Students still waiting for repairs at BBC’s Aquatic Center

Samir Ahmed
Staff Writer

Benny Michel Smeds has been wanting to use the Biscayne Bay Campus Aquatic Center pool but he won’t be making a splash anytime soon — it’s still closed for repairs.

“I feel very disappointed that the pool is closed and I’ve been getting wrong answers from faculty as to when it would be ready. I’ve been waiting for over two semesters and I feel like I don’t want to wait anymore,” said Smeds, a 24-year-old junior from Helsinki, Finland.

According to Student Government Association Vice President Cassandra S. Andrade, the pool was not built underground, exposing pipes to the South Florida weather and salt water from the bay. Thus, the pipe works have eroded.

Andrade and the rest of SGA have had meetings since the Fall of 2007 with Rosa Jones, vice president of Student Affairs and Undergraduate Education, to determine the future of the Aquatic Center.

“The engineers who were involved in looking at the pool decided that draining the pool and refilling it when needed would be like putting a band-aid on the situation. They came to the conclusion that two million dollars would be needed to renovate the Aquatic Center,” Andrade said.

Current budget cuts to FIU have delayed the renovation progress to the Aquatic Center, but Andrade was quick to mention that she knew the importance of the Aquatic Center for FIU.

“SGA just had a budget meeting and one of the top priorities was to have a functioning pool because lots of people use the pool in the community,” Andrade said.

James Wassenaar, executive director of Student Affairs, said the pool is expected to reopen Spring 2009.
Buchanan: candidates “shot themselves in the foot”

ELECTIONS, page 1

“The event was a fund raiser that we were going to have in support of our campaign,” Olmedo said. “We were going to invite alumni from my sorority and Johnny’s fraternity, and also volunteers and those who wanted to help out. We were hoping to accept donations.”

The event was scheduled to take place March 20 in the FIU House but was canceled due to venue scheduling conflicts according to Juanky Robaina, Betancourt’s campaign manager.

The letter informing Betancourt and Olmedo of their disqualification was hand delivered to Olmedo on March 19 after Betancourt could not reach them. It also detailed how the Elections Code, “campaigning prior to the designated starting dates,” may result in immediate disqualification.

However, Betancourt said the page was vague and the information on the page was only understandable to people who knew they were running and already supported them. “I would have loved to see them run. I would have loved to see more people involved with elections,” Buchanan said.

“There is still a free and fair election between two very qualified parties. I wish there were still three, but (Betancourt and Olmedo) shot themselves in the foot.”

According to Buchanan, the only thing the Facebook page did not list was that Betancourt and Olmedo were actually running for president and vice president. However, Buchanan argues that given the information listed on the page, anyone viewing it could only conclude Betancourt and Olmedo were running for president and vice president, since they are the only positions in the SGC-UP that run together.

The page is no longer available for viewing.

Betancourt has filed an official appeal of the decision, stating that proper procedure was not followed in issuing the disqualification notice. A major point of the appeal is Betancourt was not given 24 hour notice or a hearing for the disqualification.

According to Buchanan, the appeal by Betancourt was still being considered by Lunsford at the time of publication.

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Ben Badger can be reached at Ben.Badder@fiusm.com

Community feels mixed emotions after summit

VENEZUELA, page 1

major Michael Cases.

1600-Miles away, former FIU student and now architecture major at Bogota’s Universidad de Los Andes, Natalia Reyes agreed the diplomatic crisis took a toll on students not only in Miami but all across different nations.

“Having talked to my FIU friends in Miami and now being in [Bogotá] seeing it happen, I can truthfully say that every student could not fully concentrate on school and was actually very nervous and anxious for a resolution,” Reyes said.

Despite the optimism shown by South American leaders at the summit, there are still many students who say the regional tension triggered by the cross-border incursion is expected to linger much longer as conflicts between these countries are deep-rooted.

“It’s not going to go away in reality,” said Ecuadorian FIU sophomore Julian Dominguez. “It’s all for the press and public to calm down...”

Colombian President Alvaro Uribe has taken a tough stance against the rebels of the FARC, since he took office in 2002, labeling it as a “terrorist organization.” Colombia has since accused Ecuador and Venezuela of having financial ties to FARC and providing it with safe havens.

Universidad de Los Andes Psychology Professor and Harvard graduate Maria Laruso believes that such diplomatic tensions can have an academic effect on students in these countries involved.

“During [their] college years students always seek out to make a difference in some unique way. When it comes to your homeland or your cultural ties, this urge is stronger than ever whether you are a student in Quito, Miami or Caracas and it can take your mind off the tasks at hand,” Laruso said.

Venezuela

In the issue dated March 24, 2008, the story titled “Fifth year of Iraq war brings protestors out”, incorrectly refers to Rebecca Lubin as Rose Lubin in one instance.

The Beacon will gladly change any errors. Call our UP office at 305-348-2709 or BBC at 305-919-4722.

CORRECTIONS

The FIU Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship

Amount Awarded: $1,000
Due Date: April 4
Eligibility:

1. Academic Merit: 3.0/4.0 cumulative GPA at time of application.
2. Residency: Open to both U.S. citizens and international students with permanent resident status.
3. Enrollment: Applicant must be admitted as a degree-seeking undergraduate at FIU and must be enrolled full-time (12 credit hours).
4. Admitted incoming freshman, current freshman, sophomore, junior or senior standing. All majors are eligible.
5. The recipient must be a student who has a parent/grandparent/sibling who is a graduate of FIU and is also a current member of the FIU Alumni Association.

The FIU Alumni Association Panther Pride Scholarship

Amount Awarded: $750
Due Date: April 4th
Eligibility:

1. Academic Merit: 2.75-4.0 cumulative GPA at time of application.
2. Residency: Open to both U.S. citizens and international students with permanent resident status.
3. Enrollment: Applicant must be admitted as a degree-seeking undergraduate or graduate student at FIU and must be enrolled full-time (12 credit hours).
4. Freshman, sophomore, junior or senior graduate student standing. All majors are eligible.
5. The recipient must be a current member of the FIU Student Alumni Association.

To list your scholarships e-mail Kassandra.Pool@fiusm.com
EVELYN DIAZ
Staff Writer

Ana Margarita Martínez's story started with the hopes of a better life in the United States. It ended with spies, an artist, and an airplane donated to FIU.

It was a shocking experience to say the least," Martinez said. "I cannot begin to tell you what a traumatizing experience this was.

Martinez came to the U.S. after fleeing Cuba in 1966 with her grandmother in order to begin to tell you what a story she had used his children as a farce. I believed that he taught because my husband was actually a Cuban Air Force Major. I was in total denial for nearly a year, my attorney, Martinez is pleased with the plane's fate. FIU is an ideal location to exhibit the symbolic artwork of Xavier Cortada, as well as to tell its story and the story of the Cuban people who desire and deserve their freedom," said Martinez.

According to Paul Baro, assistant director of the Office of Media Relations, there are no updates on when the plane will be installed on the ceiling of the Offi ce of Media Relations.

"Seizing the Cuban airplane was a moral victory and a statement," Martinez said. She later sold it to her lawyer.

"FIU is an ideal location to exhibit the symbolic artwork of Xavier Cortada, as well as to tell its story and the story of the Cuban people who desire and deserve their freedom," said Martinez.

After her husband’s unveiling as a spy and being left in debt by him, Martinez took her problems to court and sued the Cuban government.

After two different rulings, Judge Alan Postman ordered the Cuban government to pay Martinez $27.17 million for her pain and anguish as a victim of Roque’s plot and schemed marriage.

Martinez was never paid directly by the Cuban government, but as fate would have it, she would eventually be compensated.

The U.S. government seized an Antonov An-2 biplane, which was stolen by a family of eight in Cuba, after they landed in Key West.

The plane was presented to the Monroe County Sheriffs Office to be auctioned off.

The auctioning was made possible due to the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002. According to The Miami Herald, the act specifi es that people with judgments against a designated terrorist party – such as Iran, Iraq or Cuba – may move to keep the assets of any agency or instrumentality of that terrorist party.

The original plan was to turn all of the earnings from the auction over to Martinez.

"Seizing the Cuban airplane was a moral victory and a statement," Martinez said. She later sold it to her lawyer.

"The airplane was expensive to maintain, there was a monthly charge for keeping it at a hangar. After nearly a year, my attorney, Scott W. Leeds, offered me $2,500 for it. He wanted to move it to Miami and it was expensive to move. Since he was going to pay for the expenses, he wanted to own it first. He later donated it to the Cuban Monument for Freedom.

"I am on the board of that organization and we have since been actively looking for a permanent exhibit location for the AN-2," said Martinez.

The lawyer eventually sold it to Miami artist Xavier Cortada, who turned the plane into a work of art. Cortada painted half of the plane and left the other half in its original form. He then donated the plane to FIU with the intentions of informing fi nding students and staff of the struggles facing Cubans today.

"The airplane is a symbol of freedom on one side and of oppression on the other. I can only hope that its history will create awareness of the Cuban situation: A corrupt government’s continuous abuse of basic human rights and the dissidents’ and opposition leaders’ struggle for the freedom of the Cuban people," said Martinez.

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Florida history said to become new gourmet market, condos

This April, a South Florida staple will shut its doors for good. The Rascal House, a New York style deli restaurant located at 17190 Collins Avenue, in Sunny Isles, has been a neighborhood favorite since it first opened in 1954. One of my own favorites, actually.

Nothing could be more comforting when battling a flu, than a bowl of their small bread pockets filled with onions - smothered with butter while waiting or eating from the ever-flowing basket of bialys.

Nothing could be more comforting than a bowl of their fresh pickles and coleslaw.

Although it’s sad to say goodbye to its comforting dishes, the Rascal House has not been the perfect establishment. Over the past few years, I’ve lost my love for it because it slowly became a typical beach front restaurant - slow service and high prices.

At the end of the day, it’s just a deli and as many of you can agree, the Rascal House wasn’t offering college student prices - I couldn’t justify spending $16 on a sandwich.

But on a recent dinner - a goodbye dinner - my server, Keo, was funny and hospitable, making the wait for food enjoyable. My table was swimming with their signature free appetizers, like the aforementioned bialys joined by fresh pickles and coleslaw. And the Matzo Ball Soup? Something I will definitely miss.

Like FIU Chef Instructor Michael Moran put it, “This marks the end of an era in South Florida.”

When it closes its doors, it will take with it its retro decor and waitress uniforms that have not been updated since its mid-century opening.

It is sad to see such an essential piece of South Florida history destroyed for more real estate development on the beach.

END OF AN ICON: The flickering neon sign of the Rascal House is worn and rundown, past its prime and about to yield to new downtown development.

CUBAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE PRESENTS
Research Contest and Photo Contest
in Cuban and Cuban American Studies

1st and 2nd place cash prizes are available for each contest.

• Research papers should be between 15 and 25 pages.

• Research papers can address any topic in Cuban and Cuban American Studies, in Spanish or English.

• Photos should depict either reflections of Cuba in Miami or Miami in Cuba.

• Contests are open to all FIU undergraduate and graduate students.

• All entries must be received by May 1, 2008.

For entry details, visit What’s New at http://cri.fiu.edu or call 305.348.1991.
Endangered Species Act is not enough anymore

JOSEPH MARHEE
Opinion Editor

In 2001, the Lake Sammamish kokanee, a type of salmon, went extinct. Later that year, Columbia’s Basin Pygmy went extinct, both of these species were denied “emergency listing” on the endangered species list, which resulted in their extinction.

In the past seven years President George W. Bush has only added 59 species to the list of protected animals — his father, President George H.W. Bush, and President Bill Clinton averaged that many each year during their terms, according to MSNBC’s report, “Guarding Species is Harder.”

Bush’s management, coupled with his appointment of the Dept. of the Interior Secretary, Dirk Kempthorne and Fish and Wildlife Service director, Dale Hall’s guidance, the criteria for a Domestic Endangered Species has become even more stringent.

What’s unsettling is that it seems like Bush and the Interior Department are trying to “cap” how many animals they have to protect.

MSNBC’s report attested that interior officials had overuled agency scientists on a regular basis , as was the case with the Kokanee and the Basin Pygmy.

Some of the Interior’s documents seem to suggest that bureaucratic obstacles were put in place specifically for the purposes of limiting the power of the Endangered Species Act itself.

Some independent agencies took it upon themselves to petition the protection of species that are at risk; prominent among them were WildEarth Guardians.

WildEarth filed a lawsuit on March 20 to pass a court order to protect 681 domestic species all at once.

The members of the group have been fighting to get hundreds of species on the list but these roadblocks typically protect the Interior from having to consider petitions; thus, a court order becomes necessary.

“It’s an urgent situation and something has to be done,” said Nicole Rosmarino, the group’s conservation director, to MSNBC on Mar. 20. “This roadblock to listing under the Bush administration is criminal.”

Lawsuits have consistently been filed against Fish and Wildlife Service — who approves listing decisions — since the early 90’s, creating a quagmire that the service has slowly returned to the surface.

As a result of their dodging the listing recommendations, only 21 listings had been considered per year, according to the Service Director, Dale Hall.

“Lawsuits, starting in the early ‘90s, have really driven things,” Hall said, adding that the administration has tried to keep species from declining to the point where they need to be listed. “I’m feeling pretty good we’re back on track to do the job the way it’s supposed to be done.”

It’s reprehensible that government agencies can get away with roadblocking listings that could potentially result in a flourishing species quickly disappearing.

Furthermore, the practices currently used to distinguish how “at risk” a species is even more horrendous: Their current habitat is taken into account, not their previous habitat and why they had to relocate somewhere else, according to MSNBC’s report.

This leaves loggers open to chopping out entire sections of unprotected forest without the consequence of endangering an animal species and all of the requisite federal retribution.

By far the most disgusting of the policies involved with the Act is the criteria for “threatened” species removal from the list. The Bald Eagle was delisted with less than the 500 breeding pair requirement for “survival.” It took a lawsuit for the Fish and Wildlife Service to relist the desert eagle.

It is indeed “criminal” for Bush not to intervene when there is obvious corruption in a federal agency. Is it right for these officials to disregard research and warnings from scientists incontrovertibly outlining which species needed to be listed?

In the past 35 years, the Endangered Species Act has saved thousands of species from extinction, why is it that this should end with George W. because of Hall’s preference for trials to delist animals rather than list and protect them, which is, after all, his job.

JOSEPH MARHEE can be contacted at joseph.marhee@fi usm.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Students should change behaviors to help environment

College students have traditionally been the most radical agents of social change. We have led movements that have changed our culture and are generally more conscientious than other members of society. So it is surprising to see so much apathy on campus when it comes to the environment.

FIU does not have a sufficient recycling program, there are very few vegan options in the food court, the buildings are made freezing cold by overusing the air conditioning, and the overall amount of waste is shocking. Institutional issues aside, individual students could be doing a lot more to help save our planet, and I’m not even talking about extreme measures.

There are small changes we can make every day that will make a difference. Turn off the lights and water when you aren’t using them. Bring reusable bags when you shop. Turn down your air conditioning.

We can write letters to the administration to start a comprehensive recycling program on campus, and get the air conditioning turned down in the buildings. Even though these steps are small, they can have a significant impact. Hopefully small steps will inspire people to make bigger changes.

The most important thing is to be aware of your actions and the repercussions they have on the environment. Our generation is facing a major crisis, and it is up to us to lead the movement for change.

Elizabeth Menard
Sophomore

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

• Yes – Guns pose a more serious threat and are ultimately unnecessary with Public Safety on Campus.

42%

• No – Student’s have a constitutional right to bear arms, and should be able to defend themselves.

58%

Total participants: 95

Cast your vote at www.fi usm.com
Fledgling artists find their muse in Coconut Grove

“...When I first walked though its doors, I felt the freedom of being able to paint whatever I wanted, even though I can’t paint to save my life,” said Geena Cesar, a Color Me Mine customer.

“I was able to express myself for the first time through art because of this store and I still have my first sculpture sitting in my living room,” Cesar said.

The process is simple. First, you choose a ceramic piece. Color Me Mine has over 400 to choose from. Second, you sketch a design on your piece or choose one of the 25,000 available ones on the design computer. Finally, choose a color. Then you can paint it however you wish.

After this, an employee will place your piece in a kiln. While inside, the flames fuse the paint onto its surface.

“...It’s a fabulous place. My favorite object that I painted was at my friend’s birthday party. It was a flying piglet that is hanging from my closet door,” said Color Me Mine customer Meggie Alea.

Color Me Mine is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, as well as Sunday. On Saturday they are open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Beloved readers,

In conjunction with the new thrice-a-week publishing schedule, The Beacon is adding a new feature to the paper: Diversions, a section dedicated to cartoons and other “diversions.” In the coming weeks, we’ll be including Sudoku and other games to complement the comics. Expect this section to run weekly in our Wednesday issues. If you have an idea for a comic, please e-mail me at Geoffrey.Anderson@fiusm.com

- Geoffrey Anderson Jr., Life! Editor

Contrary to common education wisdom, computer games and other technologies can foster community-building, a strong sense of identity and higher-level planning even in very young students, UC Davis researchers report.

“There is a lot of hemming and hawing among educators about the introduction of technology in the early grades,” said Cynthia Carter Ching, associate professor of education at the University of California, Davis.

“But the worst-case scenarios just don’t pan out. Technology can facilitate creativity and social awareness, even when we don’t design the use of it to do so.

And when we do design technology activities with these things in mind, the possibilities are endless,” Ching said.

According to Ching, early childhood educators often argue that technology can squelch young children’s creativity and social interaction in the classroom.

But in two recent studies of kindergarten and first-grade students, Ching has observed that children find ways to transform their experiences with technology into fun, highly organized group activities and functions.

She also found that technology-based activities can be explicitly designed to foster social reflection and advanced planning among young children.

Ching and her collaborator, X. Christine Wang from the University at Buffalo, SUNY, will present this research at 4:05 p.m. today at the annual meeting of the American Association of Educational Researchers in New York City.

In their first study, Ching and Wang observed children who chose to play a computer game during their free time rather than engage in another activity such as participating in sports.

Though only one child could play at a time, the children negotiated turns. They also gave each other advice about how to play the game.

“There is a lot of hemming and hawing among educators about the introduction of technology in the early grades,” said Cynthia Carter Ching, assistant professor of education at the University of California, Davis.

“Though this is hardly the ideal setting for social interaction and higher-level thinking, the children exhibited a great deal of executive planning skills and complex social negotiations without any guidance or interference from adults,” Ching said.

In the second study, children were given digital cameras and told to create digital photo journals with the pictures they took.

Ching found the students displayed creativity and engaged in complex planning at every stage of the assignment, from how they framed their shots to how they chose to organize them to tell a story.

“This study shows that rather than technology being something that children merely use, it can be a creative tool for increased reflection on social networks, friendships, relationships with teachers and a sense of self within the world of school,” Ching said.

Ching and Wang received the Jan Hawkins Award for Early Career Contributions to Humanistic Research and Scholarship in Learning Technologies at last year’s AERA meeting.
Picture this: After semesters of papers and exams, the time to graduate has arrived. You’re about to walk across the stage to accept your diploma and suddenly the thought of your future overwhelms you. Job placement and opportunities are struggles recent college graduates face. Being a novice in this world filled with businessmen and women can be daunting and students can benefit from the resources offered by the business fraternity, Beta Alpha Psi.

FIU’s chapter of BAP, Eta Iota, was chartered on April 4, 1986 currently boasts 54 members. The fraternity is targeted toward students with majors such as accounting, finance and management information systems. The fraternity prides itself on building professional connections between its members and several prominent accounting firms, which provides students with an opportunity for employment and an advantage over the competition.

“Our organization identifies itself as the bridge to professionalism that helps students [overcome] the gap between student and professional life. We teach everything from interviewing, to resume writing, to behaving like a true professional,” said Eta Iota chapter President Jonathan Morera.

This fraternity provides members with the opportunity to be introduced to various firms such as Deloitte, Price Waterhouse-Coopers, and Ernst & Young during weekly Friday meetings and such events as “Firms Night.” Firms Night is like “speed-dating with [corporate] firms,” said Morera.

Five members are paired up with five associates from many prestigious firms and switch to a new firm at a new table every 10 minutes.

“These games allowed our members and pledges to interact with the firms in a social atmosphere where more casual and less professional conversation can be engaged giving students a peak into the real life of an accountant,” Morera said.

The organization is also heavily involved with the charity Hands on Miami, whose goal is to beautify Miami communities. Last semester, BAP was in charge of a community service project that involved restoring an old school.

In order to join this fraternity, qualified students must meet all academic requirements. According to the BAP Web site, pledges must have a 3.0 GPA or higher and state their area of concentration in any of the specified majors. Requirements vary between undergraduate and graduate applicants.

Morera goes on to explain how brotherhood within the fraternity extends beyond the organization. The camaraderie members form helps to build strong bonds, which helps promote teamwork.

BAP holds weekly meetings every Friday at 6 p.m. in GC 150. The BAP Web site can be accessed http://www.fiu.edu/~bap/bap.html.
ROSALYN DELGADO
Contributing Writer

On March 11, rock band Emery performed at Ft. Lauderdale’s Culture Room in support of their latest album “I’m Only a Man.” The Beacon spoke with Josh Head, Emery’s keyboardist, about tour pranks, song writing and the band’s future.

The Beacon: Being in a Christian band, how do you guys approach the touring life differently from other bands?

Head: I don’t know how it is different for us. We don’t feel that if a band is Christian they should only tour churches or anything like that. For the most part the bands are pretty cool, we feel like we should be like a regular band…play clubs and bars and such. We are not a sex, drugs and rock n roll type of band, if that’s what you mean and I know a lot of them are.

The Beacon: I know you guys have been touring for quite some time now, are there any embarrassing moments from being on the road, or pranks that you’ve pulled on each other, that maybe you’d like to share?

Head: We play a lot of pranks on each other, we all sleep in one bus so we have this thing where if you wake up in the middle of the night and you are in the bunk area, you have to scream as loud as you can to scare everybody up, so we did that for a quite a bit, then we got an air horn. (laughs)

I know that scared the crap out of me for some time. Its funny when you wake up and your heart is racing and you don’t know what’s going on.

The Beacon: I know that you guys have toured practically everywhere. Do you at this point have a favorite city or venue where you like to play?

Head: I don’t know. We used to have a favorite place to play in but now, I mean if we go to a city and the fans are awesome and it’s fun and chill, then you enjoy playing there. I can’t say it’s a total favorite place, but we enjoy playing at home in Seattle, mainly because we have our friends and family who come out to see us, but I’d also have to say playing in Texas is always fun, Florida (the Social, the very first time we played in Florida in my career was there, it’s a pretty cool place). Philadelphia. Like I said, it’s hard to say just one.

The Beacon: Did you write any of the songs on the new album?

Head: Well, Toby and Devin are the ones that write most of the lyrics, they are both the singers. I’ll sometimes come up with a chorus idea or a guitar part and then we’ll all sit down and throw in all our ideas, like “we should add this to that line,” “this should be played like this” – it’s all very collaborative, but Toby and Gavin do the majority of the writing and we just hash out the songs during practice. Someone will say “oh that sucks, let’s take it out” but then someone else will say “no that doesn’t suck, you suck” then we’ll all get into a big fight or something.

The Beacon: Do you have a favorite song right now from the new album that you like to play live?

Head: I would say it has to be a song from the album that we actually don’t play live, but I think it’s awesome. My favorite song that we play live right now I would have to say it’s “Don’t bore us, get to the Chorus”.

The Beacon: Do you guys play any pranks on each other as a band going on stage? Anything that you do as band or individually? How do you prepare before getting on stage?

Head: We don’t really do much now, we used to do a lot more. When we first started out we used to do all kinds of weird and wacky things like wars ups and jumping in a circle just to try and be funny. Now it’s pretty much just vocal warm ups before we play and that’s about it, maybe stretch my back a little bit. Water. We drink a lot of water.

The Beacon: Being on tour for so long can get pretty stressful, I’m sure. Is there anything in particular that you do to blow off steam and relax?

Head: Well we all play a lot a Halo 3, that’s pretty much our favorite past time, we also play sports sometimes, just the other day the guys were playing football randomly before a show; I play basketball a lot. Sometimes we’ll just hang out in the front or back lounge yell at each other, talk trash and fight before or after shows, you know the usual.

The Beacon: How do you guys get into the mood for writing music?

Head: It happens all the time. For me at least it can happen in the middle of the night, where I’ll have an idea for a song, I take care of mostly all the electronic stuff, when I’m writing songs on my keyboard I’ll just think of some sound and I’ll try to figure out how to make it come out of my head and from my instrument, but yeah, it comes from all around; it could be something that you hear from another band, you get inspired and you think “hey that’s cool” I’d like to create something like that.

The Beacon: Where do you see Emery in the next ten years?

Head: Well I don’t know, that’s a long time, I’ll be so old then. Hopefully I’m not a crusty old rock n roll. We do plan to make music as long as we can. At the very least, if we stop touring, we’ll keep putting out records, I know a lot of us will probably start doing side projects, solos and such in the next year to kind of try out other musical ideas. We’ll probably start five different bands that will probably take over the world.

Avoid digital disgrace through engine search

If you’re not happy with your Google ranking, or find it’s non-existent, change it. Establish yourself online by joining a social network site (aimed at the one person on the planet, besides myself, who doesn’t have a myspace account), starting a blog or buying a domain to set up an online portfolio.

Though you don’t have to go that far – signing up for a free www.flickr.com account to post photos online is more than enough to get search engines excited about you.

Make an effort to update on a weekly basis with new, deliberate information to boost your name’s search results rank and ensure that those who are looking for you find the person you want them to see.

While this kind of digital sitting sound tedious at best, remember that whatever is out there on the web is there for everyone and anyone to see – those who know you and those who don’t.

Take control of your digital footprint and make sure you’re making the first impression you want to make, not the other way around.
Players and owners hope to modify drug test rules

RONDAL BLUM
AP Writer

Lawyers for baseball players and owners hope to reach an agreement on changes in their drug agreement before most teams start the regular season. A group of baseball players is sending a message of unity and purpose to the owners during this time of negotiations.

The sides made changes in January 2005, when sanctions for first offenders were instituted, and in November 2005, when the penalty for an initial positive test was increased from 10 days to 50 games.

If they strike a deal, the 15-day suspensions imposed on Kansas City’s Jose Guillen and Baltimore’s Jay Gibbons in December after being linked to performance-enhancing drugs most likely would be rescinded as part of an overall amnesty for players mentioned in the report, two people familiar with the talks said Monday.

Mitchell, a Boston Red Sox director, recommended Commissioner Bud Selig not punish players implicated in his report “except in those cases where he determines that the conduct is so serious that discipline is necessary to maintain the integrity of the game.”

If there isn’t an agreement, arbitrator Shyam Das probably would be asked to decide whether to stay Guillen’s suspension pending a grievance hearing. The players’ association filed a grievance and an arbitration hearing. The players’ suspension pending a grievance hearing.

“Those that were subject to collective bargaining...”

Mitchell said the sides should have the ability to remove the independent program administrator before it begins.

Most teams start the season next Monday.

Commissioner Bud Selig adopted most of the recommended changes made by former Senate majority leader George Mitchell but could not address those that were subject to collective bargaining.

Mitchell said the sides should have the ability to remove the independent program administrator before it begins.

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SUN BELT BASEBALL STANDING

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All records up to date as of March 24, 2008

UC IRVINE 5, FIU 2

The Golden Panthers (9-13) could not produce the same offense against one of the top pitchers in the nation, Scott Gorgen. No. 5 ranked UC Irvine (15-1) held the Golden Panthers to two runs, winning 5-2 March 21 at the Bob Schaefer Memorial Tournament in Tempe, Ariz.

Jorge Castillo extended his hitting streak to 19 games for the Golden Panthers with his fifth home run of the season.

Each of Arizona State’s first five batters had at least one hit, including Ike Davis, who had three RBI. The teams were tied headed into the seventh inning before the Golden Panthers’ bullpen took the loss allowing five runs in the last two innings.

ARIZONA STATE 8, FIU 4

Arizona State (21-1) jumped to an early 7-0 lead in the second game of the double header and would go on to win 8-4 against the FIU Golden Panthers (9-15) on March 22 at Tempe, Ariz.

Jorge Castillo extended his hitting streak to 19 games for the Golden Panthers with his fifth home run of the season.

The teams were tied headed into the seventh inning before the Golden Panthers’ bullpen took the loss allowing five runs in the last two innings.

ARIZONA STATE 10, FIU 5

A day after facing the No. 5 team in the nation, the Golden Panthers (9-14) squared off against the No. 1 team, Arizona State (20-1). The Golden Panthers’ pitching could not hold off the ASU offense as the team fell 10-5 on March 22 in Tempe, Ariz.

Arizona State (21-1) jumped to an early 7-0 lead in the second game of the double header and would go on to win 8-4 against the FIU Golden Panthers (9-15) on March 22 at Tempe, Ariz.

Jorge Castillo extended his hitting streak to 19 games for the Golden Panthers with his fifth home run of the season.

The University of Central Florida Golden Panthers scored five runs in the last two innings.

Arizona State starter Josh Satow threw six innings, allowing two runs. The Golden Panthers managed to score two runs against the bullpen.

FIU starter Corey Polizzano (3-2) took the loss, allowing seven runs on seven hits.
Women’s basketball advances past second round despite key injuries

The Golden Panthers would drop three of their next four games including their first two Sun Belt Conference games on the road against Middle Tennessee and Arkansas-Little Rock.

The team would seem to get back on track while hosting the FIU Sun & Fun tournament.

The Golden Panthers defeated Hofstra en route to a championship game meeting with then No. 7 Georgia, who was 10-0. FIU lost 70-56, but Ferguson managed to score a career and team season-high 32 points.

The Golden Panthers would go on to win home conference games against Troy and FAU.

That small streak would be snapped at Western Kentucky, but on the way back to Miami the Panthers grabbed a win at South Alabama.

Just when it seemed FIU had righted the ship, three straight narrow losses followed.

Having lost three games in a row, a row matches the Golden Panthers to Denver in the first round. The Golden Panthers looked like the team that won five games in a row during the first half and went into halftime up by 12.

During the second half, the lead vanished thanks to a 14-0 Denver run, however Ciglar would take charge late and scored several key baskets.

FIU would pull off the win and punch their ticket to the second round in Mobile, Ala. against No. 2 seeded UALR.

FIU fought tooth and nail against UALR and kept the Trojans off the scoreboard for almost seven minutes at the start of the game.

UALR retaliated and edged out FIU during the final seconds of play.

Despite the loss, it was a great game for FIU as the team proved that it had really evolved over the course of the season no matter how much diversity it faced.

It is debatable who FIU’s MVP was this season. Ferguson seems like the clear choice, but my vote would go to Bosilj.

This underclassman played half the season with a partially torn ligament in her shooting arm, while posting career numbers in scoring.

The team’s 13-18 record was not indicative of how well the team played this season.

Had the team not lost its best player and interior presence, they could’ve taken the conference. Russo should return next season with a healthier squad and maturing players.

With their arm, leg and eye intact next season, they could be the most successful athletic program at FIU next season.

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