Professor helps injured news anchor, cameraman

BY C. JOEL MARINO
Content Editor

Gerard “Jerry” Hogan, a clinical assistant professor in the School of Nursing's anesthesiology program currently serving as an Air Force Reserve Major in the Iraqi war, thought the wounded patient he was called to assist Jan. 29 wouldn't be just another of the low profile cases he has dealt with in the past.

It was upon arriving in Iraq from his base in Germany that he found out the patient was none other than Bob Woodruff, one of two new anchors replacing the late Peter Jennings for ABC’s “World News Tonight,” and his cameraman, David Vogt.

Both men had sustained critical head injuries after an explosive device detonated near their vehicle as they traveled through the outskirts of Baghdad.

“We didn’t find out about the news crew members until we arrived in Iraq,” Hogan said via an e-mail interview with The Beacon “First we were told that there would be media on board, but they initially didn’t tell us they were patients. We found out shortly thereafter and were able to prepare for them with no loss of time due to the miscommunication.”

As medical crew director for the 791st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Hogan was in charge of assisting the medical transport team that cared for the news crew aboard the C-17 flight from the Balad air base to the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. This crew consisted of a nurse, a physician and a respiratory technician.

“We are trained to take charge and prepare as expeditiously as possible to accommodate the additional patients. The crew that I work with did that with great expertise,” Hogan said. "I am glad to say that [Woodruff and Vogt] tolerated the flight well and were moved on to the medical center for further care.”

This is the second time in three years that Hogan has been activated in support of Operations Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Iraqi Freedom.

According to Hogan, experiences like the rescue of Woodruff and many injured soldiers during this time of service have taught him life lessons he’ll never forget.

“It is an awesome responsibility and privilege to care for our wounded warriors as they are moved to more definitive care,” Hogan said. “Spending as much time as I do with such young soldiers, marines, airmen and sailors with life changing injuries makes you appreciate what you have.”

However, despite his love for the job he is doing, Hogan, who has been a part of the Air Force Reserve for nearly 16 years, is still looking forward to his homecoming this April.

“Deployments are hard on your job and family. I am looking forward to getting back to work at FIU and hanging up my flight suit for a while,” he said.

Upon returning to South Florida, Hogan stated that his priorities will be “to spend time with my family, watch my youngest graduate from high school and help him move to college in the fall.”

There are also a few other things he misses about his home.

“It is about 10 degrees Fahrenheit (-5C) here and snowing as we speak. I miss the sunshine.”

As Woodruff and Vogt recover from their wounds in the U.S. hospital they have recently been transferred to, Hogan will remain stationed in the German Ramstein Air Base and wait for the next order that will take him and his medical team back to Iraq.

“[This] is a difficult but certainly worthwhile job. I have no regrets for the time that I have spent in the United States Air Force,” Hogan said.

World-traveling librarian takes on double responsibility

BY ELIZABETH CARAM
Contributing Writer

When Antonie Downs told her parents she was moving to Europe to work for the United States Army as a civilian, they shrugged.

“They knew it was typical of me,” said Downs, the interim director of both FIU libraries.

Downs, the interim director of both FIU's libraries, said that who is looking for a change, “Downs said.

“[This] is a difficult but certainl

Tony Downs is FIU. She believes strongly in FIU and its mission. She represents what FIU is all about: friendship and service to faculty, students and the rest of the FIU community.

Bay Campus, where she has total control over the library's administrative planning, schedule planning and budgeting; among many other responsibilities.

She has never dozed off her load, having two libraries under her control.

She earned the temporary position in the University Park campus in October after the former director retired.

“Tony Downs is FIU,” said Vice Provost Raul Moncarz. “She believes strongly in FIU and its mission. She represents what FIU is all about: friendship and service to faculty, students and the rest of the FIU community.”

Although she happily took on the responsibilities which come along with being a director, she said it is a temporary position for her.

“[This] is a difficult but certainly worthwhile job. I have no regrets for the time that I have spent in the United States Air Force,” Hogan said.

Racism persists in America, Pg. 3
RA advantages, Pg. 5
Baseball sweeps UCF, Pg. 8
Bush’s spending plan protested by both Democrats and Republicans

President George W. Bush sent Congress a 2007 spending plan that farmers, teachers and doctors are protesting.

The negative reaction from Democrats was expected, however many Republicans expressed their concern with the $2.77 trillion spending blueprint.

Comments such as “disappointed and even surprised” came from Sen. Olympia Snowe (R) from Maine, and Arlen Specter (R) from Pennsylvania who called the budget cuts “scandalous.”

The spending budget begins Oct. 1 and includes, for the next five years, savings of $36 billion in Medicare, $5 billion in farm subsidy programs, $4.9 billion in Medicaid support for poor children’s health care and $16.7 billion in additional payments.

The budget would provide an increase in military and homeland security spending while cutting one-sixth of discretionary spending.

In the “Methods used at rally accomplish little” the name Vivian Sanchez was incorrect.

On-Campus

Statewide Federal career conference to be held at University

For students who are interested in government related jobs, the Statewide Federal career conference will provide that opportunity.

Representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, secret service and the federal aviation administration will be at University Park on Feb. 10 to hold sessions discussing internships in different fields such as computer science and criminal justice.

The conference is open to students from all state universities.

There is a $60 fee that covers the registration of a particular university and the first five students, any additional students are $10 and the online registration is found at http://career.fiu.edu.

NATIONAL

Downs tackles both campuses

After reading those ads and hearing from an Army recruiter on campus, she knew it was time for a change and that change was in Europe.

Her love of traveling has not died down a bit. Downs plans to visit Australia with her husband, a retired police officer whom she is celebrating a 20th anniversary with this month.

Her ‘child’ is a rescued greyhound named Kiowa Burma, who the Downs refers to simply as “Burma.”

Their Miami Shores home boasts a vegetable garden most of the year and about 100 wild orchids in the backyard.

As for her commute from Miami Shores to the University Park campus, she said it is probably the hardest part about the job. On her way to the University, she listens to audio books in the car to help ease the frustration of Miami traffic.

“Something to help keep my blood pressure down,” Downs said.

Along with maintaining the budget and dealing with operation control, Downs also keeps everything coordinated.

She makes sure the libraries are keeping up with new technology and looks for new positions to assist in the transition from print to electronically recorded information.

Additional reporting by Staff Writer Chester Bebarks.

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Additional reporting by Staff Writer Chester Bebarks.
Racism in U.S. impedes teaching of black history

BY DANIEL CORDOVA Contributing Writer

In a “60 Minutes” interview this past December, actor Morgan Freeman, stated that the concept of Black History Month is ridiculous. “You’re going to regulate my history to only a month?” Freeman said. “I don’t want a Black History Month. Black history is American history.”

Whether or not you agree with Freeman, he boldly confronts an issue that many Americans deny still exists: racism. Sadly, racism is an ugly characteristic that has been woven into American culture over centuries. Many steps are being taken to purge this blemish from our society, but we have yet to be successful since it is so deeply ingrained.

Black History Month originated from Negro History Week, which was established by Carter G. Woodson, the proclaimed “father of black history,” in 1926. The month of February was chosen because the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass both fall during this month. Dr. Woodson hoped that when black history was fully integrated with American history, the week could be done away with.

Large strides for the civil rights of black Americans have been made since 1926, so does this mean it is time to do away with Black History Month? The answer is disappointing no. The truth is that black history has yet to be incorporated into the American history that is taught in our schools.

Surprisingly, yet refreshing, Native American history is now being extensively covered in schools. Curriculum, and rightly so. Most grade school students would be able to tell you about the Seminol, Iroquois, Chippewa, and many others. They could tell you the basics of their culture, how they lived, the struggles they faced, the foods they ate, the sports they played, who the influential people were, etc.

Why is this not the case with black history? Textbooks are now endowed with new editions every year, a fact college students know all too well. Why isn’t more black history integrated into these new editions? The answer is racism.

Whether you’re conscious of it or not, racism still exists in our schools, our government, our neighborhoods, our churches and everywhere else. Racism is not just slander and acting hostile toward another race, it can manifest itself in many ways.

Today, neglect and ignorance are forms of racism in our society. What makes this difficult is that when racism manifests itself in these forms, a person doesn’t even realize they are being racist.

What can be done to combat racism? Education is the only remedy. This answer is a bit of a paradox itself. Our schools are guilty of discriminating, yet they hold the keys to the fight against discrimination. Therefore, time must also play a role along with time will allow education to catch up to include more black history.

The Civil Rights Movement occurred not that long ago, relatively speaking. Many of our parents experienced this transitional period of American history first hand. Forty years is not enough time to erase 400 years of injustice. We need to continue to fight racism through education so that one day we won’t need a separate month for black history, just as we no longer have separate schools, bathrooms and drinking fountains.

Freeman is absolutely correct in saying black history deserves more attention than just one month. Unfortunately, until black history is seen as American history by society and until the education system catches up from the 400 years of discrimination, Black History Month is necessary.
Students find benefits in becoming a resident assistant

BY NICOLE ACOSTA
Staff Writer

Freshman Christopher Mark Thomas decided he wanted to be a resident assistant last semester when an RA helped him get in contact with his mother, who was staying at a hotel nearby. Thomas, who had just moved from Trinidad, tried to call her from the front desk of Panther Hall but was told he couldn’t. The RA told Thomas he could use the phone in his room. Thomas soon realized that as a RA you get to help people in times of need.

According to Assistant Director of Residential Life Ron Thompson, Thomas was one out of about 100 applicants applying for a RA position for the 2006-2007 school year.

That total surpasses last year’s number of applicants.

“Up until last year, we compared those numbers because a high applicant rate does not always equal better RAs,” Thompson said. “There were more hirable applicants last year than any other rate does not always equal better RAs,” he said. “It’s a fulfilling experience.”

Thompson believes the staff’s main goal is to find the best combination of candidates will become RAs. According to Thompson, students that applied needed to attend an information session in order to review and application.

“The basic rationale for information sessions is for you to be armed with some information before applying,” Thompson said.

At this point, all of the candidates for RA positions have been chosen. They are now in the middle of a three-week workshop called “RA classes,” which meet once a week. There, the topics of ethics, diversity and resident life philosophies are covered.

After the RA classes, candidates will be interviewed by the resident life coordinator, a graduate assistant and a RA picked at random. Then, all 16 professional staff members will meet and decide which candidates will become RAs.

Khela Stanley, agreed that being an RA is definitely a challenge. “It balances you because you have to handle a lot of responsibility. Some days, you just learn as you go. It’s not for everybody,” Stanley said. “You have to realize the amount of work you’re going to be taking on.”

There are many benefits to being a RA aside from having a salary and a complimentary room.

“You get the opportunity to get leadership skills. You get a chance to build a network within FIU. You also get a chance to develop your social skills and time management skills,” Stanley said.

Building a network within FIU is one of the reasons why the RA position appealed to freshman Lillian Marquez.

“Networking is always good. It’s good for leadership experience,” Marquez said.

Thomas wants to be a RA because he wants to learn about different people and their cultures.

“As a RA, you get to know everyone better,” he said. “It’s a fulfilling experience.”

Mellowdrone’s sound proves outside the Box

BY GEOFFREY ANDERSON JR.
Staff Writer

Mellowdrone, an eclectic rock group from Los Angeles, manages to take their listeners on a psychedelic rollercoaster with their debut album Box that hits stores March 7.

Cathy tunes are contained on the disc and almost every song delves into unpredictable territory, creating varied structures and captivating melodies.

Consisting of singer/guitarist Jonathan Bates, drummer Brian Borg, guitarist Tony Dematteo and bass/keyboardist Cami Gutierrez, Mellowdrone delivers a powerful album that will play in your iPod or CD player for a long time.

Ranging from space-pop to new wave, Box’s 13 tracks mix together to make a diverse and experimental disc. The opening track “Come On Try a Little Bit” introduces a spacey vibe accented by a thumping bass line and screeching guitar.

With such a seductive croon, Bates pulls listeners into a world filled with captivating choruses and varied instrumentation.

As the drumming of the opening track fades, the next song “Oh My” hits hard with its thunderous introduction, reminiscent of alternative rock group The Killers. The song progresses into its tongue-in-check chorus Oh my, what a wonderful day and follows with a sudden shift into a mellow sound.

“Four Leaf Clover” turns down the initial intensity of the previous track and provides a trippy atmosphere where Gutierrez’s keyboard skills shine.

MELLOW OUT: With a psychedelic sound, Mellowdrone’s Box introduces a musical intensity that will intrigue any listener who enjoys alternative rock. COURTESY PHOTO

See BOX, page 5
The关键在于这件衣服的蕾丝:

“Whatever the Deal” sounds like a rip-off of U2. Although it’s not a bad song, it lacks any real originality.

“Madison” continues the album’s downward spiral by sounding too much like the previous songs. The drumming is simplistic and the song follows a redundant structure that makes for a boring listen.

Track 9, “And Repeat,” is the weakest track on the disc and just drags on – Bates’s drowsy voice adds to the song’s dullness.

Luckily, the album redeems itself with the final four tracks. “Orange Marmalade” is a relaxing tune consisting of a sturdy bass line underlying Gutiérrez’s skilled keyboarding.

In this song, Bates recovers his fantastic range and shows off accordingly.

Mellowdrone impresses with “Amazing,” an aptly named song that overlays vocals and forms a bouncy harmony interlaced with spectacular vocal demonstration.

While “Bone Marrow” resembles the past song, the band continues its aural assault by impeccably arranging instruments and vocal talents to create an excellent blending of addictive melodies.

“Limb to Limb” ends Bates with some of the most experimental sounds ever – Gutiérrez’s spacy harmonies polish the album’s finish as Bates repeats “From limb to limb...”

Overall, Mellowdrone’s Bae is a solid album worthy of your rock collection. With its addictive melodies, it’s hard not to want this CD. Although the album stumbles around the middle, it redeems itself and provides a unique sound that sticks around in your head.

—the Piece

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Tulip skirt, $49.50  www.expressionfashion.com

Beaded shoe, $90.95  www.stevemadden.com

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www.beaconnewspaper.com

Red carpet corsets become mainstream

BY ATHENA JOHNSON
Contributing Writer

Whether you are dressing up for the red carpet or a fashionable night out at the movies, you can always “Go Grammy Style!”

One of the boldest fashion statements this season is the corset. It is intimate and daring, yet not too risqué. Depending on how you complement it, you can get a different look every time.

The secret lies within the accessories. By wearing a corset with a calf length, silk skirt you can accomplish a sophisticated look.

The corset is an eye-catching piece and the silk skirt will offer a softer touch to the outfit. Silk is the best material for a touch of class.

Make sure that the skirt is not above the knee and does not reach the ankles. To further enhance the corset and silk skirt, a small fur overthrow can be added to accomplish a modern look.

As with any outfit, the right shoes are essential. Do not make the mistake of thinking that black shoes match with everything. The best thing to do is find a color shoe that naturally compliments the corset.

When dressing the corset down, a bad-girl look is always a good option. By accompanying the corset with a short jean skirt, you will accentuate your waist and legs. However, if you are self-conscious of your legs, a knee length skirt should do the trick.

You do not want to wear something you are not comfortable in. Try to find a jean skirt that has a light sandstone fade. The stonewash, the sandstone, the cheaper the skirt looks.

The key to this outfit is the lace up sandal. The lacing of the sandals incorporates the lace of the corset and is a perfect compliment. It may take a while to find the perfect shoes but be patient, the final product will be worth it.

A trendy over the shoulder bag

Space pop, new wave influence music

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 9
WHAT: SGA Panther Carnival and Food Fair
WHERE: WUC Panther Square (BBC)
WHEN: 10 a.m.

WHAT: 2nd Annual African New World Series
WHERE: WUC Ballroom (BBC)
WHEN: 12 p.m.

WHAT: SPC Movie Night – Saw II
WHERE: Mary Ann Wolfe Theatre (BBC)
WHEN: 2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: SPC Pan-African and BSU Beauty Pageant
WHERE: GC Ballrooms
WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHAT: Choir Concert featuring the music of composer John Augenblick
WHERE: Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Concert Hall, WPAC 170 (UP)
WHEN: 8 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 10
WHAT: Wooden Camera film presentation
WHERE: The Wolfsonian
WHEN: 7 p.m.

WHAT: Biscayne Bay Dramatics presents “Butterflies are Free”
WHERE: Mary Ann Wolfe Theatre (BBC)
WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: GC Ballrooms (UP)
WHEN: 8 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: SPC Comedy Show featuring Mr. Funny Bone Roberts, Juan Villareal and Scrunch
WHERE: WUC Ballrooms (BBC)
WHEN: 9 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 11
WHAT: Love and Jazz Concert
WHERE: C.B. Smith Park, 900 N. Flamingo Rd,
Pembroke Pines
WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH: $17

WHAT: Mayda Cisneros Couture Collection fashion show
WHERE: Hotel Victor, 1144 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach
WHEN: 10:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH: $10

SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 12
WHAT: Delta Phi Omega Annual Charity Banquet
WHERE: GC Ballrooms
WHEN: 6 p.m.

HOW MUCH: $10 for FIU students, $15 for Non-students, $20 at the door

WHAT: Biscayne Bay Dramatics presents “Butterflies are Free”
WHERE: Mary Ann Wolfe Theatre (BBC)
WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHAT: Comedian Jackie Flynn performs
WHERE: The Miami Improv, 3390 Mary Street
#182, Coconut Grove
WHEN: 8:30 p.m.

HOW MUCH: $12.84
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For more information, please visit www.enterprise.com/careers.

Wednesday, February 8th, 2006
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Booth #15

FIU, from page 8

Bono’s tag.

FIU rallied again in the fifth inning, scoring three runs – one off a Cadena bases loaded, RBI single, a wild pitch that allowed senior Michael Lopez to score and a James McOwen RBI walk. The inning ended with FIU leaving the bases loaded.

Bascom finished the day allowing three runs (one unearned) on two hits, three walks and two strikeouts in four and three-inch innings of work for the Golden Knights.

Whiley, who was tagged by Miami for seven runs, pitched seven shutout innings, allowed two hits, walked three batters and struck out eight.

UCF did not go down without putting up a fight.

In the eighth inning, UCF’s Kiko Vasquez hit a two-run homerun over the left-centerfield wall off FIU closer Frank Gonzalez.

In the ninth, UCF threatened again. After scoring one run, the Golden Knights had the bases loaded with one out. Bono hit a fly ball to shallow right field and it was caught by junior Chris Dunn, who immediately fired a throw home to prevent the tying run from tagging up.

Gonzalez finally got out of the jam with more help from Dunn, who raced to foul territory to snag a fly ball as he hit and flipped over the fence of the UCF bullpen.

“IT was probably the harder of the two,” Dunn said. “But

the first catch was probably the harder of the two,” Dunn said. “But

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where you belong

FIU 13, UCF 3

After narrowly edging out UCF in the first game, the Golden Panthers took the momentum from Dunn’s circus catch and put on an offensive display.

FIU’s 10-run victory over UCF was not something both teams are used to. The three previous meetings between the teams have been decided by one run.

Led by catcher Luis Bautista and second baseman Yosvel Barroso, FIU recorded 15 hits in the game.

“Every time [your team] gets hits it’s a confidence booster to get up [to the mound],” said Chris Siebenaler, FIU’s starting pitcher for game two.

Bautista went 3-for-4 with a home run, a double and four RBI. Barroso went three-for-three with an RBI. Outfielders Bryan Pullin and James McOwen added two hits each.

Despite the final score, it was UCF who got on the board first off a Bono homerun in the first inning, which Price argued went foul as the ball traveled over the foul pole.

“Coach Price went out and argued it,” Siebenaler said. “It could have [gone] either way, but you gotta shake it off and go to the next batter.”

FIU starter Chris Siebenaler settled down after that, finishing the day allowing three runs (two earned) on seven hits, walking three and striking out three batters.

“I’m a borderline perfectionist, so

I expected more from myself,” Siebenaler said.

FIU tied the game off Bautista’s solo shot in the second inning and added three runs in the third to take the lead for good.

FIU scored in every inning except for the first and eighth.

“I saw the intensity all along and I saw the intensity for 18 innings,” Price said.

Bautista, Barroso lead team’s multi-hit performance
EAST DIVISION STANDINGS

**Men’s Basketball**

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**Women’s Basketball**

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Golden Panther’s run in final seconds “too little, too late”

BASKETBALL, from page 8

Villegas pulled the home side within one, 62-61, with 2:30 to play after converting one of his four three point makes.

Almonte, who shot 7-of-10 from the charity stripe for the night, got his chance to give the struggling Golden Panthers some life and promises of a win with a one-and-one free throw attempt with just over two minutes to play.

He missed the first attempt at the one-and-one and FIU never got another chance.

Middle Tennessee connected four times, much like Western Kentucky had just three nights before, from the free throw line and extended their lead to an insurmountable five points with 21 seconds to play.

Almonte would nail a three-point attempt too-little-too-late as time expired to bring the scoreboard to its final 66-64 standing and ended a three game home stand having lost the final two.

Troubled travels are expected for the Golden Panthers as they head on a tour of Arkansas over the weekend, Feb. 9 and 11, looking to avenge early January home losses to both Arkansas-Little Rock (55-53) and Arkansas St. (81-71).

FIU has struggled on the road this season having won just one of 10 so far.

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MTSU squeezes by men’s basketball in final minutes

BY ANDONI GONZALEZ-ROJA
Staff Writer

For the second night in a row the Golden Panthers let a win slip through their fingers on their home floor.

FIU (5-15, 2-6), attempting to get out of the cellar in the Sun Belt East Division, fell 4-2, 2-1, to the Blue Raiders. Following the loss, head coach Sergio Rouco was again dumbfounded by his team’s inability to finish the job, even against their home crowd.

“We just can’t get guys to make plays at the end of games... They made plays and we didn’t. It was just that simple.”

Despite the 11 a.m. start, the Golden Panthers were wide awake as they tagged UCF starting pitcher Tim Bascom—a preseason Conference USA Pitcher of the Year and All-American—for four runs and their first win of the season.

The match was a legitimate pitcher’s duel with FIU starter Walker Whitley, as both pitchers did not allow a run until the bottom of the fourth inning, when FIU struck first.

First baseman Nick Cadena led off the fourth with a single. Following a sacrifice bunt and a ground out, the senior was sitting on third base with two outs and freshman Alex Alfonso on deck. Cadena whistled a high and inside pitch that Alfonso made contact. Cadena and Alfonso found themselves at first and second, respectively, as both runners scored on a wild pitch from UCF’s Jeff Diehl.

The match continued charging home, sliding head first and second as both runners scored. Cadena and junior Michael Lopez, who in turn picked up his 200th career win.

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Sergio Rouco, head coach

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