 100 years and can get sponsorship easily. We want to prove that just because we aren’t endowed with a lot of money, we can still compete.”

Though money is the primary concern, Strange feels that FIU can win this competition because of the house’s all-glass architecture. She feels it represents Florida’s creative and imaginative ideas.

“The most crucial part of this project is to raise money. We need the funds for our supplies. Without the money we don’t have the resources we need to compete with other universities who easily attain funds,” Strange said. According to Strange, there is a proposal pending in which the U.S. DOE will contribute $40,000 toward the project. In return, FIU will leave the solar-powered home in Washington for exhibit all year long.
**Housing plans create stir at UP**

A student reported that on Feb. 17, upon returning from class, the front right passenger window of her silver, four-door, 2004 Malibu Chevrolet parked in Lot Two the University Park campus was shattered with an unknown tool. Her vehicle was removed along with her personal property includ- ing a pink purse, credit cards, driver’s license and FIU identification. The missing property valued at $15,250. The vehicle’s license plate is QG11GP and VIN#1G1ZU64804F208289. No suspect(s) have been identified.

**FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 18**

On Feb. 18, after returning to the benches from playing basketball at the courts near Lot 11 at the UP campus, a student reported that his silver/blue Motorolla cellular phone—serial number 35754000023691—was stolen. No suspect(s) have been identified.

**TUESDAY • FEBRUARY 22**

On Feb. 22, upon returning to her table after making the line to get food at the UP Graham Center Food Court, a student noticed that her dorm room key had been stolen from her book bag. No suspects were identified. A surety industry arranged to have the locks changed on her dorm room. A student reported his black and red Yamaha motorcycle stolen from Parking Garage Four at UP. The estimated value of the motor- cycle $12,000; its license plate is 4055A with the VIN#1G1ZU64804F208289. No suspect(s) have been identified.

On Feb. 22, a student reported reported that the right rear window of the company’s silver/beige Motorolla cellular phone—serial number 35754000023691—was stolen. No suspect(s) have been identified.

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**POLICEBEAT**

**THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 17**

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Professor Christopher Brown, director for the Department of Marine Biology, is a man who likes his language dirty, his beer microbrewed and his science aquatic.

I became a scientist because of an aquarium hobby I never quite got under control,” said Brown.

Directly in front of his desk is a bookshelf, which is blanketed in dust and brimming with books covering all sorts of novelty subjects. One of the books is a filthy word dictionary for the French language, appropriately titled “Merde.”

“You never patent any of this stuff,” he said. “So I ordered a local brew, and they brought one out for me. That’s nine years old.”

The bust now resides on a shelf in his office, below a framed photograph of Brown’s favorite political icon, Dan Quayle. “I find humor in even the direst of situations,” he said.

Last November, he wrapped his car around a tree. The accident left him breathing through a respirator, battling pneumonia and with several broken bones.

“Hitting a tree is not advisable,” he said sarcastically. “The tree is still standing, the car is not.”

Despite the severity of his injuries, he recovered in a matter of months, and is continuing to develop the marine biology program at FIU.

The program’s inception came in Oct. of 2001, and the enrollment at that time totaled two.

“The first year was a bit slow,” he said. “But at last count, we have 49 Marine Biology majors and three full-time staff members, including myself.”

Adding to the program’s recent growth is the construction of FIU’s Marine Biology building off the Oleta River at the Biscayne Bay Campus.

Groundwork began in April of last year, with Public Education Capital Outlay footing $1 million of the $13 million cost of the complex.

The building is expected to open in August.

“If I’m not mistaken,” Brown said, “this is the only time something has been ahead of schedule here at FIU. I’m quite sure it’ll be the most beautiful building on campus.”

Among schools with marine biology programs, the University of Miami is widely regarded by those in the field as having the best in the nation. Still, that doesn’t deter Brown.

“When I first went to Hawaii, it was the University of Hawaii in Honolulu for a few years, and I picked up a thing or two from the locals.”

At the University of Hawaii, Brown proposed a meeting on ornamental reef fish that ultimately landed him a job writing a book on the subject.

“Editing the book took me a whole summer, but it was worth it,” he said.

His book is one of the few in the field of ornamental reef fish that deals with their scientific needs.

Aside from Hawaii, Brown has also taught at UC-Berkeley, and has spent a great deal of time in the Philippines, where he worked on a seven-year project that involved the growth hormones of fish inhabiting local ponds.

By targeting a specific hormone, IGF-1, scientists can now measure the growth of a fish more economically, accurately and efficiently than before.

“We’ve set up a kind of short circuit in the experimental process of determining what fish need in order to grow,” Brown said excitedly.

The new process costs a fraction of one percent of what the old methods did and shaves off months what the old methods did.

“When I had my car accident, it was Jackson Memorial Critical Care Center that saved my okole,” he said.

“Let me put it this way,” he said. “[UM] has some cause for concern.”

Despite the possible fictioning of having two top-tier programs in the same city, Brown does not hold any grudges against his potential rival.

“When I first went to Hawaii, it was the Jackson Memorial Critical Care Center that saved my okole,” he said.

“It’s Hawaiian. It’s a more vulgar term for backside. I resided at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu for a few years, and I picked up a thing or two from the locals.”

In the early 90s, Hussein ordered millions of drums of oil to be dumped into the Gulf and set ablaze.

“What do we very simply is analyze larval fish,” he said. “We get samples, identify them and send the data back to [the Kuwaiti government].”

In his free time, Brown enjoys traveling and undoubtedly learning dirty words from the locals. Recently, he went to China with his daughter.

“I teach a microbrewery course also,” he said. “So I ordered a local brew, and they brought one out for my daughter. She’s nine years old.”

In White China, he bought a bust of the communist revolutionary Mao Zedong.

“This week at BBC

Professor recovers from car accident, awaits new marine biology building

BIG FISH: Professor and Marine Biology Director Christopher Brown holds a large fish during one of his trips around the world. Brown, who has been with the program since 2001, has written a book and has spent time doing research related to growth hormones of fish inhabiting local ponds.

By IVAN BLANCO Contributing Writer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Government Council Elections are taking place April 5 and 6 from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Enrollment Center (AC1-100). Applications are available now in WUC 141 and the deadline to turn in applications is March 11. The following positions are available:

• President
• Vice president
• Arts and Science rep.
• Business Administration rep.
• Health and Urban Affairs rep.
• Hospitality and Management rep.
• Journalism and Mass Communications rep.
• Nursing rep.
• Broward rep.
• Housing rep.
• Two positions for graduate student rep.
• Two positions for lower division rep.
• Three positions for rep. at large.
Response to John Lovell's piece, "Don’t mess with the DJ."

This is not a personal attack on your PR piece. It will make you happier if you understand the concept of what your hobby/profession entails: your audience's satisfaction. You work in a service industry. You are supposed to cater to the requests of your public. How dare you criticize the very same people who put food on your plate? "I hate it when I have to turn down requests. I know that I will never need to. My family 30 miles north. I am the person you have in calling myself a Brito. I respect that Cubans are loud, late, ostentatious and proud."

By KRYSTAN MORENO
Contributing Writer

Response to Danny Muela's piece, "The Boy Without a Race."

What exactly constitutes being "Cuban?" Do you have to love patria- to and Cuban Coffee? Do you have to be able to dance salsa? Do you even want to speak Spanish? So many people define race as that little box that you check off when you are filling out forms. You mark off black, white or Hispanic, and you think that’s it. You’ve put a stereotype in your head that Cubans are loud, late, ostentatious and proud.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am proud to be Cuban American no matter what. For me, it’s not about that island 90 miles south of Key West, but my family 50 miles north. I am the person you have in mind. I don’t apply to everyone. I myself grew up in Broward County, so I wasn’t exposed to as much of what you would consider "Cuban culture" here in South Florida. My Spanish is atrocious, and I take salsa classes because all of those spins and turns confuse me. But I do have a Cuban flag hanging from my car, and I happened to love Pitbull when he was "underground."

Shandi Brito
Freshman
Undecided Major

OPINION

Alejandra Diaz Editor in Chief • John Lovell Managing Editor • Leonicio Alvarez Opinion Editor

forces at work that allow these flawed philosophies to remain in effect. There are countless music videos with scantily clad women projecting these images of "party girls" into our homes and our minds. These images are a sharp contrast from those of the pure, innocent bride, walking down the aisle of a fairy tale wedding, which many have been bombarded into their subconscious from a very young age.

The truth is, we laud the party girl at a party, but once the party is over, many of the same people who were singing praises now pass judgments. It’s a pimp and "ho" philosophy. Perfect examples of this are artists 50 Cent, with his song "I am a P.I.M.P." and Ludacris with "You’re a Ho." The irony is that a generation ago, we were taught to remain a virgin until marriage, while society seems to place unfair pressure on women when sex is the topic. I am not a feminist, but I do believe in equal- ity. Why should a woman be expected to remain a virgin until marriage, while we as a society egg her on to "shake it," "get loose" and let the good times roll? I believe that sex is something we all partake in, so why should someone’s gender determine if something like sex is good or bad?

This widely accepted attitude is archaic. It creates a double standard, and frankly speaking, I don’t need two standards. One is just fine.

The sexual revolution of the 1960s was supposed to bring change. There have been great advances in the educa- tion, pay and rights of women, to the point where women are almost on par with their male counterparts. Parity in social and sexual acceptance however still seems unimaginable. We must learn to accept each other unconditionally, or we will continue to walk toward equality with our shoelaces tied together.

Some men partake in sexual pro-miscuity, but when a woman does the same thing, it’s looked at in a negative light. Men attain social admiration and respect because of their “success” with women. However, snide remarks are made about women who are believed to be "loose." I can clearly remember conversations with several men on this topic. Some have even gone so far as to say, “I will only marry a virgin.” I can promise you have even gone so far as to say, “I will be "loose.""

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Treaty to decrease world-wide air pollution not signed by United States

By GERMAN SILVERIO
Contributing Writer

It has taken almost eight years for the Kyoto Protocol, a multilateral treaty requiring industrialized nations to reduce their greenhouse emissions, to come into force in 2005. The Greenhouse effect, emissions, or gases, trap energy from the sun inside the Earth’s atmosphere, to ensure the planet has a certain amount of heat. The problem seems to be that too many gases are being made, primarily chlorofluorocarbons, (CFCs), which are making the planet too hot. CFCs, which the Kyoto Protocol specifically targets, are gases used in aerosols, refrigerator coolants and air conditioners and are strong contributors to the greenhouse effect. With this in mind, the Kyoto Protocol came into being, to limit and reduce worldwide emissions of greenhouse gases to an average 5.2 percent below their 1990 levels by 2012.

Initially, most of the major industrialized countries were supposed to participate, but in 2001, the United States pulled out of the protocol. Supposedly, for the protocol to serve any effective purpose, at least 50 percent of all worldwide emissions had to be targeted for reduction, a fact which American participation ensured.

Eventually, in 2004, Russia ratified the treaty. Almost 55 percent of all greenhouse emissions are now targeted for reduction, and today, only two major industrialized countries – the United States and Australia – have opted not to be part of this treaty.

One’s first impression of this would be to condemn Australia and the United States for not participating in an environmental campaign of such magnitude. In fact, the United States is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases, with approximately 35 percent of worldwide emissions. But, as was noted by the American government before withdrawing from the treaty, adhering to the Kyoto Protocol would cause serious consequences in an already weakened American economy, resulting in a less competitive economy in international markets.

American companies would have to work under certain environmental guidelines which would hinder their production capacity.

Also, the Kyoto Protocol explicitly exempts some developing countries such as China and India from decreasing their greenhouse emissions, something that President Bush and his cabinet do not see as an encouraging development.

Economists have generally agreed that even though the protocol will not help the American economy in the short run, in the long run, the protocol could actually benefit the American economy.

Here’s an example from the top of my head: While today it may cost an American company $3 million to invest in more environmentally friendly technology, it may cost that same company $15 million, 20 years from now, to restructure its production means in accordance with more environmentally friendly practices. Thus that company would $12 million in environmentally friendly technology, in which sooner or later it will have to invest.

Something else that ought to be taken into account is that the Australian and American governments have opted to stay out of the Kyoto Protocol citing over their concern of the validity of effects greenhouse emissions. Not all scientists believe global warming is the direct result of an increase in greenhouse gases.

According to the British Broadcasting Channel, this is because global climate change isn’t a recent phenomenon, and it is natural for the Earth’s climate to undergo cycles of ice ages and warm periods.

Also, recent theories which suggest that the sun could play a larger role than greenhouse gases in global warming have discounted a bit of the protocol’s effectiveness.

So, the gravity of greenhouse emissions is of a dubious nature, and is one time dismissed as irrelevant.

To be fair, with an already tarnished image and with President Bush necessitating all the political capital he can muster, his popular standing with the American people would be greatly damaged should he decide to keep the United States in the protocol.

All those who condemn him for not supporting the Kyoto Protocol would be equally ferocious in criticizing him for an even more weakened American economy. It’s a tough position.

Kendra Okonski for the International Policy Network best summarized president Bush’s understanding of the treaty: “Kyoto is a very bad investment, because it is very costly today and only brings benefits far in the future.”

OPINION www.beaconnewspaper.com

WINNER & LOSER

WINNER
Lost toddler: A little boy went missing last week in Dora, Alabama and was found by his neighbor’s three-legged dog not too long afterward. Who would have known that a three-legged dog could serve any kind of purpose?

LOSER
Crazy chimps: A pair of chimpanzees recently escaped from a zoo in Caliente, California and attacked several zoo employees. One of the chimps was shot to death by Hollywood producers are now looking into the incident for use in the next “Planet of the Apes” film.

QUOTEABLES

“The girls call me the MOD, which is My Other Dad.”  — Ashton Kutcher, actor, on what girlfriend Demi Moore’s children have nicknamed him.

“Next year they’re going to give out the Oscars in the parking lot.” — Chris Rock, host of this year’s Academy Awards, on how much the Academy shortened the allowed length of acceptance speeches this year to save time.

“It was just what my career needed — I was at the top and now I’m at the bottom.” — Halle Berry, actress, on accepting the Golden Raspberry Award for “Worst Actress” for her film, “Catwoman.”

“I was taken aback at the addition of a scene requiring me to expose my penis to the young Queen Elizabeth.” — Russell Crowe, actor, on a scene addition to his most recent film, “Eulipcytus.”

“Seventy-five thousand queens get stuffed into a big room with a camera, and they have to prove themselves, which kind of sounds like a gay club on Saturday night. But in this instance it was the casting of Queen Eye.” — Danny Teeson, lifestyle expert, on how auditions were for his show, “Queen Eye for the Straight Guy.”

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Letters to the Editor must be dropped off in GC 210 at the University Park campus or WUC 124 at the Biscayne Bay Campus or sent to beacon@fiu.edu. Letters must include the writer’s full name, year in school, major/department and a valid phone number for verification purposes. If brought in to an office, a legitimate ID may be accepted instead of a phone number. The Beacon reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and/or spacing constraints. Letters must adhere to a maximum of 400 words.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If a woman was on the next presidential ballot, would you vote for her?

• Yes. It’s time America undergoes some kind of change.
• Depends on her qualifications. Not anyone can be president.
• I would vote for anyone. As long as another Bush doesn’t get into office.
• I definitely would not vote for a woman. The president’s job can only be done by a man.
• I’m still going to vote for Nader.

Cast your vote at www.beaconnewspaper.com
DAYTONA BEACH, THE PERFECT SPRING BREAK GET-AWAY FOR STUDENTS WITH SMALL BUDGETS

By MATT SANTIAGO
Staff Writer

Spring break is the time to relax and hang out with friends, but most of all a time to party. Of the many places to visit, Daytona Beach probably offers the most to see and do. Floridians want more than just beaches though, so when the break rolls around, something other than just Miami Beach never hurts.

Daytona Beach, located about an hour south of Jacksonville, is a four-hour drive on I-95. The local shops have everything anyone needs for the beach and surfing. The famous Ron Jon’s Surf Shop is located about an hour south of Daytona Beach in Cocoa Beach. For surfers, this place is your mecca … everyone who can get to Daytona by March 18 and 19, Tuner Bash is in session and is definitely where the action is.

One of the nicest things about Daytona Beach is its size. The center of action is located along a single major street, and just about everything from clubs and bars to shops and theaters, is walking distance from most of the major hotels.

“Daytona Beach is the perfect spring break destination. If you have a high car or SUV, cruising down the beach with the windows down and a car full of friends will be something to remember. This also makes choosing a spot and changing spots on the beach much easier,” said sophomore Eytan Benichay.

The shops are similar to those in Miami Beach, but are much less expensive. Another high point of Daytona Beach is that major clubs along Atlantic Drive are for spring breakers 18 years of age and older. The clubs, not to mention the entire area, are completely crowded with college students on break. So don’t worry. You are sure to find someone out there to have fun with.

Rates for hotels are surprisingly low ($124 a night at a Best Western), which is a steal compared to other spring break locations, such as Key West, Cancun, the Bahamas or even Hollywood.

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Local band breaks standard mold

Ever wonder what it would be like if indie-rock and heavy metal had a baby? If they did it would be named The Kirby. This past week at a show at Churchill’s pub, this Texas band left me disturbed, intrigued, and confused all at once. As soon as the drums kicked up, a little wide-eyed man popped up on stage in black, fingerless gloves and questionably tight pants. He then proceeded to wall louder than I ever thought someone of his size was capable.

I spent most of their 20-minute set waiting to see which guitarist would knock the other out first with their wild stage antics. Their performance was a series of catchy chorus melodies accompanied by thumping hip movements. Unfortunately, I cannot vouch for their lyrics. Between the incoherent vocalists and the band running all over the 20 by 20 foot stage, it seemed as though everyone was performing a different song.

While I admit that incorporating different styles into a song can make for some amazing tunes – just look at G Love and Special Sauce – this unfortunately was not the case for The Kirby. Their style was good in theory but not in its execution.

After listening to another nameless band roar into a microphone for another 20 minutes and throw out guitar tunes only soothing to Lucifer, the Last Gang in Town capped off the stage for an unforgettable performance with a bass player who couldn’t have been a day older than 16 and a lead singer who wasn’t a day younger than 45.

Halfway into their set, I leaned over to a stranger sitting behind me to ask the name of the band. “I’m not sure, but you should stick around for the next set,” he answered. As it turned out, his name was Derek DiGiacomo, an FIU student and the drummer for Dead Letter Post Office.

These days most bands made up of young people have a tendency to stick to what’s safe. They throw on their washed-out jeans with a strategic tear at the knee, wear tight t-shirts with quasi-political messages and write trendy music defined by trite bands such as Good Charlotte or Simple Plan.

This, however, was not the case with DLPO. Snaked of their spot twice, the band didn’t hit the stage until 1 a.m., when its guitarist, Jess Scheckner, took the microphone and proceeded to curse at the preceding band.

I couldn’t help but be distracted by Scheckner restringing his guitar on stage throughout the first song, but I found this group to be a personal favorite, the appropriately named Dead Letter Post Office.

This past week at a show at Churchill’s, Stephen Marino was on stage. His band, named after Dr. Ronald McNair, is an underdog of the independent music community. With Marino leading the way, his band cannot be ignored.

According to Norway, a McNair Fellow student at FIU who has had the opportunity to travel to national conferences to present their work, attend GRE preparation classes and graduate school application workshops and visit the graduate schools, this band is a personal favorite. “I’m not surprised to learn that they were influenced by Fugazi,” he said.

Scheckner had his guitar good and ready just in time to throw down some solid vocals for my personal favorite, the appropriately titled “A Simple Steady Rhyme.”

This song starts off in a melodic manner, then breaks into a head-nodding heavier sound.

Next came “Mosquito” with a guitar introduction pleasantly reminiscent of an 80s love song. It concluded with Scheckner and Chris Ruppel’s harmoniously singing the closing.

Dead Letter Post Office has an easy-listening familiar sound without being cliché. For more information on DLPO, visit www.deadletterpostoffice.com.

Scholarship opens door for FIU graduate students

Krystal Anson, a McNair Fellow student majoring in biology, wants to be the first in her family to hold a doctorate, but like most minority students at FIU who fear getting into graduate school is too competitive, Anson hopes that The McNair Fellow Program will better her chances.

“It’s very hard to get into a Ph.D. program,” said Anson. “It is almost impossible.”

Two representatives from Stanford University and Notre Dame University hoped to change that common misconception when they spoke to McNair students at the University Park campus on March 3 about the GRE exam and the importance of minority student involvement in graduate studies.

“It’s unfortunate that many minority students go out of their way to avoid the GRE and don’t move on,” said John L. Brown, director of Student Affairs at Stanford. “I speak everywhere about ways students can prepare for it.”

Many top schools throughout the nation look to The McNair Fellow Program to help encourage promising Hispanic and minority students to think beyond their bachelor’s degree.

The McNair Fellow Program, named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, who perished on the space shuttle Challenger in 1986, helps low-income, first generation college students to earn a doctorate after their baccalaureate.

FIU undergraduate students accepted into the program get paid to conduct original research under the guidance of a faculty mentor. They are also given the opportunity to travel to national conferences to present their work, attend GRE preparation classes and graduate school application workshops and visit the graduate schools.

See SCHOLARSHIP, page 8.
“No” is a word that no one takes easily. Whether the question is “Can I have a cookie?” or “May I work for your company?”, hearing the answer no always results in a frown and a sour stomach. We are trained from the get go that “failure is not an option.” Well, sometimes it is an option—and not so much an option as it is your tragic fate.

We have all heard the tired advice, “If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again.” But before you get to the point of reflection and personal growth, you may feel growing embarrassment, burning confusion and irky anger.

Since drugstores don’t provide an over-the-counter cream for this, here’s how to deal with the varying types of rejection:

**GIRLS AND BOYS**

When it comes to matters of love, all rejection is a perverted version of this scenario: little Suzy wants Bobby to be her valentine. While everyone is making half-assed cards for each other, little Suzy is ardently using glitter and doodles to express her true feelings. When the card exchange has finished, everyone has received at least one except little Suzy. Not only that, but when she looks for Bobby and expects her love to be returned, she finds him making out with the monkey bars with little Jane. Little Jane is a little slut. Regardless, little Suzy is heartbroken. And whether she’s looking for some one to share her life with or to make her feel special, some one who doesn’t want you, you have to be able to deal with your emotions.

To say that there are plenty of fish in the sea is a gross understatement. To say that there are plenty of fish in the sea is a gross understatement.

**THE JOB OF A LIFETIME**

You’ve graduated and it’s finally time for you to make a name for yourself in the real world. You notice that the company of your choice is hiring and conducting interviews immediately. You buy a new suit and are looking sharp. Then, your big break comes and you finally get the job you always wanted.

But more likely, the company tell you that you’re looking for someone with more experience and qualifications, and that you’re escorted of the premises because you look “sketchy.”

The first step toward overcoming this loss is to accept it. Be honest with yourself. Did you actually meet their qualifications? Probably not.

The road to the perfect career is long, but on the way, you may find something you didn’t know you wanted to do and may enjoy more than your original goal. Perhaps you do need two more years of school or another internship. In the end, it may be good that you explored other options. Your first choice may not always be your best choice.

**I WANT THE “A”**

While not a classic form of rejection, a bad grade on an exam can feel just as bad, especially when you don’t feel you deserved it. Most professors, while they may not like to show it, are pretty reasonable. If you want to discuss your grade after class, they’d be happy to speak to you, if at least to prove there is life to them beyond lectures and note-scrubbing.

Have your argument ready. Use note cards if necessary. You’re not going to change a grade if your argument consists of “No fair! I’m gonna lose my scholarship! My mom and dad are gonna kill me!” Also, don’t kid yourself. If the essay question was “kid yourself.” If the essay question was “What are you going to do if you don’t go to college?” then don’t bother. Pray that you haven’t missed the drop date.

**IT’S GOOD FOR YOU**

Although it may be difficult to take at first, rejection is a part of life. It’s a bitter pill that makes us stronger, more resilient and always makes us strive to become better versions of ourselves. If not, at least it gives us an excuse to learn Voodoo.

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**Scholarship provides funds for grad school**

*SCHOLARSHIP*, from page 7

they wish to attend.

“We help them get into FIU’s graduate program, but if they get accepted to schools like Stanford and Notre Dame, that’s a good thing as well, because our job here is to help them get the best Ph.D.,” said Jason Scott Hamilton, associate director of the McNair Program and professor of psychology.

It is only the second year that FIU has been part of the program, and it has already opened doors for many McNair scholars. Last year, 22 of the chosen students majoring in chemistry, engineering, biology, the sciences and mathematics were accepted to top graduate schools like FIU, Vanderbilt, Stanford and the University of Miami.

The program has also opened doors for Eric L. Crumpler, an FIU professor for the department of biomedical engineering, who was the first person ever in the United States to get a Ph.D. as a McNair scholar. He is also a member of the faculty advisory board and review committee. This year, 22 FIU students were selected as McNair scholars and Cuban American Krystal Anson was one of them. As part of her program, she joined with molecular microbiologist and FIU student, Kalai Marbec, as well as and the School of Engineering on a significant and complicated research project called, “Mold Remediation.”

“Basically what we’re trying to do is grow mold in the lab and then kill it by using different concentrations and see which one works best,” explained Anson.

“We also have planned an outreach part of our research in which we go out to the community and talk about ways to remediate mold and to prevent it from growing in their homes,” she said.

The McNair Fellow Program has shed a new light on Anson’s future and has provided a chance for many other minority students at FIU to pursue doctoral study something, which once seemed unachievable to many of them.

“This program’s mission is to increase minorities with Ph.D.,” said Hamilton. “We are trying for these students to get a good opportunity.”

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**FIU FOCUS GROUPS ON TUITION ISSUES**

VOICE YOUR OPINION IN THIS OPEN FORUM

The Board of Governors, which governs the state university system, has proposed several changes to the tuition policies for all state universities. While these policies run rival to the policies in the way that is most beneficial to the welfare of our students. Hence, we have formed this focus group to give you an opportunity to voice your opinions.

**THE JOB OF A LIFETIME**

A series by Alicia Bustamante

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Please join us to discuss the following topics:

- BLOCK TUITION
- DIFFERENTIAL TUITION
- EXCESS CREDIT HOURS FEE

Join Us On One Of The Following Dates:

- **Monday, March 7th, 2005, 7:00pm, GC 142 (UP)**
- **Tuesday, March 8, 2005, 7:00 p.m. GC 1, 2nd Floor, (UP)**
- **Wednesday, March 16, 5:40 pm, WUC 105 (BBC)**

**TECHNOLOGY (MUNI’S) PROVIDED**

At each of these forums, please direct any questions to 201-247-2747.

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Just in case you forgot, The Beacon comes out on Mondays and Thursdays. Check us out online at www.beaconnewspaper.com,
ATTENTION STUDENTS:

The Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition will be at Tamiami Park from Thursday, March 17, 2005, through Sunday, April 3, 2005, inclusive. Parking lot 5, located just east of the Wertheim Performing Arts Center, will be closed and used for staging/preparation by the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition from March 7th through April 13th.

Suggestions for minimum inconvenience:

After 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, use the 112th Avenue/ 8th Street or 117th Avenue/ 17th Street entrances to the University. Use lots 1, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

The 107th Avenue entrances will be closed periodically on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays to allow for fair traffic.

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High standards send message to students

The reason they failed, however, is because five students decided that they did not want to continue to swim competitively and one decided to return home.

Because the report takes into account retention rate, the number of student-athletes that participate in the sport the following year, the program did not make the cut score and finished in the lowest percentile.

All athletic departments nationwide are expected to be notified in December of this year’s final results. Programs must take the penalties as early as possible.

Schools that see penalties forthcoming from the trend shown in this report could choose to serve their punishment in the fall instead of waiting.

Stronger sanctions, such as postseason bans for consistently poor long-term academic performance, are expected to be enforced by the fall of 2008.

No coaches were willing to comment on the NCAA APR report.
Disappointment with QB comes to an end

FIEDLER, from page 12

Fiedler knew his job was in jeopardy, so he played outstandingly and earned his job back just to spite me.

He did the same thing for the next two years with Brian Griese then A.J. Feeley. Almost like a formula:


Now, I don’t have to worry about the haunting image of Fiedler throwing a football into double coverage, fumbling the ball after a 20-yard scramble or his elephant ears springing out when he removes his helmet on the sidelines.

Even though Feeley has been named the new starting quarterback, for now it doesn’t really matter as long as it’s ABBJ—Any Body But Jay.

Golfers Wanted

We are pleased to announce that the FIU College of Business Administration has been selected to participate in the McGowan Scholars Program. As such, we will award one full-tuition scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year of up to $12,366 to an outstanding graduate or undergraduate student.

For more information on this and other scholarships we have available, please visit the CBA Scholarship website at http://cba.fiu.edu/studentsvcs/scholarships.html

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The candidates to replace Smith include redshirt freshman Julian Reams, who worked with the first team, and senior Adam Gorman, who shared the load on the first day in pads—it might fit in when they get here,” Strock said.

One freshman running back looking to make an impact this fall is Armond Rutledge. The Northeast running back is a two-time All-Broward performer and was the county’s leading rusher last season with 1,635 yards on 202 carries.

The Golden Panthers are also looking to improve their depth at quarterback, where Josh Padrick (last year’s starter) and David Tabor are the only true signal callers in camp.

Chris Patullo, who is working with receivers and will also placekick, is the team’s third string quarterback coming this spring.

“Josh and David looked good for their first day out,” Strock said. “Both are excellent students. They work hard and never complain. They’re going to get a lot of work this spring and give a lot of work to the wide receivers and tight ends.”

Redshirt freshman QB Tavares Kendrick will sit out part of Spring football in order to concentrate on academics.

Throughout the past three seasons of Golden Panther football, Strock has rarely used shotgun, citing that his team was young and not ready for such a move.

However, with experience of quarterbacks like Padrick and Tabor, Strock has felt comfortable for the first time using the option in practice.

“I think the guys are far enough along in our system and [the shotgun] is something that we probably need to do in certain situations; not every play, but we want to be able to do both,” Strock said. “They didn’t look too bad today, but tomorrow is our first day in pads—it might be a little different than.”

With Fiedler gone, Dolphins happy

By NIKOLAY OREKHOV
AND HARRY COLEMAN
Beacon Staff

With the loss of his first graduating senior class, Head coach Don Strock started Spring football early this year to get in an extra couple of weeks of practice to begin seeing what type of players he has left.

The biggest position to fill is the running back spot. After becoming the first FIU player to rush for over 1,000 yards in a season, Rashod Smith has left a void in the Golden Panthers backfield since he graduated.

“Hopefully, Rashod won’t be our last 1,000-yard rusher,” said Strock on the first day of practices.

With Fiedler gone, Dolfans happy

By ANDONI GONZALEZ-RUA
Staff Writer

The NCAA Academic Progress Report (APR) was released on Feb. 28, causing much nationwide speculation as to the future of nationally recognized athletic programs.

This year’s report, which encompasses the 2003-04 academic year, includes new rules and standards that are sure to shake the college sports spectrum.

FIU is one of the schools that finds itself on the bubble with its four failing teams last year.

The new calculation gives an athlete one point each semester for staying academically eligible and another point for staying in school. For example, a perfect score for a 13-member basketball team at a school with grading periods every semester would be 52 for the combined Fall and Spring semesters.

The total number of points a team actually receives is divided by the maximum possible total to get a percentage, which is converted to the 1000-point scale.

The cut line is set at 925. All teams that fall under that calculated number are in danger of losing scholarships and of other penalties.

Athletic teams do have statistical adjustments, not penalized by the NCAA, that can be incorporated into their scores if under the 925 mark. This takes care of “statistical anomalies” as put forth by the NCAA and takes into account those teams that fall below the curve because they have a less than an average number of players. With the new rules, programs can lose scholarships for up to one year and no team can lose more than 10 percent of what it offers.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FIU?

The current failing programs at FIU are football, baseball, men’s basketball and women’s swimming. All four finished under the cut line.

As a note, even though the report shows the football team with a score of 883, the corrected score is 897, which takes into account the statistical adjustment.

Despite having four failing sports, Athletic Director Rick Mello supports the NCAA standards.

“I am very supportive of this new standard,” said Mello. “I believe that anything that fosters academic accountability is good for college athletics.”

The Athletic Department also pointed out that they have a stricter academic policy compared to other universities.

“Academics are taken very seriously at FIU, and because of that our eligibility standards are significantly higher than those of the NCAA, especially for freshmen,” Mello said.

Student athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA for eligibility to participate at FIU at the end of