“Green” buildings in the works

KELLY POWEROMO
Contributing Writer

Sounds like a futuristic movie: environmental friendly buildings that use natural lighting and non-toxic paint and carpet. Well, think again, because it’s not that far from the future.

This is how FIU could look in a few years, once the new Ad Hoc Building and Environment Committee implements its plan to build “green buildings” at the University.

Approved last summer by the Faculty Senate, the B.E.C. hopes to change standards of on-campus construction to be more environmentally friendly.

John Stuart, associate professor in the School of Architecture and chairperson of the B.E.C., describes how the committee came to be.

Our committee was founded by Bruce Hauptli, the chairman of the Faculty Senate. He formed the committee and said our first task was to look at the master plan of the University—where all the new building and issues of planning the campus were,” Stuart said.

The B.E.C.’s official mission includes to review and impact University plans and policies, including the University master plan, as they relate to the physical environment; to educate the community about issues of the University’s physical environment; and to receive and distribute funding to pursue its plans.

After learning their objective, the B.E.C. began deliberating on methods to provide a safe environment for FIU. Ideal methods such as using non-toxic carpet and paint, building recycling facilities, and using less lighting and air conditioning have all been discussed and are being worked into future construction plans. All buildings with these new standards will be considered “green buildings.”

The B.E.C. met Feb. 16 to discuss the current status of the committee. At this meeting, the committee mentioned their goals as of this semester.

“We want to] encourage the production of green buildings on campus, encourage non-toxic approaches to landscape maintenance and to follow FIU master plan and building developments,” Stuart said.

According to Stuart, these goals will be set towards new buildings such as the expansion and to the international studies and medical center buildings. There has also been word of a new “green” residence hall. The B.E.C. has been focusing both on University Park and the Biscayne Bay Campus.

“In the meeting] we talked about places for students to gather on the Biscayne Bay Campus,” Stuart said. “[We want] the Biscayne Bay Campus to be identified as a campus focused on the environment — it has a beautiful setting on the water.”

Since the committee is relatively new and construction of a new building is a
FIU

Expert on Chinese regionalism and development lectures on the Chinese frontier myth

Timothy Oakes, expert on Chinese regionalism and economic development, will explore the role of the frontier myth in China’s national imagination when he lectures at FIU Feb. 22.

As China opens up to international tourism and looks for ways to capitalize on its history and geography, its government is looking for inspiration from the lore of its frontiers.

Following the country’s recent marketing model, dubbed “Open to the West,” Oakes will compare China’s frontier myth to that of the United State’s in the 19th century, during the Wild West experience.

Oakes’s current research, supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation, examines the cultural and ethnic politics of heritage tourism in China.

He is also currently co-editing The Cultural Geography Reader together with Patricia Price, an international relations associate professor at FIU.

He serves as visiting professor at the Department of Sociology at the Guizhou Nationalities Institute, in Guiyang, China.

The lecture and discussion is sponsored by the Ruth K. & Shepard Broad Educational Series at FIU’s Department of International Relations and the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies.

The lecture will take place Feb. 22 at 2 p.m. in University Park’s MARC building’s International Pavilion.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 305-348-7551.

College of Medicine announces first associate dean for the academic affairs

Officials from the College of Medicine have hired Dr. Joe Leigh Simpson, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, as the college’s first associate dean for academic affairs.

Simpson, whose expertise rests in genetic research, will be responsible for the hiring of faculty and helping to lead the college’s accreditation process.

Simpson obtained his medical degree at Duke University and completed post-graduate work at several institutions including Cornell University.

Before coming to FIU, he was a professor at the Baylor College of Medicine, where he taught in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Department of Molecular and Human Genetics.

FIU first to offer bank compliance certificate

FIU is expected to become the first accredited university in the United States to have an anti-money laundering compliance certificate.

The program is set to start this Spring and will be a partnership between the College of Business Administration and the Florida International Bankers Association.

It will be similar to anti-money laundering training courses FINA has offered for several years with its own certificate and they will also be providing instructors and course materials.

The first classes in the non-credit program are being scheduled at FIU’s downtown Miami campus.

For more information, please visit http://che.fiu.edu.

State CFO says helpful program may be in wrong hands

Alex Sink, Florida chief financial officer, wants the popular “My Safe Florida Home” program out of her department and said the agency does not have the expertise to administer it.

The program, which began last August, has a total budget of $250 million to help Floridians strengthen their homes against hurricanes. It provides free home inspections and cash grants of up to $5,000 to homeowners.

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“We have a partnership between the College of Business Administration and the Florida International Bankers Association,” Santa Lucia said.

Mohammed Malik, A.N.S.W.E.R.’s president, said many students, faculty members and administrators had viewed the project. He said Sonny Wright, a Board of Trustees member, even stepped up to take a look.

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By seeing this demonstration, people are becoming aware of the issue. That’s why we’re there,” Malik said.

The Student Government Association, another group joining the cause, plans to hold a fundraising event March 5. All donations will be given to the Umoja Village.

Getrel Hebbert, who was recently selected to SGA’s student services committee, is in charge of the fundraising, and will work through the coming days to plan and advertise the event.

Yet another part of the student’s protest includes a petition demanding an investigation against Miami-Dade County. They’ve collected more than 500 signatures so far, but still need 2,500 more. In an effort to collect those remaining signatures, they’re going to keep the hat up until Feb. 23 at 11:59 p.m.

For more information on Umoja village, visit http://takebacktheland.blogspot.com.

Additional reporting by C. Joel Marino and Maria Chercoles, Beacon staff

HUNGRY?

WHAT’S COOKING?: Chef Joseph (right) gives a cooking demonstration to Amanda Corvelly (left) and Laura Cutro (center) in last year’s Wine and Food Festival, which is sponsored by FIU. This year’s festival will take place next weekend at South Beach. Read a full review of the festival on our March 1 issue.

Students protest in camp out

FIU will be wasted, Swanson said they’re going to be re-using all their materials to build a library in the shantytown.

“Everything that we’ve done has been in complete conjunction with Umoja Village,” Santa Lucia said.

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East meets West in philosophy club

FIU

BEN F. BADGER JR.
AND MARIA HERCOLES
Beacon Staff

Last semester, close friends Stephanie Mora and Elizabeth Chang felt they needed a way to share their favorite interest with other students: philosophy.

In order to do this, they founded the Philosophies of the East and West club, an organization that encourages students to think about subjects such as the meaning of life and the history of philosophy.

“It’s a forum to discuss the wisdom of the ancient civilizations,” said Mora, who is club’s president.

“But you don’t need to know anything to join.”

According to Mora, the club aims to educate those who have not been exposed to philosophy. Their only requirement is going to club meetings with an open mind.

“I think people can learn from each other,” said senior and club member Nelson Abreu.

“The club meetings are an opportunity to find the strong and weak points of the different philosophies.”

From Buddha to Socrates, Mora or one of the club officers picks out a quote from a philosopher to read aloud.

During their last meeting, Mora picked out a quote from Siddharta Gautama, the Indian prince who became the Buddha: “What we are today comes from our thoughts of yesterday. Our thoughts today make our world of the future. Our life is the creation of our mind.”

The discussion began afterwards. Most discussions last about two hours.

Club members either debate the issue that was brought up by the quote, or simply talk about the issue, not trying to prove any one side right or wrong.

“Everyone brings their own grain of salt to the table,” said sophomore Francisco Surace, who is also a club member.

Other mediums for discussion are also used.

“People usually bring other quotes and book titles that are relevant to the topics in question and enrich our discussion and learning,” Mora said.

The club’s motto is “discover, discuss and compare the wisdom of ancient civilizations” and they specialize in the classics.

“We stick to the classics because that way we know we can’t go wrong,” Mora said.

But the young philosophers don’t just keep their discussions within campus walls.

The club, which has about 10 members, is planning a barbeque in March, although an official date and place haven’t been set.

The Philosophies of the East and West Club meets the first Thursday of each month in the Graham Center, rooms 343 or 340, depending on room availability.

Their next meeting will be March 1 at 8:40 p.m. The group will be discussing Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius.

For more information, contact Mora at 954-678-7057.
Committee seeks natural solutions

ENVIRONMENT, page 1

lengthy process, students and faculty should not expect to see any “green” buildings for two to three years.

In order to promote these goals, the B.E.C. is planning to create a consciousness campaign, hopefully with the Student Government Association at the lead.

As discussed in their most recent meeting, the consciousness campaign would educate students about on-campus recycling, littering and vandalism. “We want freshmen coming to FIU to know there is a location on campus to recycle,” Stuart said.

This campaign may also make way for the residence halls, especially promoting energy conservation. “It has been cold outside, but still, the windows are closed and the air conditioning is still on in buildings,” he said.

For more information on the committee, contact Stuart at 305-348-3178.

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LEADING WOMEN: Miami Herald columnist Ana Mendez (right) and marketing expert Lourdes Balepogi (center) hold the discussion “Women in Media and Public Relations” as part of the Women Who Lead conference at the University Park Ballroom Feb. 20. Allison McComb (left) moderates the discussion. Keynote guest speaker Patricia Ireland was not able to make it to the conference due to health issues.

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Literary magazine hopes to relieve creative surge of Jazz Age

SILVIA LORENZO Contributing Writer

The Speakeasies is a new literary magazine on campus and its founder is promising that it will have attitude.

The magazine will feature poetry, essays, fiction and non-fiction stories written by FIU students as well as the artwork of student artists. This magazine encourages different forms of expression or opinions and brings together students across different areas of study.

“The Speakeasies is not associated with any particular school or department,” said Alex McAnarney, editor and founder of the magazine. “The Speakeasies is not associated with any particular school or department,” said Alex McAnarney, editor and founder of the magazine. “The Speakeasies is an open forum where FIU students can speak their minds easily, and it’s free.”

McAnarney wants the contents of the magazine to be driven scientifically “by the material submitted by students.”

As the founder of the magazine, McAnarney will be in charge of creating a presence in the community while looking for funds and resources. Although publishing the paper would increase cost and require more labor, McAnarney prefers having a real edition come out consistently then posting it on the Internet like the popular trend among bloggers.

According to McAnarney, it’s worth it because she’s “old school” preferring paper publications to online magazines.

The Speakeasies is raising funds through FIU’s Student Organizations Council and plans to distribute the magazine bi-monthly.

The name “speakeasies” recalls the infamous American underworld nightclubs of the 1920s, which allowed people to get together and drink alcohol, illegal due to a constitutional prohibition. Like the underground nightclubs that propelled the artists and writers of the era. The Speakeasies intend to draw attention to the unknown writers or artists in FIU.

“This is a creative outlet where students majoring in international business or African-new world studies can express themselves without having to be a part of the School of Journalism [and Mass Communication],” McAnarney said.

Some students are already excited over the prospect of having a campus literary magazine.

“There is a great demand for a direct students’ voice unfiltered by a department at FIU,” said Mohammed Malik, a graduate student of religious studies who intends to draw attention to unknown writers.

“Literary magazines are a vital part of culture especially in South Florida,” said Alexis Sanfield, the owner of Luna Star Café, whose independent coffee shop in North Miami regularly hosts literary, music and art events.

“Literary magazines let people know what is going on in a community where everything is so spread out. I’m used to people being more active in their culture, not just the beaches and the malls,” Sanfield said.

The magazine’s first edition will come out before spring break at University Park and the Bisca
cayne Bay Campus.

To feature a piece in The Speakeasies, visit them online at myspace.comthespeakeasies.
N. KOREA STILL A PROBLEM

Kim Jong II is armed and possibly dangerous

JOSE MARTINEZ
Contributing Writer

After years of perpetual buring and constant negotiation, it appears that the United States has finally benefited from its policy of steadfast and persistent diplomacy. Over the course of a decade, North Korea has conspicuously failed in its attempt to realize its ambitions of possessing nuclear capabilities in both nuclear and conventional weapons. However, the perseverance of allied negotiators from the United States, China, Russia and South Korea, coupled with the promise of vast amounts of financial assistance, has convinced communist dictator Kim Jong II that it is no longer necessary to realize his ambitions to make North Korea a viable superpower. As difficult as believe that as may be, it seems to be the case. Time Magazine reports that the agreement states that: “Under the pact, North Korea agreed to shut down within 60 days its nuclear reactor and Yongbyon, where it’s believed to have produced the reactor at Yongbyon, where it’s estimated to possess. By the time of the agreement states that: “Under the pact, North Korea agreed to shut down within 60 days its nuclear reactor and Yongbyon, where it’s believed to have produced the reactor at Yongbyon, where it’s estimated to possess. By the time of the

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Three big questions were left unanswered at the recent Feb. 16 Board of Trustees meeting. Over time, it has been our experience that the board has a tendency to raise issues and concerns in one meeting, and then never bring those issues up again. We urge them to defy that pattern and revisit these questions at their next meeting. First is FIU President Modesto A. Maidique’s idea of counting the University’s annual revenues from its first entering class and the day upon which FIU’s annual revenues have been celebrated until now. It’s not clear whether Maidique intends to achieve with this, but any guess is as good as ours. We think he wants to make FIU seem older. The logic behind that would be that he is trying to compete with Florida’s older, more established universities. As Maidique’s past diplomatic failures. The desperation on North Korea’s behalf is also apparent. They’ve demanded aid to combat the poverty and starvation that is rampant within its borders. In the end, this agreement is a step in the right direction, but it still leaves nuclear weapons in the hands of an unstable dictator.

I applaud their efforts to allow international inspectors into the country to verify compliance. In return, the North is to receive an emergency shipment of fuel oil from the U.S., China, Russia and South Korea.” Just how much does this “aid” amount to? According to the Associated Press, the agreement calls for an initial 50,000 tons of oil, or equivalent aid, to be shipped to North Korea once it has been verified that the main nuclear reactor in Yongbyon has been shut down and sealed. Another 950,000 tons of oil, or equivalent aid, is to be distributed once it is confirmed that the North Koreans have irreversibly disabled the reactor. The question is, will North Korea comply 100 percent with American and allied demands? This is a valid question, considering the years of effort the Koreans put into this program. It took over a decade of labor to conduct their first nuclear test. North Korea has irreversibly disabled the reactor. The question is, will North Korea comply 100 percent with American and allied demands? This is a valid question, considering the years of effort the Koreans put into this program. It took over a decade of labor to conduct their first nuclear test. North Korea has irreversibly disabled the reactor. The question is, will North Korea comply 100 percent with American and allied demands? This is a valid question, considering the years of effort the Koreans put into this program. It took over a decade of labor to conduct their first nuclear test. North Korea has irreversibly disabled the reactor. The question is, will North Korea comply 100 percent with American and ally

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Adult baptism akin to ‘righteous party in God’s house’

I had the privilege of witnessing the rebirth of my friend Amanda as she decided to dedicate her life to Jesus; she had invited me to attend her baptism at Dade Christian School on Feb. 1.

Raised Catholic, I only saw babies being baptized, so watching grown adults being dunked into a pool of water was something different for me. When my friend first invited me, I expected that the ceremony would take place outside in a lake, river or pool, similar to how John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ in the Bible. But the relaxed atmosphere at the school auditorium – serving as a church for the time being – was evident in the way people were dressed. All of the baptisms I had attended had men decked out in three-piece suits with shiny dress shoes, while women wore dresses with matching purses and accessories. At Amanda’s baptism, however, a few people were dressed semi-formally while the rest in attendance wore shorts, t-shirts and faded jeans with sneakers.

I didn’t like clapping and celebrating in his house. But the relaxed atmosphere at the school auditorium, as well as my friend’s hurried baptism, was evident in the way people were dressed. All of the baptisms I had attended had men decked out in three-piece suits with shiny dress shoes, while women wore dresses with matching purses and accessories. At Amanda’s baptism, however, a few people were dressed semi-formally while the rest in attendance wore shorts, t-shirts and faded jeans with sneakers.

I had the privilege of witnessing the rebirth of my friend Amanda as she decided to dedicate her life to Jesus; she had invited me to attend her baptism at Dade Christian School on Feb. 1.

Raised Catholic, I only saw babies being baptized, so watching grown adults being dunked into a pool of water was something different for me. When my friend first invited me, I expected that the ceremony would take place outside in a lake, river or pool, similar to how John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ in the Bible. But the relaxed atmosphere at the school auditorium – serving as a church for the time being – was evident in the way people were dressed. All of the baptisms I had attended had men decked out in three-piece suits with shiny dress shoes, while women wore dresses with matching purses and accessories. At Amanda’s baptism, however, a few people were dressed semi-formally while the rest in attendance wore shorts, t-shirts and faded jeans with sneakers.

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Leah Dunlevy
Junior
Psychology
“My graduate degree will help me get a great job because there aren’t many neuropsychologists in the field.”
Asian Sensation
Asian Heritage Week ushers in year of the Pig

Ringing in the New Year: Student Programming Council's Asian Heritage Week featured sushi rolling demonstrations (above right), traditional music and dance (above left), and a kung fu self-defense demonstration (left). The festival took place in the Graham Center Forum Feb. 19 - Feb. 22.

Asian Heritage Week ushers in year of the Pig

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Dancing doggies ignite dance floors nationwide

KIM NGUYEN
AP Wire

Candy normally keeps to herself and doesn’t speak up. She stays close to those she knows best and does as she’s told. But when she dons her red handkerchief and hits the dance stage, she sheds her reserve.

To Brooks and Dunn’s “Boot Scootin’ Boogie,” she frolics, twirls and, as the country song instructs, does the “heel, toe, do-si-do.”

Then she lands a slobbery lick on the face of her partner, owner MaryAnn Fuhrman.

Fuhrman and Candy, a 2-year-old white and fluffy Samoyed, are doing what’s known as canine freestyle. In the growing sport, human and dog become a dancing couple, performing in unison to songs and using costumes to show off their fancy footwork.

In the growing sport, human and dog become a dancing couple, performing in unison to songs and using costumes to show off their fancy footwork.

The competitions are memorable, to say the least.

At the stock show, one woman and her dog dressed in coordinating Denver Broncos gear (the woman in face paint as well), doing their dance as a tribute to fallen football player Darrent Williams. Another woman dressed in red pranced around her toy poodle while Michael Bolton’s “Go the Distance” blared from the speakers.

And at the end of the performances, the women changed into black, red, white, and blue sequined suits, each grabbed an American flag, and did a choreographed dance to Shania Twain’s “Man! I Feel Like a Woman!” and George M. Cohan’s “You’re a Grand Old Flag.”

Complete with a giant dog and human spinning pinwheel formation and chorus line of the owners kicking up their legs in unison.

“It’s just pure fun. That’s the crux of the thing. It’s not a stress thing like a showing is,” said Fuhrman, 62, of Lakewood, Colo., with Candy wagging her tail and standing by her side.

“The dogs enjoy it as much as we (humans) do.”

Fuhrman, like lots of canine freestyle dancers, first heard of the sport when she was putting her dogs through obedience training. It’s there, many say, where doggie dancing got its beginnings in the late 1980s in Canada and Europe, when some people set their competitive obedience routines to music.

“Many people take credit for starting it, but no one has ever actually been called out,” said Jessy Gabriel, vice president of dog training at the Triple Crown Dog Academy in Austin, Texas.

Doggie dancing clubs have sprouted around the nation, including doggie daycares, canine culture in America, and clubs worldwide, which serve as gathering points for dog owners and the pets and a place where they can polish their dance moves.

Shows like January’s National Western Stock Show give the dancers a chance to make contact with kids like Madeline McMillan, of Aurora, Colo., 8, who sat in front of the crowd of cowboys and cowgirls and vigilantly watched Candy twirl around her owner and hop on her back.

“I’m going to try to train my dogs turn around when I get homes,” said Madeline, who has a 2-year-old dachshund and a 12-week-old golden retriever. “I’m going to tell my friends that I saw tons of dogs dancing – like they really could dance.”

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 22

WHAT: SPC-BBC Neo Soul Concert
WHERE: 8 p.m.
WHERE: WUC Ballrooms (FIU – BBC)
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: Ian Bagge live at the Improv
WHERE: 8:30 p.m.
WHERE: The Miami Improv (3390 Mary Street, Suite 182)
HOW MUCH: $16.05

FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 23

WHAT: SPC Film – Casino Royale
WHERE: 7 p.m., 10 p.m.
WHERE: GC 140 (FIU-UP)
HOW MUCH: Free

WHAT: Cooking for Cannibals 101 Workshop
WHERE: 1 p.m.
WHERE: WUC 157 (FIU – BBC)
HOW MUCH: Free

SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 24

WHAT: Southern Challenge & Baseball Cook-off
WHERE: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
WHERE: Everglades Hall First Floor Lounge (FIU – UP)
HOW MUCH: Free

SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 25

WHAT: Oscar Night
WHERE: 7 p.m.
WHERE: Everglades Hall First Floor Lounge (FIU – UP)
HOW MUCH: Free

Congratulations to the ladies who made it onto the dean’s list...

Diana Arteaga
Liz Bell
Natalie Bello
Christy Bermudez
Kallie Burke
Candace Campos
Erika Collado
Soﬁa Cueto
Laura Davis

Yamila del Oso
Aly Earnhardt
Maggie Ferrer
Monica Font
Chanel Garcia
Cari Gonzalez
Lauren Lesende
Vanessa Lopez
Christy Marino

Mabel Martinez
Christy Ordoqui
Yilana Puerto
Chelsi Rome
Aviva Rose-Avila
Desiree Ruiz
Melissa Sabatier
Jenna Stone
Yamile Viera

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READ OUR FEATURED COLUMNS!
Friend’s baptism raises religious skepticism

no regard for fashion or impression. Deacons would often scold new members of my church for wearing hats during mass. Here, one guy wore a Bass Pro Fishing Tournament hat while singing church songs and exclaiming “Hallelujah!” and “Amen!” throughout the service.

All of this was going on while Amanda was being reborn in less than an hour. Some people would think that attending a special mass, baptism, communion, baby dedication – whatever you want to call it – would cause an epiphany or allow you to see the light. Yeah, I believe that it’s a noble and righteous cause to dedicate your life to Christ or whomever you think is your religious savior, but finding your calling takes more time than a simple dunk in a tub, lake or pool. It takes work and passion to commit one’s self to a new lifestyle. Just because you put on a Michael Jordan jersey and some brand-new basketball sneakers doesn’t make it the second coming of the greatest basketball player of all time. It takes work, just like any profession does. I’m not one to preach and impose my beliefs on others. I admit that I’m not the church-going type; I believe in God and try to live my life to the best of my abilities in a way that would please him.

I’m not one to sit down and speak about the Bible and recite passages like Job 4:17; religion should be kept to one’s self and only be offered to those who ask for it. But I have to admit, it did feel nice and relaxing to walk into the Lord’s house and witness my friend’s baptism.

Higher education opens doors for employment

Higher education opens doors for employment

to turn my passion into a hobby to pay the bills.”

Unlike Gozas, senior Kayla Rosales hasn’t even graduated and is already close to finding a job that’s perfect for her. “I don’t think the job hunt has been that bad for me,” she said. “I started looking for a job for post-graduation last year. That’s plenty of time, I think.”

Rosales, who is majoring in social studies education, refuses to leave Miami after her planned graduation in Summer 2007; she feels that it’s the best place to be a teacher. “Why would I leave Miami when so many schools need more teachers here?” she said.

The reason why Rosales would have a better chance of finding a job than Gozas is because there is a demand for teachers in South Florida, according to Lazzaro Rodriguez, an employee of Miami-Dade County Public Schools and an FIU graduate. “There’s [going to be] a need for teachers down here for a long time simply because people keep having kids,” Rodriguez said. “Teaching is a stable job that pays the bills. I like the security I get out of being a teacher.”

There might be hope for Rosales as a teacher in Miami, but Gozas is ready to relocate. “I’m thinking of moving to a place that is a lot less crowded,” Gozas said. “I just think I have a better chance of getting a job that appeals to me in a city with less people.”

For students and alumni seeking jobs, FIU Career Services offers a variety of services including mock interviews, resume critiques and job fairs. According to Lenroy Jones, director of Career Services, Gozas is not using the proper tools being offered to him in his job hunt. Jones strongly believes that seeking guidance through the center in job searching will drastically raise the chances of landing a desired job.

Located in the Graham Center, room 230, Career Services will be offering various information sessions throughout the semester with companies including Walt Disney World, IBM and Procter & Gamble. Visit their website at www.fiu.edu/career for more event information.
Men’s basketball shocks top ranked Sun Belt Conference foe

Potent offense aids to first series win

In a season that has been characterized by highs and lows, the men’s basketball team just may have reached their pinnacle in a matinee contest Feb. 18 at the Pharrmed Arena.

Forward Alex Galindo played a familiar role and carried the team on his back, en route to a slim 69-67 win over the University of Southern Alabama (20-8, 13-3) in the second-longest win streak in Division I play.

“I think that all year, defense has been our strength and it keeps us in the game. We wanted to end their streak, and I thought we did it defensively, not offensively,” Galindo.

During the game, the Golden Panthers’ second half comeback against the Jaguars.

Overall the two minutes, both teams had their struggles from the field before Bennett cashed in on a pair of free throws to put the Golden Panthers in a 34-21 hole at halftime.

Scoring just seven points in the first half, Galindo made a pair of jumpers, while freshman center Nikola Gaescu showed his versatility with a lay-up in the paint followed by a jumper of his own.

Despite their strong play, the Jaguars showed no signs of flattening as they opened up a 49-33 advantage off a Stephen Coward 3-pointer with 12:14 remaining in the second half.

Sensing the game slipping away, the Golden Panthers turned to their defense to hold up the game within reach.

Led by junior guard Chris Fuller, the Golden Panthers played a spirited defense that forced the Jaguars to turn the ball over seven times down the stretch.

Meanwhile, Galindo got some help from freshsmen point guard Erick Nsangou and Gacesa, who made timely buckets to get back into contention.

With 29 seconds left, Merrill split a pair from the charity stripe to give the Jaguars a 67-66 lead.

Following a Golden Panther timeout, James used his quickness to penetrate the lane and find an open Fuller who buried the go-ahead bucket inside the top of the key with 13 seconds left.

Junior forward Ernest Little missed a tough lay-up, then Merrill split free throws to put the Jaguars up for the time.

“The play was designed for Alex because he had a great game,” said Fuller, who finished with 10 points and four rebounds.

“The play broke down for Mike and when he drove and kicked it out to me, I knew that if I got him up in the air with a pump fake I could get it off,”

Junior guard and point guard Erick Nsangou added nine points and six rebounds, while Gacesa chipped in with eight points in the first half, had a game.

Despite their strong performance, the Golden Panthers just may have reached their pinnacle in a matinee contest Feb. 18 at the Pharrmed Arena.
Honesty isn’t worth the reward or consequences

VILLARMARZO, page 11

edged sword, which is why no baseball player will ever admit to using steroids. It’s no secret that the only reason Mark McGwire didn’t make it into the Hall of Fame was because of suspicion of steroid use, but if he had admitted it, he still wouldn’t have been voted in and would have received grief from fans. Situations like that give no incentive for an athlete to be honest. We say we want athletes to be honest and candid, but we really don’t. We just want to be lied to, as terrible as that sounds. One of the most vocal and opinionated athletes in history, Muhammad Ali, is loved by many all around the world. Even after retirement, he is probably still the most marketable athlete on the planet. Why? Because he keeps his mouth shut on the major topics. No one will ever know his opinions on the war in Iraq, George W. Bush, the Enron scandal or anything controversial. During the 1992 Los Angeles riots, Jordan frustrated reporters after repeatedly refusing to comment on the subject. That was a very smart move and now, Tiger Woods is following in Jordan’s footsteps in that respect: smile, wave, shake hands and keep your opinions to yourself. Want more proof? Take a look at Ali today. The man who was awarded Sports Illustrated’s Sportsman of the Century is almost a shell of his former self because of a long, hard battle with Parkinson’s disease. But everywhere he goes he is constantly receiving cheers and standing ovations — constant love. Why? Because now he just smiles, waves, shakes hands and keeps his opinions to himself.

Casas’ goal keeps Sigma Phi Epsilon undefeated in intramural play

SOCRER, page 12

a lob pass by Sigma Phi Epsilon landed on the right side of the penalty area, which was received by Casas and scored the game’s only goal. “Some of us still had our backs turned. By the time we turned around, they were right in front of me and I tried to get them but before I knew it, it was in the goal,” Carvajal said. “Even the goalie was surprised … It caught us by surprise.” Immediately after the score, Sigma Phi Epsilon changed their game philosophy as they closed their defensive line. “For the last three years, we’ve been more organized on defense than offense,” Riobueno said. “We’ve always been hard core on defense; we’ve always worked on defense more than anything.” After the goal, Pi Kappa Phi started to push the game offensively without success. They started taking more long shots and were frantically trying to score whenever it was possible, but Romero denied any shot attempts by Pi Kappa Phi. During the last minutes of play, Pi Kappa Phi changed their original tempo and became impatient, losing the ball frequently and shooting off target. Pi Kappa Phi’s next game will be against Tau Kappa Epsilon on Feb. 27 at 10 p.m., while Sigma Phi Epsilon will play against Lambda Chi Alpha on the same night at 9 p.m.
Golden Panthers sweep Rattlers at home

CHRISTIAN GUILLEN
Contributing Writer

For the second time this season, Sigma Phi Epsilon (2-0) defeated Pi Kappa Phi (0-2) in the intramural soccer fraternity league.

At the start of the second half, senior forward David Casas of Sigma Phi Epsilon dribbled the ball inside the penalty area and scored on a second-post shot.

“I saw the goalie kind of creeping towards the middle,” Casas said. “I was thinking he was thinking I was going to cross it because I really didn’t have that good of an angle and when he crept up a little bit, I just decided, ‘Let me just shoot it at the goal.’ That was my best shot, because I had the defender right on me.”

Casas’ goal would be the only offense secured for his team.

At the beginning of the game, both teams were trying to organize their strategies, but Pi Kappa Phi forwards defender Nick Fuentes, defended by a Sigma Phi Epsilon defender, and Pi Kappa Phi ‘s Nick Fuentes, defended by a Sigma Phi Epsilon defender, both were scoring threats.

“We were just trying to be efficient up front. We knew we were going to have a limited amount of opportunities,” Casas said.

The atmosphere was loud as supporters of both fraternities screamed at every attempt on goal. The Golden Panthers (4-4) came alive in the three game series at University Park and defeated the Rattlers.

After being swept by Missouri in their first home series of the season, playing Florida A&M (1-11) was just what the baseball team needed.

The Golden Panthers (4-4) came alive in the three game series at University Park Stadium on Feb. 16-17 and outscored the Rattlers 38-15 in a sweep.

FIU 7, FAMU 6

The Golden Panthers survived a sloppy game that included four errors, three balls and two hit batters to come from behind and defeat the Rattlers.

The Rattlers jumped on the Golden Panthers early on to take a 3-0 lead in the third inning.

Whitley was called upon with two men on and one out. Whitley struck out the first batter he faced and got the Rattlers’ Darrell Evans to pop up to first to end the inning.

The Rattlers tacked on more runs after he was asked if being around some of the game’s greats during All-Star weekend could be beneficial for a rookie.

The second half, as they attacked more aggressively and took more control of the game that included four errors, three balks and two hit batters to come from behind and defeat the Rattlers.

“Every Golden Panther got to bat in the inning, causing the Rattlers to use three different pitchers to get out of it. FIU starting pitcher Chris Allen allowed five runs in five and two-thirds innings of work. The middle of the Golden Panthers’ lineup proved too potent, going a combined 10 for 18 with six runs scored.

Athletes may be forced to speak up on tough issues

Honesty in sports is a double-edged sword. It’s the best policy. But in the sports world, it may not be the smartest.

Looking at two recent incidents involving NBA players, one former and one current, it’s easy to say they should have kept their mouths shut.

The first incident involves Chicago Bulls rookie forward Tyrus Thomas.

After becoming the first Chicago Bull since 1990 to be invited into this year’s Slam Dunk Contest, Thomas stated that the only reason he is participating is for the money.

“Tyrus Thomas is the best freak dunker in the league,” said one of his teammates. “He’s a natural.”

But it should be duly noted that his pocket book was hit by the NBA – not with a fine, but for any future endorsement deals or jobs in the media.

“There’s no question what they both said was stupid,” said one of their teammates.

And there’s no question that their comments showed contempt either for their job or a group of people.

With that said, it has long been a complaint by many fans and members of the media that most athletes are boring interviews.

“Much like politicians, athletes just aren’t candid because they represent an organization and, more importantly, have an image to protect,” said one of their teammates.

In essence, it all comes down to honesty. Athlete’s honesty is always in question.

So what happens when an athlete is honest?

He or she is vilified. Hell, Tim Hardaway Jr. may as well have been put on the FBI’s Most Wanted list.

Honesty in sports is a double-edged sword.