Students create housing recycling program

GRACE TAYLOR
Contributing Writer

Students involved in the University Park Recycling Committee are trying to implement a paper recycling program across the UP residence halls.

Angeline Troff, who is majoring in economics and is the committee’s chair, wrote a proposal to James Wassenaar, executive director of Student Affairs Operations and Auxiliary Services, to start the recycling program at FIU.

The proposal consisted of what could be done in the plan and how much it would cost.

During the Fall 2005 semester, a pilot program was finally established.

Honors Place, a segment of Panther Hall reserved specifically for Honors students, was given the opportunity to test out the program.

According to Troff, the plan took off when Joost “Joe” Nuninga, superintendent of Recycling and Waste Unit at University Park, said his staff could pick up the housing recycling for free.

He was able to provide small bins for each room in the residence hall and two 95-gallon bins for the trash chute.

Campus-wide recycling consists of the placement of small bins in offices on campus.

People are responsible for dumping the paper from small bins to the medium-sized bins located in their respective halls.

Then, in-house recycling staff dump the paper from the medium-sized bins to the large recycling bins and take those bins to the compound behind the Campus Services Complex.

According to Nuninga, the recycling staff leave two empty bins at the loading zone and there are two to five large bins in every building.

“Aside from housing and the Graham Center [they are responsible for their own recycling], in all buildings we place recycling bins and the offices that provide the most paper are the Green Library, Deuxieme Mason and Primera Casa,” Nuninga said.

Although this provided students with the ability to recycle in Honors Place, there was an issue concerning maintenance of the bins.

Students such as freshman Manuel Singleton, said that his bin had been stolen.

“A lot of times when I went to put the recyclables away, the bins weren’t even around. I didn’t really know when I could drop off the bottles,” Singleton said.

Although this is one scenario, the awareness and participation in the program is evident through students like Singleton.

Since then, the program has been addressed and students on the committee are working together with the unit in the program.

Troff hopes that the program will expand throughout the rest of the UP campus residential halls.

“I want students to have the ability to recycle,” Troff said.

As a former resident of Panther Hall, she saw first-hand the amount of waste that students can produce while living on campus.

“I lived in Panther Hall for two years and I saw a lot of waste. I would’ve liked an opportunity to recycle,” Troff said.

In addition to Troff, junior Juan Rivera Jr. is also a member of the recycling committee.

Rivera feels very strongly that the program should already have been implemented.

He questioned committee members and investigated other campuses across Florida to see if they had campus-wide programs established.

He found that universities such as the University of South Florida and the University of Central Florida had recycling programs on campus.

Although the program has seen a slow start, if students continue to participate, Rivera hopes that it will spread to the rest of the campus residence halls and may even spread throughout the whole campus in general.

Troff sees promise within the program.

“I hope the administration can continue to keep an open mind and support recycling. It’s a new program, but in the end it will prove to be beneficial to students living in the residence halls,” she said.

The recycling committee will be working with the Students for Environmental Action, a student organization on campus, to bring awareness and prepare students for recycling.

GOOD SAMARITAN: Freshman Shirley Armereos does her share of recycling in Panther Hall. The recycling program in housing started Fall 2005 with a pilot program and depending on the outcome, they might expand into other housing facilities at University Park.

CHRIS CUTRO /THE BEACON

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to speak on global issues

GEOFFREY ANDERSON JR.
Staff Writer

During the week of March 6-9, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship will be having several activities and discussions for students to participate in.

All events will be held from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Betty Chapman Plaza outside of the Graham Center.

Known as Express Yourself, the outreach will focus on two types of issues:

1. Social and spiritual
2. Social and political

By making students more aware of issues such as child trafficking and poverty, InterVarsity hopes that the outreach will show students that God cares about the injustices in the world and make people raise questions about those injustices.

“The hope is that it will be a way to engage students not only to grapple with these important issues, but to see them in the light of what God thinks of them,” said InterVarsity member Jonathan Cameron in an e-mail to The Beacon.

Cassie Straus, another member of InterVarsity, shared similar feelings about the purpose of Express Yourself.

“College students just focus on the immediate issues and barely notice the ongoing social issues affecting the world. We want to bring awareness to students and make them speak up on these issues,” Straus said.

According to Cameron, three teams are in charge of the outreach.

One team will be focusing on the social aspect of Express Yourself and another team will be focusing on the spiritual aspect. A third team will be hosting an open mic night.

The social aspect of the outreach revolves around global issues such as AIDS and hunger.

Students who stop by the information tables in front of GC Monday and Tuesday will be able to create their own shirts and learn more about the social problems affecting the world.

“At the Global Issues station, we will have free t-shirts, stencils and paint where people can custom design their t-shirts on the spot,” Cameron said.

“The t-shirts will also have a statistic on issues such as hunger, and other facts about injustices in the world.”

The spiritual aspect of Express Yourself takes place on Wednesday and Thursday, and emphasizes the meaning of success.

At the information tables, team members will be asking students what they consider to be the definition of success.

See GLOBAL, page 2
**THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS**

**MONDAY • MARCH 6**

- ISC and SPC present “One World Celebration!” 11 a.m., WUC Panther Square (BBC)
- Women’s HERstory Celebration: 3 p.m., WUC Panther Square (BBC)
- SPC Women’s Celebration: 8:30 p.m., WUC Panther Square (BBC)

**TUESDAY • MARCH 7**

- Graduate Students Association presents Free Breakfast: 9 a.m., GSA Table (UP)
- Panther Rage Meeting: 4 p.m., GC 140 (UP)
- G.U.E.S.S. Meeting: 7 p.m., GC 314 (UP)

**WEDNESDAY • MARCH 8**

- International Women’s Day
  - Campus Ministry “Soup and Bread” Lunch: 12:30 p.m., WUC 155 (BBC)
- Service For Peace Campus Corps Meeting: 5:30 p.m., WUC 159 (BBC)
- GSA presents Scholarly Forum: 8 p.m., GC Ballroom (UP)
- Honors Council presents “What’s Next! Student Information Session”: 5:30 p.m., GC 150 (UP)
- SOC Meeting: 5:30 p.m., GC 150 (UP)
- Looking for journalism experience?

**THURSDAY • MARCH 9**

- ISC Alumni Reception: 7 p.m., WUC Ballroom Side B (BBC)
- Student Appreciation Day: 12 p.m., GC Pit (UP)
- Women’s Center presents “Fashion through the Decades” show: 3 p.m., GC Pit (UP)
- “Spring Luau” Pool Party: 4 p.m., Panther Hall Pool (UP)
- Women’s Caucus: 4:30 p.m., GL 220 (UP)
- Fine Arts Students Association presents “Meet the Art Department” feat., BBQ and Live music: 7:30 p.m., W-1 Sculpture Studio (UP)

**FRIDAY • MARCH 10**

- SPC Gospel Explosion: 7 p.m., Mary Ann Wolf Theatre (BBC)
- SPC Films and Honors Council presents “The Aviator”: 7 p.m., 10 p.m., GC 140 (UP)
- FIU Opera Theatre presents a Double Bill of British Operas, “Riders of the Sea” and “The Aviator”

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**CORRECTIONS**

In the March 2 issue, in the “Royal Visit” stand alone, the last name of Prince Erminia Sahle should have been spelled Selassie.

In the “Bon Appétit!,” Emeriti’s last name should have been spelled Lagasse and Lee Dickson should have been identified as the Associate Dean.

In the “South Beach tasting experience” story, it should have read Lagasse.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our office at 305-348-2709.
**Wine tasting class popular among students**

**BY ELIZABETH CARAM**

Contributing Writer

Drinking wine in the classroom: It’s not necessarily a dream for senior students over the age of 21 thanks to a class offered by the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. The school offers students three wine classes, where they learn everything from the history of the beverage to career opportunities in the wine business. And although they get to sample different wines in each class, the classes are not exactly a breeze. With a heavy textbook in one hand and a glass of wine in the other, students rely on “The Wine Bible” by Karen MacNeil, the required text for Wine Technology (HFT 3866), Eastern and Caribbean studies and creative writing, but “the professor makes it fun and interesting.”

“It’s a beautiful, social beverage.”

He has been teaching wine classes since 1988 and is also a full-time wine consultant. William Moncarz, who preserved the wine culture after the regime change, junior, learned that monks were the ones who preserved the wine culture after the fall of the Roman Empire. They were the only ones who could read and write and thus pass along the information about wine cultivation. Hebrank raved about wine, using words like “fabulous” and “excellent” while sporting a tie that has images of martini glasses and champagne bottles popping. But one of the most important lessons Hebrank hopes his students learn is that of moderation.

“We teach that at the very beginning of class,” he said. Despite the warnings he believes, “It’s the best beverage you can put in your mouth.”

**WINE TIME:** Wine Technology, one of the most popular courses offered at the School of Hospitality and Management, has a wine testing room specifically built for the class. The room includes special red and white lights to view the wine and miniature sinks used to cleanse wine glasses after use.

**Vice provost an advocate supporter of campus**

**BY MICHAEL HAINES**

Contributing Writer

The window in Raul Moncarz’s third-floor office provides a picturesque view of the Biscayne Bay Campus, but the location’s proximity to the campus to greet students and faculty at this campus. He said FIU currently has world-class programs in journalism, hospitality management, African world studies and creative writing, but he wants to bring more Middle Eastern and Caribbean study programs as well.

“We should be one of the preferred places for students to come for an education,” he said.

Meanwhile, across Northeast 151st Street from FIU, development is getting under way. The “crown,” he said.

The new pre-K and elementary school currently being constructed nearby is only one of two schools planned for the area, and Moncarz said he has been in contact with school officials. He has asked school officials to make the new high school, which will be built next to the North Miami stadium, a journalism magnet school.

“We have a unique opportunity here because this area is growing so fast,” he said.

But he acknowledges setbacks. He is a wine connoisseur; there is not doubt about that. But he said he learns a lot from his own students. “Students are always the best teachers,” Hebrank said, describing his students’ questions and interests as “always enlightening.”

His expertise in the field and his excitement for wine have proven to be contagious for some students. “Because of this class, I may go into the wine industry,” Goldstein said. “It became an option during this class because the professor tells you about all the career opportunities.”

Goldstein is also excited to join the working-world because a career in the wine business allows you to travel all over the world. She has already traveled to wineries in Spain, Portugal, Italy, France and Greece.

A lot of other discoveries are also made in the class. Alexander Mihalitchenko, a junior, learned that monks were the ones who preserved the wine culture after the fall of the Roman Empire. They were the only ones who could read and write and thus pass along the information about wine cultivation.

Moncarz became BBC’s vice provost of the University, has been in North Miami, an area that has been a source of pride, he said.

The new high school, which will be built next to the North Miami stadium, a journalism magnet school.

The Beacon - 3

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March 6, 2006

**BBC NEWS**

**RESPECTED:** Raul Moncarz, vice provost of the University, has been at FIU for over 30 years. He taught economics before becoming vice provost.

“Today, the renaming of North Campus to Biscayne Bay Campus, what he calls the “crown” of FIU, means several 24-hour workdays for him last year. In addition, the cafeteria and gym will move into larger spaces once the Wolfe University Center building (that is two years behind schedule) is completed. Moncarz said he tried not to go to the University Park campus.

“We teach that at the very beginning of class,” he said. Despite the warnings he believes, “It’s the best beverage you can put in your mouth.”

**WINE TIME:** Wine Technology, one of the most popular courses offered at the School of Hospitality and Management, has a wine testing room specifically built for the class. The room includes special red and white lights to view the wine and miniature sinks used to cleanse wine glasses after use.

**Gabi Corra/THE BEACON**

**BY MICHAEL HAINES**

Contributing Writer

The window in Raul Moncarz’s third-floor office provides a picturesque view of the Biscayne Bay Campus, but the location’s proximity to the campus to greet students and faculty at this campus.
Nuclear non-proliferation should be top priority

On March 1, President George W. Bush, along with Indian Prime Minister Man- mohan Singh, announced an unprecedented agreement that eases some of the restrictions on India’s production of nuclear materials.

This agreement, between the world’s largest (India) and the world’s most powerful (United States) democracies, only under- scores an increasingly congenial relationship between the two nations.

From an economic and military point of view, this deal is a huge leap and bound ahead of anything accomplished in the past few years as far as relations between India and the U.S. go.

The agreement promises the use of clean nuclear power, an invaluable resource in a country with a population over a billion people. Since India suffers from a lack of indigenous uranium, the deal would allow the country to import uranium for use in its civilian program, therefore freeing up its own uranium for use in its military programs.

Furthermore, the deal would allow inspectors from the United Nations’ International Atomic Energy Agency, access to nuclear power plants that are classified by the Indian government for civilian use.

Though they have access to civilian nuclear power plants, IAEA officials would still not be able to inspect military plants, which some of the critics of the deal point out as its biggest flaw. True as this may be, even this small amount of influence is certainly an improvement over the zero influence the U.S. had prior to the striking of the deal.

On the trip, Prime Minister Manmohan and President Bush also cemented closer economic ties and agreed, albeit loosely, to attempt to double bilateral trade every three years. The idea behind this is to grow the Indian economy to eventually be a regional counterweight to a seemingly limitless Chinese economy.

Indian television and international officials heralded this agreement as a new era in U.S.- India relations, but we have some problems with this deal.

It’s not all peaches-n-cream for the Bush administration just yet.

In a world that, at least in a public relations sense, promotes the advancement of peace, why should any agreement that allows, or much less supports, the nuclear armament of a country be seen as any form of success? It was our understanding that the world was trying to get rid of its nuclear weapons, not add to its arsenal.

We understand the opportunities that this deal represents and welcome the furthering of relations with India, but the goal of nuclear non-proliferation should be the first priority of this or any administration, not to mention, the global community.

India’s prototype fast-breeder reactors, when fully operational, can produce large amounts of super-grade plutonium. This deal would allow India to have enough fissile material to produce up to 50 weapons per year, rather than the 10 that the administration sought in the original deal.

I wonder whether India, or any country for that matter, finds it absolutely necess- ary to have so many nuclear weapons handy. The attainment of nuclear weapons is not something we like to talk about much, using them as it is about having them and being able to showcase them to the world to see.

It would be much easier if the countries of the world would put all of their intentions for nuclear development out on the table. While this is an unrealistic and perhaps an idealistic goal, it would at least let the global community know. We must, at any rate, be ready for the worst.

Scientology’s beliefs as absurd as Christianity’s

Recently I did some online research on Scientology because I was curious about the subject matter. I had heard so much about it. I have yet to meet one Scientologist in person so I cannot say that they are all crazy – but at least a lot of their beliefs are.

Among them: A belief in an intergalactic tyrant that lived over 75 million years ago named L. Ron Hubbard was the founder of Scientology, a religion that holds some strange beliefs, such as the belief that space planes were used many years ago. Many dismiss Scientology as little more than a cult.

But according to Harry Coleman, it’s perfect timing to make one’s name in the Church of Scientology. Scientologists are going through Hubbard’s original teachings and have strayed too far from Hubbard’s original teachings. Scientologists are going through the motions much faster.

It might seem like a rough transition, but to make it smoother, Scientologists need to take a page from Christians. Christians took many pagan rituals and superimposed Christian values on top of them.

For example, Scientologists believe in something called the ARC Triangle. It’s basically the three pillars of living a happy life: affinity, reality and communication. The Triangle? Pine trees are triangular. ... Anyone see ARC trees popping up anytime soon?

I suggested everyone get on the Scientology band wagon. It’s not like Christianity is an apostle or early religious leader or maybe even, one day, a saint.

In fact, some books of the New Testament were written 50 to 100 years after Jesus’ death so it is quite perfect timing to make one’s name in the Church of Scientology. I know I am going to.
Pressure in relationships

BY BRIAN GONZALEZ
Contributing Writer

Love, such a sweet and delicate treat. The staring into one another’s eyes. The late-night phone calls. Holding hands and romantic dates. Not to mention time and money. The portrayed boyfriend/girlfriend, and the little habits that you recently discovered from your significant other.

Okay, so there are pros and cons in a relationship. I’ll give you that. But men and women have always argued, who has the most pressure? Clearly it takes two to tango, but it’s hard to evenly distribute the responsibilities in a relationship.

Heck, we can’t evenly distribute the responsibilities in a group project, much less a relationship.

But what about applied pressure? Do women have the pressure of having to have a hourglass body or having the pressure of proving their masculinity just to get attention? Do they have to have a six-digit income to warrant a girl’s attention? Erika Lugo and Chris Tellez, both freshmen, thought women have the most pressure in a relationship.

“Guys take [the relationship] lightly. Women expect more from men,” said Lugo. Tellez agreed, saying “both have pressure, but girls worry a lot and always have to look good for men.”

Well what about a man? Don’t they have any kind of pressure? Clearly they are the ones confronting the woman in the beginning of the relationship. Let’s not forget the ones to choose the locations of their dates and paying for them (if they have class at least).

Men are the hunters and the protectors. Anything less and they are Chewbacca, not Darth Vader! If you can’t come up with a good reason (and no, “because I love him” is not a good reason) why you are together.

If you can’t forget about the bills, go to work/school, and start realizing that a relationship is definitely screwy and you should reconsider why you are together.

“Guys take [the relationship] lightly. Women expect more from men,” said Lugo. Tellez agreed, saying “both have pressure, but girls worry a lot and always have to look good for men.”

“Guys take [the relationship] lightly. Women expect more from men,” said Lugo. Tellez agreed, saying “both have pressure, but girls worry a lot and always have to look good for men.”

People do lose jobs as a result of globalization and it’s painful for those who lose jobs.”

– George W. Bush, president of the United States, on the relationship between India and the United States. On a recent trip to India, Bush said that the outsourcing of jobs to India was a reality of the modern economy.

“I don’t think Hamas would have any serious future if Hamas doesn’t change.”

– Sergey V. Lavrov, Russian foreign minister, on Hamas’ role as leader of Palestine. Hamas was invited to Russia, where they were told they must accept the Israeli state and disarm their militias or they would be penalized by the international community. Russia has been criticized in the past for being lenient with Hamas.

“I have only four bullets in here.”

– Jabr Hashem al-Mousawi, militia commander in Baghdad, on guarding the Imam Ali mosque. The mosque is sacred to Shiite Muslims in the country but was given to Sunnis under Saddam Hussein’s rule. Recently, Shiites retook control of the mosque however.

“You’re going to want to do more things for a customer who is growing as fast as Wal-Mart is.”

– Ted Taft, managing director at the Meridian Consulting Group of Westport, Conn., on the growing power of Wal-Mart in creating the product it sells. The company convinced Coca-Cola to hold the release of a soft drink sweetened with Splenda. The company is the largest food retailer in the country.

“The hope is that it will be a way to engage students not only to grasp with these important issues, but to see them in the light of what God thinks of them.”

– Jonathan Cameron, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship member, on the activities and discussions the group will be having from March 6-9. The event will take place at the Betty Chapman Plaza outside of the Graham Center.
Students participate in this traditional Middle Eastern flavored tobacco pastime

By Reuben Pereira
Staff Writer

The hookah – also known as the narghile and the sheesha – is a traditional Middle Eastern water pipe used for smoking. From Europe to Asia, the device is used daily by about 1 billion people.

Widely used as a channel for bonding and relaxation among friends and at social gatherings, the hookah is becoming increasingly popular in the United States, from making appearances in a variety of local coffee shops and Arabian-themed restaurants to being a staple of numerous college students’ lifestyles, including many at FIU.

The hookah is comprised of four main parts: the smoke chamber – which is partially filled with water – a bowl which contains the tobacco and the heating apparatus and the pipe, which connects the bowl with the base and the hose, through which the user inhales the smoke.

How does the hookah work? It’s quite simple. When a smoker inhales through the hose, the air passes through the coal on top of the hookah, heating the tobacco. This gives off smoke, pulled away from the tobacco, which travels from the bowl down the pipe, through the water and into the air of the smoke chamber where it is inhaled by the smoker.

Since the tobacco smoke passes through the water, the nicotine in the tobacco is filtered in addition to cooling the smoke.

Junior Divesh Sujan was introduced to the hookah a year ago when a friend persuaded him to try one.

“My friend from Washington D.C. was the one who introduced me to the hookah,” Sujan said. “He had bought his hookah when he was on a holiday in Dubai, the city in the United Arab Emirates.”

Junior Richard Lopez also is a big fan of the hookah.

“I was introduced to it through my boyfriend when we went to a Lebanese restaurant. I knew it was a water pipe and I didn’t know what it did exactly,” Lopez said.

Ivanessa Arostegui, also a junior, has been a fan of the hookah and the Arabian culture for over a year. She agrees that she has been a fan of the hookah and the Arabian food and locale, it was a wonderful experience. I always smoke it with a group of friends, in a social setting. I think most people smoke it in a social way and unlike cigarettes or drugs, you can’t get addicted to it.”

The hookah’s ability to produce pleasant, non-irritating smoke has made it widely believable that smoking from one is significantly less harmful than smoking a cigarette.

Unlike cigarettes, which involves the burning of dry tobacco, the hookah employs the heating of moist, sometimes pasty tobacco that emits only 5 percent nicotine.

Misconceptions about the hookah arise because it functions and resembles a bong – a device used for smoking marijuana.

Sophomore Alison Costa is a frequent visitor of Devine (located in South Beach) and the Oasis (located in Coconut Grove), which are hookah lounges in Miami. Costa said that a lot of people are afraid to smoke the hookah because they think that it is like smoking cigarettes, marijuana or worse.

“A lot of people look at it and have misconceptions that it’s a drug or is like smoking cigarettes, weed or worse,” Costa said. “It’s actually the safest type of tobacco because the tobacco is filled with water and the tar is removed.”

Traditionally, hookah tobaccos were produced using a mixture of shredded tobacco leaves and a sweetener like honey or a semi-dried fruit.

However, with the popularity of various different artificial flavors in the 1990s, sheesha tobacco is now being mixed with dried fruits, natural extracts and flavorings to produce an assortment of flavors such as apple, mint, jasmine, strawberry, melon, cappuccino, mixed fruit and even cola.

Currently, there are more than 100 flavors available on the market.

The hookah itself is available in a variety of different styles and designs. Most popular among the hookahs are the classical Egyptian hookahs with one hose – most popular in the Arab and Egyptian societies; there’s the modern hookahs with multiple hoses that are very popular in Western societies like the United States and the United Kingdom; there are also Syrian, Bohemian and specialty hookahs available.

“What I see from [the] hookah is that people can spend good times with friends and learn from them,” Sujan said. “It’s different from going out and drinking beer or watching a movie. You could say it’s comparable to playing cards with friends. But really, there isn’t anything like it. It’s incomparable.”

Tips for smoking your hookah

• Be in a good state of mind. Sit on a comfortable sofa or among cushions. Relaxing music can create a nice atmosphere.

• Fill the glass base (smoke chamber) with water, a little more than half is ideal. Make sure only the end of the tube is in the water.

• Make sure the container (where the tube and the base connect) is air tight. You don’t want to lose any of that aroma.

• Put the tobacco in the ceramic container (the haggar) and cover it with aluminum foil. Don’t forget to punch small holes in the foil.

• Take a round charcoal and place it at top of the foil and light it. This is where those holes in the foil come in.

• Wait until the tobacco begins to heat and then inhale strongly two or three times through the hose (you’ll notice the water bubbling in the base) and you’ll start tasting the flavor. Enjoy!
BREAKING IT TO THE FOKUS

Leaving the ‘rents know you’re cut-
ting the cord is no easy task. There’s
no way to do it. Utilize your talents – If you’re a psycho major, have a
group therapy session about it; if his-
tory is your thing, draft a declaration
of independence; if you’re all about
chemistry, throw a smoke bomb and
escape through a window.

In any case, be clear and concise. Let
them know it’s not personal (even though
t it is) and that you’re grateful for
everything they’ve done (even though
you’re not). Tell them you love them and that your love will never
die – especially if they continue to pay
for your tuition.

CAMARADERIE AMONG CHAOS

Now that step one is completed, it’s
time to move on to the hard part:
finding roommates and a place to live.
Get creative for quick results. Post
in your bulletin or take your case
anywhere you. You have to figure in
a school of 30,000 students at least
three must relate. Those people may
perform ritual sacrifices or wallpaper
their rooms with toenail clippings, but
now it’s not the time to judge.

As far as a place goes, Miami is in a
costant development boom. Remem-
ber, the more people you have, the
less money everyone pays. This might
mean you’ll have six people sharing a
studio apartment an hour away from
campus, but long commutes build
character. Character or aneurisms, I
always confuse the two.

FINDING THE MEANS

If you plan to pay rent, you have
to have a job. Forget that on-campus
minimum wage garbage. I think we all
know where the money is: child care
and exotic dancing. Hey, if you’re a
multi-task master you can combine the
two. Junior will adjust to the
strobe lights eventually.

FOLLOWING THROUGH

What’s most important in any
plan of action is sticking to it. You
can’t waffle when things get diffi cult.
Abilute may beg you to come home,
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may be slow at the skin shack.
Cruise offers sea voyage, adventures

Mexico
In a cruise, you get to experience Shore Excursions — exciting tours of your destination offered in many cruise packages which include the price of transportation and meals.

In Key West they offer Shore Excursions such as a nature kayaking tour to a Catamaran Sail and a snorkel session. In Mexico they offer an ATV Beach Adventure to a horse-back riding adventure through the Mayan frontier.

Next on the sea voyage is St. Thomas, which is immersed in culture and heritage. With duty-free shopping — which means you do not have to pay taxes on a purchase — and pirate landmarks, it is one of the most well-known islands in the Caribbean in terms of vacations.

However, if you decide to stay on the ship during the cruise, Carnival offers many onboard experiences.

As the night falls there are also many activities to do on board the cruise ship. On Carnival, there are various comedy and dance shows premiered every night. There is a dance club on board as well, featuring a live DJ every night.

The on-board cuisine includes a great buffet and casual dining area — which is all inclusive with your cruise fee — then a sophisticated dining experience with a set up of white linen table cloths, personal service and a nice steak or pasta meal.

A cruise can be a great way to experience different exotic locations and still enjoy fun and unique activities on board. Cruises offer a way to dance the night away or have a romantic dinner in the middle of the big blue ocean.

For more information, a travel agency is located at the University Park Graham Center, which offers an array of Caribbean cruises for the spring break period.
Privateers’ defense holds Almonte without field goal

MEN, from page 12

Ismael N’Diaye, also playing in his final game in FIU’s road blue uniform, had a perfect shooting night and finished with 13 points in five attempts.

“It is my responsibility to prepare my team,” Rouco said. “I thought [Almonte] was my warrior. He has been the foundation of our institution. Ismael N’Diaye has been a warrior for us as well. The poor guy has never recovered from his injuries and I am going to miss him tremendously.”

Junior Johnven Villegas led FIU with 14 points even though he struggled with his shooting, especially late in the match-up as he tried to get FIU within striking distance. Villegas finished the game shooting 4-for-12 from the field and just 3-for-10 from beyond the arc.

The second half proved just as frustrating as New Orleans’ game plan worked to perfection and extended the Privateer lead to 18 points with 13 minutes remaining.

Sergio Rouco, head coach

We are definitely not good enough. We have to get better players. You need more than just an [Almonte] to win this league.

‘I’m upset with our guys. We live in Miami and Miami brings the Caribbean out of you. They get a little too comfortable and I need guys that have toughness. I shed a lot of tears last year when we lost. I didn’t shed many this year to be honest. I wasn’t very happy with some people’s efforts. It’s my job to correct that.’

New Orleans avenged their first round loss to the Golden Panthers from the 2003 Conference Tournament.

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CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

SWIMMING TEACHERS, LIFE-GUARDS: P/T, F/T. Responsible and enthusiastic people needed to teach swimming to children throughout the summer at several locations throughout Miami. Current CPR required. Priority will be given to experienced swimming instructors with WSI certification. Certified Lifeguards also needed. Positions open as early as April 2. $7- $10/ hour. Call Ocaquatics Swim School at (305) 412 – 4447.

Photographers Needed
Bob Knight Photo is currently hiring part-time photographers to work local college and high school graduation ceremonies in May. Applicants must understand basic digital 35mm cameras, own a dark colored business suit, possess a conservative appearance, and attend two paid mandatory training sessions on April 5 and 24 from 6:30pm to 10:30pm. We have plenty of work throughout May but all photographers need to be available on weekends in late April and May and during our busiest week of May 19-26. Pay is $50.00 per event. Please visit http://www.bkhire.com for additional information and to fill out an application.

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The Beacon – March 6, 2006

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

‘I GOT IT’: Redshirt junior Bryan Pullin was named Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week for the week of Feb. 27. The centerfield went 6-for-12 in FIU’s three-game series against Alabama Feb. 24-26. Pullin led off each game with a hit and had all three of FIU’s hits in the 7-0 loss Feb. 26. Chris Cestaro/The Beacon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sigma Alpha Lambda, a national leadership and honors organization is seeking motivated and qualified students to establish a chapter on campus as founding members and officers. Contact: Rminer@salhonors.org

Visit www.fiutravel.com for the best travel deals. Spring Break getaways still available at phenomenal prices!!! FIutravel is your dedicated travel site, or visit us in GC-168. 305-348-6490.
Nothing is perfect, and nothing is a greater example of that than the current scuffle between the NFL and the NFL Players Association. In the end, it’s always about the money.

For the past few years, the NFL was the professional sports league that the others – i.e. the MLB, NBA and the NHL – used as a benchmark. From an administrative standpoint, that is.

Its system seemed impeccable, with a salary cap, non-guaranteed contracts and a high stream of revenue as the main things the other leagues admired. Again, from an administrative standpoint.

However, in comparison to the other leagues, the NFL players were the ones getting the shaft financially.

For instance, in the NBA, once a player signs a contract, he’s guaranteed that money until the length of his contract – regardless if he plays or not. So if a player signs a six-year, $60 million contract and gets cut after three, he’ll still make every penny.

If you’re an NFL player, sign a similar deal and get cut after three years, your money line gets cut.

What the NFL players are fighting for now is a higher percentage of the revenue share the owners receive. The players want 60 percent of total football revenue, the owners are countering with 56.2 percent. A difference of 3.8 percent, which seems like a small number, means a difference of about $2 billion.

For us average Joes, that’s an inconceivable amount of money. (A billionaire can hypothetically spend $1,000 a day for 1,000 years and would still spend way under half his fortune.) But it’s still something the players can live without.

The average salary for an NFL player is about $1.3 million. In the NHL, it’s a little over $1 million. In MLB it’s about $2.5 million and in the NBA it’s approximately a whopping $5 million.

What the heck? These guys are millionaires and they still want more money. The excuse of the players is that the owners hog all the money, while the players put the product out there.

Well, professional sports are like any other business. The CEOs of Ford Motor Company and General Motors make millions, while the laborers on the assembly line, who produce the actual products, make well under six-figure salaries.

The players will also say they risk permanent injury every day on the field. Oh, really? Coal miners, who make under $40,000 a year, risk their lives, as well as permanent injury, on a daily basis.

To put it into perspective, I was at a Florida Marlins’ game once and happened to be sitting next to a police officer. We started talking about Randy Johnson – who was playing for the Arizona Diamondbacks at the time – and how intimidating he was.

Then I said, “That’s why they pay him $16 million a year.”

His reply: “$16 million? I had a gun pulled on me the other day and I barely make $60,000. Put him in my job for a day and he’ll [defecate in] his pants. His biggest fear is giving up a lead. My biggest fear is leaving my kids without a father.”

If you are a professional athlete, how can you defend yourself against that? It’s unfortunate that teachers, firefighters, police officers, coal miners and even doctors and lawyers make less than professional athletes and Hollywood actors, but there’s nothing we can do about that. I guess life is unfair.

But it’s freaking ridiculous when former NBA star Latrell Spreewell is offended when he’s offered a contract for $7 million a year and says, “I have kids to feed.”

Regardless of what happens between the NFL owners and the players union, regardless of who gets what percentage of the revenue, those millionaires are going to remain millionaires.

And I’m terribly jealous.
SPORTS

SUN BELT CONFERENCE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

ROUND ONE

Men’s team ends season with disappointing tournament loss

BY ANDONI GONZALEZ-RUA
Staff Writer

MURFREESBORO, TENN. – The men’s basketball team’s only game in this year’s Sun Belt Conference Tournament was much like the rest of their season – a disappointment.

Outgunned from the beginning, the Golden Panthers (8-20, 4-11) lost handily to the Privateers of New Orleans (10-18, 7-9) 76-56 in the opening round March 3 at the Murphy Center on the campus of Middle Tennessee University.

“FIU beat us by nine at home [in January],” New Orleans head coach Monte Towe said. “I just felt the defensive effort our kids gave tonight was tremendous. I think it was the defense and the rebounding that made us tough in the game. It was a total team victory.”

For the Golden Panthers the loss was a bitter end to a very tough season.

“They brought it to us,” head coach Sergio Rouco said, following his team’s final game of the season. “They hit us in the mouth and we didn’t hit them back.”

FIU’s senior forward Ivan Almonte was held in check in his final game in a Golden Panther uniform, as he was only able to muster three points – all of which came in the second half – and 12 rebounds in the devastating loss.

“It is hard for me as a player to come into my last game and play like that,” Almonte said. “I always come to play hard, but I didn’t bring my game today. I just hope the team can get better and get it started again.”

New Orleans’ Shawn Malloy and Jacob Manning took care of FIU’s Dominican forward all afternoon and held him to 0-for-11 shooting from the field. Malloy added 14 points and eight rebounds in leading his club to victory.

“Our game plan was to limit his touches and make him work on the defensive end. I felt we did that,” Malloy said. “Having [Almonte] go 0-for-11 for the game is a big plus for us in winning.”

UNO’s Jeremie Davis, who earlier in the week was named the SBC Player of the Week, dropped 15 points in just 24 minutes of play as he connected on 3-of-5 3-point attempts.

Forward Nathaniel Parker was a constant sore spot for the Golden Panthers as he dominated a shaky Kenny Simms inside the paint and also finished with 15 points, seven of which came from the free throw line.

See MEN, page 9

Women dominate UNO, advance to quarterfinals

BY ANDONI GONZALEZ-RUA
Staff Writer

MURFREESBORO, TENN. – The women’s basketball team took care of business in its Sun Belt Conference tournament opening game.

FIU (17-11, 10-5) handled New Orleans (3-25, 1-15) from start to finish – leading by as much as 28 points at one time – in a 35-19 win March 2 at the Murphy Center.

Led by freshman Marquita Adley, who recorded 13 points and seven rebounds despite learning her grandfather had passed away earlier in the day, and All-Sun Belt first teamer Lasma Jekabsone, who added her fifteenth double-double of the season with 11 points and 11 rebounds, head coach Cindy Russo’s squad cruised into the tournament quarterfinals.

“I am very proud of our team to come out and play like they did tonight,” Russo said. “They had concentration and focus.”

The Golden Panthers forced 24 turnovers and jumped out to a 35-19 lead at halftime, thanks to suffocating defense and strong inside offensive play.

“We should be having fun, but we had fun winning,” Russo said. “Our team was talking about setting the bar the first game of the tournament, and they did that.”

FIU shot 48 percent in the first half and was able to rest its starters for over 13 minutes in the second half as they prepared for the quarterfinal match-up on March 4 against West Division runner-up Denver.

Senior Faeza Bouderra, snubbed as an all-conference selection earlier in the week, proved her importance to this team early and finished the night with 15 points, four assists and four steals against the Privateers.

New Orleans, a team that featured just seven players with five freshman and two sophomores, were led by first year player and standout Talisha Young who led all scorers with 17 points.

“For continuing coverage of the women’s basketball team in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament, log on to www.beaconnewspaper.com

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