

**Faculty Termination
Report
See Page 3**

**A Slew of Letters to
the Editor
See Pages 4-6**

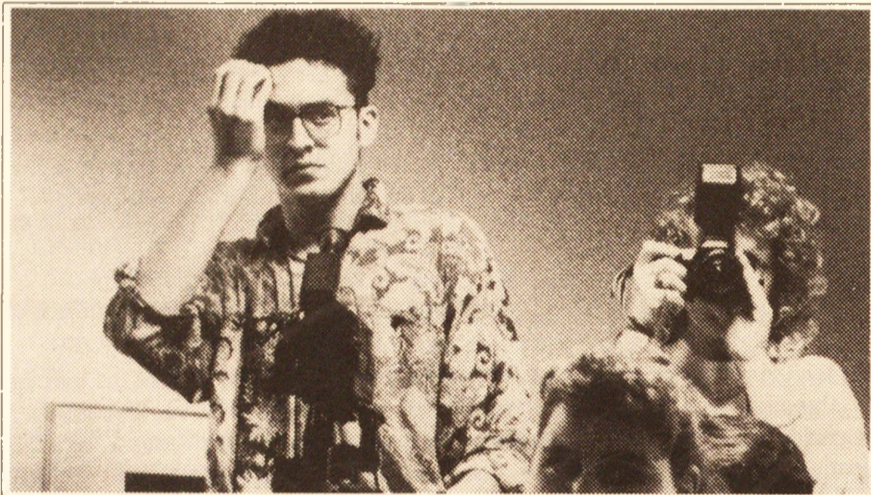
**XTC's Latest
Reviewed
See Page 7**

**Men's Basketball
Stuns SSC Tourney
See Pages 4-6**

Volume LI Number 6

Wednesday May 6, 1992

The Barry Buccaneer



Students react during the meeting called by Sr. Jeanne on Friday, April 3. An estimated 200 students crowded into the faculty dining room to air their grievances with the Barry Administration.

SUM Dictates Change

"Excuse me...excuse me! Can I have your attention please?" the young man yelled as he swiftly jumped onto a messy table in the crowded Barry cafeteria.

"In 20 minutes, a large group of students will be meeting in front of Sr. Jeanne's office to protest certain administrative policies such as the number of teachers that are being let go from Barry. We could really use your support out there to show the faculty and administration that we, the students, really care about what occurs at our school."

The student leaped off the table in the midst of applause; 20 minutes later a thick swarm of students marched down to the grassy area in front of the President's office. Little did they know that they were beginning one of the most powerful and united movements to encompass Barry University in the last 11 years.

Since then, many students have joined the Student Unification Movement (SUM). SUM has posted flyers around campus and has met periodically. These are students who are not only working to change the negative aspects of Barry, but are succeeding in doing so.

A Letter From Sr. Jeanne

Dear Members of the Barry Community:

After much reflection and prayer I felt compelled to address you on a matter of great importance to all of us in the Barry University community.

We are all related in a common mission and we all deserve a common respect and courtesy simply because we are people of good will seeking to do a good thing together.

When one segment of the community thinks it has all the answers or that another

continued on page 2

A general overview as to how and why SUM started is as follows: on Friday, April 3, over 100 students gathered in the rain to stand in front of President Sr. Jeanne O'Laughlin's office to protest the terminal contracts given to a rather large number of highly respected Barry teachers.

Terminal contracts mean that those teachers, of which there were 19, could not return to teach in the fall of 1993. The *Miami Herald* and Channel 10 gave full coverage to the proceedings. The media and the large number of students were proof to the administration and others at Barry that the students truly want changes to be made.

Led by Sheri Martin, a sophomore at Barry, questions were raised concerning the teaching staff, tuition, and endowment of seven million dollars. "We just want answers to our questions," Martin stated. "If they don't have us to go to school, they don't have a school."

continued on page 2

Students Demonstrate Unity, Demand Answers

On April 3, 1992 Barry University experienced what President Sr. Jeanne O'Laughlin described as "One of the most impressive shows of unity" she has ever seen at Barry. That Friday, the students of Barry consolidated in a show of unity outside Sr. Jeanne's office amidst rainy weather to demonstrate their concern about pressing issues at Barry.

Central to these concerns was the news that 19 Barry University professors were told that their contracts would not be renewed. Other concerns included the Miguel Morales affair and the recent tuition hike.

Despite the wet weather, over 75 students and the local media met on the lawn outside LaVoie Hall to demonstrate their concerns and demand answers. The diverse group was made up of students from many different majors and organizations. Alex Johnston, a recreational dive management major, wanted to express his concerns with the

future of his program. "I'm here today to send a message to the administration that I'm concerned and upset with the faculty being let go... the administration is toying with our futures."

Speaking at the demonstration was Sheri Martin, Secretary of SGA. "I want the students to be heard," Martin spoke to the enthusiastic crowd, "We generate 80% of the revenue at this school. We want to know why some of the best teachers at this school haven't got their contracts renewed. We want answers."

The opportunity to get answers came later that afternoon at a 3:00pm meeting called by Sr. Jeanne. The meeting was held in the faculty dining room, which was quickly packed to the rafters with over 250 students. Many more were forced to stand in the hall outside.

Sr. Jeanne, accompanied by Vice President J. Patrick Lee, addressed the crowded room with the intention to focus

continued on page 2



Sheri Martin addresses the students who assembled in the rain on April 3. This sign of student solidarity led to the formation of the Student Unification Movement (SUM).

Missing SGA Funds Investigated

On February 6th Miguel Morales was removed from his position as Student Government Association (SGA) Treasurer. According to SGA officials, Morales' dismissal stemmed from his inability to perform his necessary duties as treasurer of the organization. SGA officials state that he had been absent from many meetings without explanation and was not participating in the activities of the Association. However, his dismissal has been shrouded in controversy. The *Buccaneer* has investigated this incident and has been unable to find anything conclusive.

The controversy stems from a series of checks which SGA officials allege were

cashied by Morales. According to SGA officials, Miguel Morales wrote nine unauthorized checks to cash between October 23 and January 29. The nine checks totaled \$1,255.00.

The *Buccaneer* has learned that the SGA minutes of February 6th state that approximately \$2,700.00 of SGA funds could not be accounted for. At the February 6 meeting, the SGA elected a new treasurer; Miguel Morales was replaced by Mark Novak after a vote of no confidence was passed concerning Morales.

According to John Ducey, President of SGA, the SGA intercepted the Barnett Bank statement for the month of January

and "noticed there were a number of checks made out to cash with Miguel's signature on them written over Christmas break."

Mimi Quinones, Vice President of SGA, told the *Buccaneer* that she discovered the checks January 20. She approached Morales, showed him the bank statement and asked for his response. According to Quinones, Morales said he never saw the checks before, he had lost the checkbook and his wallet while he was in the process of moving.

The checks were endorsed with Morales' drivers licence number and Barry University ID number on the back and were signed "Miguel"

continued on page 2

on as many issues as she could, but the forum was not one where much could get accomplished. After the meeting, Sr. Jeanne commented, "I think it's necessary to let people vent their frustrations, that was what the meeting accomplished, but in my 46 years of experience in education, I've learned that sometimes those kind of meetings can turn out to be harmful."

The meeting started off relatively smoothly with Sister Jeanne explaining why she called the meeting. She then yielded to questions from the passionate crowd. Questions like "Why are the teachers being let go? What say do the students have in this matter? What is the evaluation process?" were rattled off by students.

In the small room filled with upset students, Sr. Jeanne attempted to answer what she could, but due to the uncomfortable situation of the forum, many students left the meeting with more questions than they came in with. What was accomplished, however, was the recognition of the students' concerns by the administration and the mutual realization of the lack of communication

between the student body and administration.

At the conclusion of the meeting, David D'Agata asked the crowd to remain, so the students could reorganize and attempt to find another way to get their questions answered. Representatives from many majors and organizations met afterward and organized a meeting to be held the following Friday with Sr. Jeanne, J. Patrick Lee, and Dr. George Wanko, Vice President of Student Services.

This meeting turned out to be more professional and less passionate than the discussion on April third. Members of the Student Unification Movement, SGA, and various clubs and majors were present to discuss the issues from the previous week. The issues were discussed rationally and many things were accomplished in the professional forum. This is evidenced by the list of topics and actions to work on in the future which was presented to Student Government April 15 by Sister Jeanne. The list is as follows:

1. SGA reorganization and perhaps restructuring with constitutional adjustments.

2. Student participation in faculty search committees.

3. Student participation in Rank and Promotion, Retention and Dismissal, and faculty evaluations.

4. Student participation in other committees in Academic Affairs.

5. Some renovation monies needed next year will be used to correct as many problems in the dormitories as possible.

6. Our concern that commuter students be more involved in University life will be addressed and actions to include them will be done by all of us and a report made regarding our success.

7. Continued work by all of us will be done to advance better communication between all segments of the university. We will need to find ways to evaluate this next year.

8. Explanations regarding governance and who can best assist students in various areas will be published annually, as well as being part of orientation programs.

9. Increases in tuition will be discussed next Spring prior to being implemented.

10. As in the past, if a program is phased out students presently enrolled will be able to continue the program.

11. I will continue to meet with all the members of the Barry community after each board meeting in order to keep you informed.

12. The judicial hearing and appeal process for students will be clarified and updated in the new Student Handbook.

13. Students from each program affected by terminal contracts will be met with and plans for the future shared with them.

Students who attended the meeting seemed pleased with the results. David D'Agata commented, "The whole movement was an excellent example of what the student body can do when we're organized and unified. I hope the interest doesn't die over the summer... next year we have to pick up the ball and continue to run with it—as well as support SGA. If we can do that, we'll be unstoppable."

by Mark Carlson

SUM Calls For Change — continued

Although the peaceful protest lasted only 30 minutes, the students walked away anxiously wondering what would occur at the meeting scheduled by Sr. Jeanne for later that afternoon.

As the time drew closer for the official meeting with Sr. Jeanne and Vice President Patrick Lee, the small faculty lunchroom quickly filled with virtually twice the number of initially concerned students. During the course of this meeting, several issues were addressed: the termination of faculty contracts, the raise in tuition, and the events surrounding the misappropriation of SGA funds by the former SGA treasurer. By the end of the meeting, SUM was in its primary stages.

D.J. D'Agata, a Barry junior, was one of the more vocal student leaders at the meeting. At the close of the function, he asked that a student from each school at Barry volunteer to become a part of an organization that would hear the opinions and complaints of each department, then address these issues to Sr. Jeanne and Dr.

Lee at a later scheduled time. These volunteers quickly became the driving force behind SUM and were led by D'Agata, Martin, and Vincent Caruso, a Barry junior. They met to discuss specific questions they wanted answered, many of which centered around the process needed to insure open lines of communication between the students and the administration.

SUM's goal, as stated in a circulated flyer, was to "consolidate the student body into an active voice in order to address the problems at Barry which have been ignored for too long." They wanted to open the channels of communication so that the community can excel. The 21 leading members of SUM (the volunteers) met with Sr. Jeanne, Dr. Lee, and Dr. George Wanko (President of Student Affairs) during the week of April 5. This meeting centered on the students' concern with the everyday aspects of Barry. It was clear that students do want to take an active role in

continued on page 6

Letter From Sr. Jeanne — continued

member is seeking to undo the mission we are in trouble.

However, life and the human condition being what it is, there will be times when decisions are judged by some not to be the best of choices. This does happen.

The record of the last eleven years shows that this does not happen often. If it does happen, the event should not be met with antagonism and resentment, but with real compassion and understanding of circumstances surrounding the situation.

By its very nature decisions affecting the lives of some will not always please everyone. At that moment, one must look at the history and motives of decisions past and any dialogue surrounding such decisions should always be carried on in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

It grieves me that some persons choose to use personal circumstances to play on the sympathy of others, and to incite others to rash actions because of personal hurts and ambitions.

As president I pray and hope that as ongoing dialogue continues regarding the future of Barry University, and that we will be sensitive and respectful of one another.

I believe our future is a good one. I believe our students and faculty are the

best there are. Any decisions we make as a community must be to make it a better place to be. I believe this is what we are and have been about these past years and months.

We have meaningful processes to address family problems. It is not in my judgement that these processes don't work, it is my opinion they have not been used.

Let us together seek to activate the communication and decision making processes in place and thus enhance the mission of Barry University—truly making it an institution of:

- Quality Academics
- Religious Dimension
- Community Service
- Caring Environment

This is my prayer. After 46 years as a religious woman, twenty of them related to Barry, I believe in this Mission. I hope you do too.

May God bless our efforts and heal any pain our members have suffered from one another.

Sincerely,
Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin, OP, Ph.D.
President

Misappropriated Funds — continued

Morales." According to Mimi Quinones, the signatures on the checks were compared with Barnett Bank's microfiche signature file and an exact match was made.

SGA officials claim that Morales not only wrote the unauthorized checks but he failed to deposit the proceeds of the SGA Halloween dance into the account. The total of the money raised at the dance was \$1,231.50. Quinones stated that Morales claimed to have deposited the money, but there is no record of the deposit in any of the SGA's bank statements. The total missing from the SGA account during Morales' term as treasurer amounts to \$2,486.50.

The *Buccaneer* approached several members of the administration regarding Morales, the SGA, and the allegedly missing money, but there was little to be learned from administrators.

Through the SGA, the *Buccaneer* has learned that there was a judicial review committee hearing concerning the conflict. However, official statements were unavailable from the Student Services wing of the administration. Dr. George Wanko, Vice President of Student Services, declined comment on the grounds that he did not know enough about the situation. Rita Sordellini, Dean of Students, and Mike Griffin, Associate Vice President

Student Services and head of the judicial review hearing, refused to comment because they were bound by the confidentiality clause in the student handbook. Regarding procedures of the judicial committee, the handbook states that "All matters which are discussed and decisions that are made will be confidential..."

In an interview with President Sr. Jeanne O'Laughlin, the *Buccaneer* asked for a comment on the situation. Sister Jeanne said that she could not discuss the details of the incident, but she did say, in an interview April 7, alluding to unspecified activities by Morales, that "he is under very strict punishment." She further commented that justice has been served.

The outcome of what happened to Morales after the incident is still unclear. With the administration bound by confidentiality, the details of the case of Miguel Morales remain cloaked. What is clear, however, is that Morales has been removed from his elected position in the Student Government Association.

When approached for comment by the *Buccaneer* March 30, Morales stated, "It's all been taken care of" and refused to comment any further.

by Mark Carlson and Gregory Kirkpatrick

The Barry Buccaneer

A Publication of the Department of English and Foreign Languages at Barry University

Staff:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Editor In Chief- | Raymond J. Whitney III |
| Associate Editor/ | Mark Carlson |
| Layout Artist- | Larry Divock |
| Photography - | Javier Ramirez |
| Faculty Advisor- | Joseph P. McCallus |

Writers:

- Susan Boone, Kenly Fenio, Gregory Kirkpatrick, Teresa Lauderdale, Milagros Lema, Terry-Ann Lynch, Anne Martinez, and James Taylor

The opinions expressed in this publication are solely those of the authors and do not reflect the opinions or policies of Barry University or the Barry Buccaneer.

Faculty Terminations Addressed by the Administration

On Friday, April 3, Barry students did something out of character. They united. Barry University students stood in the spring rain to demonstrate their concern for the school's future. They took their desire for a better school to heart and stood (in the rain) to express their grief with the school's administration.

The central motive for the student's alliance was the rumor that an inordinate number of faculty were to be dismissed over the next two years. This rumor proved to be reality when the administration began to answer the questions raised by the students.

Terminal Contracts

According to Sr. Jeanne O'Laughlin, President of Barry University, and Dr. J. Patrick Lee, Vice President for Academic Affairs, there are 19 faculty members who, for a number of reasons, are being dismissed from their employment at Barry. This number represents approximately 11% of the faculty at Barry. Five of these faculty members will be leaving in the fall of this year, and the remaining 14 have been placed on terminal contracts.

A terminal contract, according to article 2.14.6.3.c, in the Faculty Handbook, "signifies that employment will cease on the expiration date shown in the contract and is so labeled a terminal contract. It may be used for temporary (semester by semester or year by year) appointments that are clearly limited and precludes a commitment to seniority or promotion rights. It may also be used to certify or confirm retirement or other termination."

It is illegal for the administration to publicly discuss individual faculty terminations. Dr. Lee was, however, able to supply a breakdown of the general categories the 19 contracts fall into: "Of the 19 who were given one year contracts, one is retiring next year, six are on temporary employment (that was the understanding when they were hired), 12 were given the 1 year terminals which may be renewed in some cases." The administration will not disclose the names of these individuals.

As a result, the *official* reasons for the 12 terminations are unknown. While the faculty members are free to discuss their cases with anyone, the administration is required by law to remain silent. As faculty tell students of the unfairness of their terminations, all Dr. Lee can legally say is that "these professors need improvement in some areas of their total professional performance."

This creates an awkward imbalance for students seeking the truth behind faculty terminations. Students hear one portion of an individual story from the faculty, but they are denied the administration's rationale in each individual case. The administration, then, is left defenseless in the face of students' anger and hostility. Administrators cannot explain their reasons, they can only state that they work through a process.

The Process

According to Dr. Laura Armesto, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, "Faculty evaluation is a long-term process that culminates at different stages." Faculty are evaluated at the end of each individual contract cycle. Faculty appointments are made using one of three contracts: annual-triennial contracts, continuing contracts, and terminal contracts. These are outlined in section 2.14.6.3.a-c. of the Faculty Handbook.

Annual-triennial contracts are defined as follows: "initial appointments to Barry University's full-time faculty are ordinarily for one year. Thereafter, each year for the next two succeeding years, a yearly contract may be offered. Upon the expiration of the third yearly contract, if a contract is to be offered, it generally will be for three years, i.e., triennial. This sequence can be visualized as 1-1-1-3."

Continuing contracts are then addressed as follows in the Handbook: "Upon the completion of a six-year period [1+1+1+3]...if a new contract is to be offered, it generally will be for five years, as will subsequent contracts. This extends the sequence to 1-1-1-3-5-5, etc."

Terminal Contracts (see definition above) are used to "certify or confirm retirement or other termination."

Before a faculty member can reach the next level of employment, they must fulfill all the criteria outlined in the Faculty Handbook.

The Criteria of the Process

Dr. Armesto pointed out that the process centers on three central concerns: the needs of the academic program, the performance of the faculty members, and the needs of the student body.

The first of these concerns—the needs of the academic programs—is partly based on numbers. Dr. Armesto noted that the needs of the individual academic programs change with students' needs and hence with enrollment figures. Some programs expand or are cut back according to the community, student, and University needs.

The performance of the faculty members is evaluated according to the Criteria for Promotion outlined in the Faculty Handbook. According to section 2.14.5.5.a-f. of the Faculty Handbook, the facets evaluated for faculty promotion are teaching effectiveness, effectiveness as an advisor, scholarly and/or creative achievement, public or professional services, participation in university life, and professional development.

The needs of the student body are less clearly spelled out. These concerns seem to blend enrollment, faculty performance, and what the Faculty Handbook addresses, in section 2.14.6.4.a.1., as "personal and professional achievement in accord with the basic philosophy and stated purpose of Barry University."

Overall, Dr. Armesto stressed that "any personnel changes are made to enhance academic programs and in turn to fulfill the goal of providing students with the best quality university experience that we could possibly deliver."

The Problem

Students who were told by individual faculty members about the terminal contracts do not see the terminations as enhancing their academic programs. As Alex Johnston, a recreational diving management major, stated: "The instructors in the RDM program are at the top of their field. They created this program. It is the only one in the country. Where are you going to get replacements for these experienced instructors with such high standing in the industry?"

Psychology students were concerned about rumors that 50% of their department were being terminated. They questioned the ability of incoming faculty to adjust to a new school while maintaining the standards of outgoing faculty.

The common thread among all the student groups that addressed academic matters was the loss of quality education at Barry—not the enhancement of academic programs. They looked at the instructors and professors being terminated and saw that they were the same instructors who received high marks on student evaluations. Students felt that the terminated faculty members were among the best teachers at Barry, yet they were being let go.

In response to these concerns, Dr. Armesto was quick to point out that "students think of faculty only in terms of teaching. The faculty position is broader.... Unfortunately, being nice is not the only criterion for professional evaluation." Dr. Armesto also pointed out that student evaluations of faculty are not entirely reliable.

Reasons for Termination

Faculty members, free to comment of their contractual situations, suggested that the reasons for the terminations were not professional. One professor, who did not wish to reveal a name for fear of poor recommendations for future job placement, stated "I was shocked after being informed of my termination. In my opinion the reason for this termination did not relate to my performance nor the materials that I presented. I disagree with the criteria on which I was evaluated; I feel that they are not relevant to the criteria listed in the faculty handbook."

Several other professors expressed similar positions regarding their terminations. However, in each case they asked that their names be withheld from comments for fear of the possible repercussions on their careers. One of these professors summed it up by saying, "I prefer not to discuss this; I don't feel that I will benefit from it."

Personal, Not Professional Reasons?

The Faculty Handbook clearly states, in section 2.14.6.7.a., that "An Annual-Triennial appointment may be terminated at the end of any contract by written notice....Such a decision not to reappoint needs no justification."

This policy raises questions about the professional nature of the contract terminations. Unless there are reasons given by the administration when the terminal contract is served, the faculty clearly has no indication of the nature of the termination—be it personal or professional.

A Loophole for Personality Conflicts?

The evaluation criteria used for reappointing faculty are clearly spelled out, but the reasons for terminating a contract are less clear. According to section 2.14.6.7.c. of the Faculty Handbook, "Some of the reasons which might require the University to refuse renewal or interrupt a contract are the following: incompetence in teaching; neglect of assigned duties; evidence of undesirable influence on the students by failing to accept and promote the intellectual and moral aims of the University; medically attested incapacity to fulfill the conditions of the contract." Of these qualities, three are easily verifiable— incompetence in teaching, neglect of assigned duties, and medical incapacity. The remaining reason is less straightforward.

It is this last reason that has led to confusion and to charges that a rationale such as "institutional fit" is nothing more than a catch-all clause that gives administrators a loophole to dismiss faculty members for personal reasons.

In response to questions regarding personalities, Dr. Lee adamantly denies that personal conflicts were involved. He was quoted in the April 4 *Miami Herald* as saying "we don't engage in personal vendettas."

Lee further stated, with regard to his role in the faculty terminations, "I want to do what's best for the students, best for the community....[Although] I have disagreed with the Faculty Senate before....I don't take that job lightly, I take it with the utmost seriousness because you're dealing with people's lives."

Dr. Armesto also denies the role of personalities in contract terminations, and she again stressed that "the role of faculty is much greater than their role in the classroom. There are other considerations."

Again, students find themselves asking questions that cannot be officially answered. The administration cannot address the individual cases, so students are left with only one side of the story. The result is that the administration is again left defenseless. As noted earlier, administrators cannot explain their reasons they can only state that they work through a process.

Conclusions and Promises

The recent termination of faculty contracts has been an unpleasant reality for many of the parties involved. Each group has suffered (or will suffer) through a period of loss. Students will be losing trusted instructors and have little confidence in the incoming replacements. Faculty will be losing colleagues while questions linger over the motives for dismissals. And the administration has lost face due to the silence imposed upon them by confidentiality and professional ethics.

What remains is the future. The students who presented the administration with grievances regarding the faculty terminations showed the need for accountability. Dr. Lee and Sr. Jeanne both promised that in the future students will play a more active role in the retention and dismissal of faculty. This expanded student involvement can help to bridge the gaps that presently exist between the administration and the students—two parties with a singular goal in mind: the betterment of Barry University.

As Dr. Lee stated, "We learn from each other. The end result will be better communication and better participation...I consider it a positive sign."

The faculty will not be brought back. However, the protest may have pointed the school in a different direction. There have been promises of more student involvement in the faculty process—that's a definite change. Now it is up to the students to pursue this matter.

Administrators have shown a willingness and desire to answer students' questions. While students and the administration may not agree with one another, they can still sit down and talk. While asking questions will not bring back professors, the effort may gain answers.

by Raymond Whitney with
Anne Martinez



From the Editor

by Raymond Whitney

I'm staring at the computer screen. It's mostly blank, except for the thin line snaking its way from left to right. That's right, you guessed it; this is my final column, and I have writer's block.

That's amazing when you consider how much there is to write about this semester. Barry students united for the first time. Faculty got the axe. Administrators administrated with bureaucratic efficiency. The Buccaneer got serious.

So what about those things? What could possibly be left to say?

The student's solidarity I witnessed from April 3 to the present was inspiring. You did it. You got together and got a response. You should be proud of what you have accomplished.

However, you cannot be satisfied. The spirit that carried you through April must remain for the SGA elections this fall. To further the student's interests, the spirit of SUM must replace the politics of SGA.

Next fall, remember that this year's SGA was not there for you. When the rally was planned, SGA was not actively involved. When the original meeting was called by Sr. Jeanne, it was done independently of SGA. It was not until the morning demonstration occurred that the president and vice president of SGA showed support for the movement. These figureheads acted as followers—not leaders.

The leaders are still among you, and it is your duty to place them in office. Look at Vinny Caruso and D.J. D'Agata as examples. They helped to create the movement and proved their mettle in doing so. Does SGA remain a politically-entangled entity, or does it develop into a functional, representative organization? It's entirely up to you.

Barry faculty are leaving, and I share a grave concern with many of you (see page 3 for details of faculty terminations). Were faculty contracts terminated because of personal conflicts with administrators? How is "institutional fit" evaluated? We will never know, officially. That's a tragedy.

As a part of academic and professional life, bureaucracy is a

lamentable reality we must all learn to deal with. I expected to encounter the red-ribboned beast given my position as editor, so I can have no complaints. I do, however, have just one peeve.

There is a great deal of information distributed around Barry *off the record* or *unofficially*. Faculty and administrators (too) frequently entrust students with sensitive information, thus leaving the students in the awkward situation of knowing more than they should about situations that are (supposedly) confidential. This is harmful.

In April, *unofficial* information regarding the termination of faculty contracts and the SGA treasurer affair caused students to actively protest the administration's actions. The students were driven to act by the *unofficial* information they were given. However, students quickly discovered that they could do nothing—they couldn't even gain official information. When they sought answers, none could be given *on the record*.

What can students know and what can't they know? Students are impressionable, and they readily believe what authority figures tell them. However, they do not like being made pawns in administrative and faculty intrigues.

Make it official or keep silent. Fewer people will be hurt that way.

Silence was far from the goal as the *Buccaneer* moved in new directions. The *Buc* investigated security, Martin Luther King Day, and the faculty terminations. We had expanded sports coverage, and we made the effort to cover those things students were most interested in.

Admittedly, there were problems. We did not always present the quality publication we aspired to, but we accomplished a great deal with the materials and support we had. I have only one regret as outgoing editor: we never achieved the goals of excellence I set for the *Buc*. We were good, but we could have been better.

I offer a suggestion/challenge to next year's editor: set goals far higher than you expect to reach—then reach them.

If I could only come up with a topic for that final column...



The Report Card

by Mark Carlson

Pardon this blast from the past, but I want to address so much that has happened over the past month, I'm temporarily reverting to my old random Report Card format so I can touch base with everything that needs to be said.

The Communication Process at Barry

The communication process at Barry looks pretty good on paper, but is a different story in reality. If, for example, a student has an academic problem, they should talk to their advisor, who will talk to the department Chair. If the problem is not resolved, the student can approach the Dean. If the Dean is unable to solve the problem it goes to the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The final step in the process is the President.

If a student has a problem outside of academics, they can talk to the Associate Vice president of Student Services, then to the Vice President of Student Services, then to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, and then the President.

It looks pretty efficient, but sometimes it isn't. The main problem with this communication process at Barry is not the process itself, but the communication. We have all heard the horror stories of students trying to get things done at Barry and running themselves into a brick wall. Talking to the right people at Barry is not hard, it's getting them to listen and understand the problem that's tough.

A perfect example of the poor state of Barry's communication process was the confusion and misunderstandings revealed at the April 3 meeting with Sr. Jeanne. Both the administration and students witnessed the confusion of the situation involving the now-defunct hospitality management program. It was obvious that neither of the parties involved had a clue as to what was going on. There was a mutual misunderstanding.

The administration claims to be working on ways to improve the communication process for the fall. Let's hope so.

The Miguel Morales Affair

Rumors were flying all over campus with details of the alleged misappropriation of Student Government Funds while Morales was treasurer. These rumors were so rampant because nobody would tell the student body exactly what happened—or nobody was allowed to.

These rumors were at times viscous and uncalled for. The parties involved should have let the students know what the general facts of the issue were. This would have avoided rumors and saved some face. Granted, some of the sordid details are of a personal and sensitive nature and are not meant to be discussed with the public, but the facts should be made available to the public—not to slander but to inform. The facts of a particular issue may be painful, but the damage from rumors is much worse.

Faculty Terminations and The Student Unification Movement

What more can be said? The Barry dysfunctional family is at it again. Mom and dad exiled 11% of the family. The kids had a tantrum, so mom and dad stuck a pacifier in the brats' mouths. They are sending the children off to summer camp hoping the kids will loose interest in the missing relatives.

I hope—my Barry brothers and sisters—that we don't let this happen. We made unprecedented progress in showing the administration that we are not as apathetic as we may look. We can't be pushed around. The Student Unification Movement (SUM) is not a club or organization, it is a movement encompassing the entire student body in a spirit of solidarity. There has been some speculation that SUM would try to be the new student government. How could it? One of SUM's goals is to dissolve into the SGA through the fall elections and pass the spirit of the movement to the Student Government.

The excitement of the SUM movement has given me some hope for the future of Barry. This University may be going to hell in a handbasket, but as the SUM movement demonstrated, Barry students aren't going to let it happen without a fight.

Letters to the Editor

SUM Leaders Address the Campus

To the Editor:

The students at Barry really care about the professors whose contracts are being terminated. Certain individuals of the student body expressed great concern about professors in their respective departments. These highly qualified professors most likely will not return to this institution to teach.

In reality this began the STUDENT UNIFICATION MOVEMENT which does not include faculty and staff members. This rapidly growing movement was brought on by the students and has continued with the whole student body. S.U.M. is not a movement of a few students; instead, it involves every undergraduate and graduate of this institution of higher learning. We, the "students," see a need for change in the administration's policies and the way students are handled through the

"process of communication." Similar to a corporation with stockholders, Barry University has students who want and deserve an opportunity to express views on the functions of their school. Furthermore, S.U.M. involves students who wanted to have their views taken into consideration by the administration.

It all started on Friday, April 3rd. Approximately 200 students participated in a protest outside Sr. Jeanne's office to air concerns related to the dismissal of certain professors. Later that day, the amount of interest grew to more than 300 concerned students. The students wanted their executive officials to understand the scholarly intellectual grievances and they were "heard." The student body became unified like never before. Also, the administration realized that students are the heart of Barry and without them there is no university. At this time, the "process of communication" was negated.

continued on page 5

LETTERS GUIDE

The Barry Buccaneer welcomes letters to the editor from the community at large. Letters to the editor must be signed and must include the writer's address (or Barry box number) and a contact phone number. Letters should be submitted to Barry box number 1011 or delivered to the Buccaneer office (Thompson 203). The deadline for the next issue will be October 29.

Letters to the editor are printed with a minimum of editing; We routinely correct errors of fact, spelling, and punctuation. We do not publish poetry or open letters. The Barry Buccaneer reserves the right to reject any letters it feels are improper. All letters become property of the Barry Buccaneer.

Letters to the Editor

continued

SUM (continued)

This means that the so-called "process of communication" is not very effective. Therefore, a new process is in the making with administrators and the student body.

We feel that this movement has been a positive effect on the Barry community. Students have come to the perceived understanding that their voices can be communicated. Also, the administration realizes that the students at Barry really care about their education!

Sincerely,
Sheri Martin &
Vinny Caruso Jr.

Will the Dive Program Go Under?

Dear Editor,

After confirmation last Friday afternoon that 18 instructors have been given terminal contracts it is with some alarm that I discovered that various instructors from the recreational dive management (RDM) program are potentially threatened. The removal of these instructors from the program will undoubtedly be the end of the RDM program here at Barry University. The reasons are simple but true. Barry had no RDM program before it was brought here by one of the present instructors. These instructors created and produced a program that had not existed before in the diving industry, let alone a University

environment; a program that is desperately needed in the diving field. Two year degrees did exist but nothing of the same caliber as the present RDM degree. The diving industry is a small, highly specialized field, it is unlikely there is anyone who could replace these instructors—period. The administrators will undoubtedly argue that no one is unreplaceable but in fact, we the students can argue that no member of the administration is infallible in regard to the removal of these instructors.

We have been assured that the program is safe but as far as I'm concerned, this is a shallow assurance. We, the RDM majors (and this applies to other majors as well) are left asking the question, "Why remove excellent quality instructors who produce good grades and are genuinely interested in their students? These instructors also receive excellent student evaluations (we know we give them). Unfortunately they do not seem to carry the weight as portrayed by the administration. It makes no sense. The RDM program and other majors have excellent reputation outside of Barry University. Remove that reputation and Barry will have lost something precious, as well as excellent instructors, who can really teach. Why destroy it? It seems to us, the student body, that the administration is totally out of touch with what is going on. This process can be reversed but do they have the courage and conviction to do it? This is not a question of interpersonal conflicts but of students lives and futures.

Sincerely,
Alex Johnston

More on the RDM Program

Dear Editor,

I am both relieved and upset by the events of Friday April 3 regarding the student protest and conference with Sr. Jeanne. I am very pleased to have some of the circulating rumors put to rest and the reassurance that the R.D.M. program will not be cancelled in 1993. However, past next year the terrible possibility of having my major pulled out from under me like a rug causes me great mental anguish. I would like to know what happens to a student after they have a major pulled.

If in 1994 the major is dropped I will of most likely finished the program. However, of what value is a degree I present to a future employer if it no longer exists? I will of lost a highly valuable reference.

There is the possibility of the R.D.M. program staying in place, but the instructors are being replaced. This would be in effect the death of the program itself. Tom Ingram and Gale Simmons are two of the most highly trained and experienced educators in the field of recreational scuba diving. The P.A.D.I. contacts which these two individuals have is an essential part of a diving program like Barry's. The dive program as well as the individual classes were actually created by Tom Ingram. If he or Gale were to go—so would the program and most of the R.D.M. majors.

As a double major, if the program is cancelled I have no reason to continue my education at Barry. I am from out of state and the only reason I relocated here was for

the dive program. If the dive program were dropped I would continue my nursing major at home and say adios to Barry and all of its many problems.

I am also very upset about the events involving funds taken for personal use from the S.G.A. Sr. Jeanne flat out refused to discuss the matter. I understand her concern with personal confidence, however, as an elected official representing the school one must give up the right to personal confidence as a matter of public responsibility. If federal laws were broken, as it seems they were in this case, not only suspension from school justified, so is legal action by the local authorities.

Sr. Jeanne's act of writing a personal check to cover the losses is most suspicious and I believe the full details of what happened and why she did this is not only a matter of public record but also possibly of legal recourse.

The persons involved must be given a chance to defend themselves and explain their actions. If this is not done then more and more exaggerated rumors will arise, and many people will develop negative feelings about those individuals. The best way to handle the situation is to expose it, deal with it, and let the wounds heal.

Sincerely,
Matt Brian.

Faculty Terminations and the Decline of America's Higher Education

Re *The Miami Herald's* April 4 article "Barry faculty tackles rumors about firings": Is it any wonder that the American school system is so incompetent in comparison with schools around the world?

One of the top 3 concerns for American citizens is the lack of a good educational system. This proves to be a problem even as far up as a "higher education." Barry University of Miami Shores is in this category and shows that it too has a problem. It is not as competitive as it could be. I am one of the many students that "complained that the teachers leaving or not (receiving) guaranteed long-term contracts were among the better professors." Two of my present instructors fall into this vague area. One being told he should look for a new job because he will not be re-hired after the spring semester of 1993.

My greatest learning experiences have occurred with these two outstanding professors. The reason given to me at the end of this open forum, by a university benefactor, B. Boyd Benjamin, was that inter-office conflict has caused this restructuring. Perhaps Barry would benefit if they would work out these problems like adults and place all parties concerned on temporary probation, letting them know that they would need to improve their behavior or be terminated at the end of their contractual period. This would show the students as well as the community that Barry truly is a forgiving and caring community even when it does not seem to be to the administration, to be in their own best interest. You do not need to like a peer in order to offer a quality education, you need only to respect them as a supervisor or employee.

The saddest thing about this whole affair is that the majority of the faculty,

continued on page 7

A Voice Among Many— One Student's Grievances

The last couple of weeks at Barry University have been just amazing. For the first time in my academic career I have witnessed fellow students protest against the administration. I have always been used to hearing, "Listen, you're the student, you shut up and take whatever we say!" But I was impressed this time. Barry students showed that they actually had the guts to stand up for what they believed in. Before the student protests, I was beginning to think that we were either a bunch of retarded drones or that we simply couldn't care what happened on campus, even if some freak storm came and blew us all to thy kingdom come. I must say again that I was impressed.

On Friday, April 3, the President of the university, Sr. Jeanne O'Laughlin, called a meeting in the Kostka Room for all concerned students. Among the issues discussed at the meeting were the alleged firing of some 23 members of the faculty, the recent hike in tuition, living conditions at Barry, and the lack of access to communication with high-ranking university officials. Students were deeply upset by these issues and Sr. Jeanne's response via her meeting showed she was concerned.

On the issue of the firing of 23 teachers, the students felt that it was done for personal, rather than professional, reasons. Students were told that the number of teachers being let go was not as great as 23, their contracts were up and would not be renewed. Students were also told that Barry was adding at least 20 new positions for the fall. Some of these teachers were well liked and said to be the best in their fields.

Let's be real. When a student likes a teacher, they put in that extra effort to excel in the course, especially when they know that the teacher they have is the best. They are comfortable with the knowledge that they are receiving the best training. The firing of good, well liked faculty can only do harm for both parties.

With the uncertainty of their future, the students will take their money to other universities. This will mean a drop in revenue for Barry as 87% of it comes from the students. A drop in revenue means layoffs for faculty and staff. The university will then have to settle for the mediocre staff that it can afford. No one else will want to come to Barry. Those who do attend Barry will not get the best training. Barry may lose its accreditation. Who benefits from this? Not even the cats that live here. If this move is carried out, and regrettably so, it is only hoped that the faculty replacements are of the same and better caliber than those who are leaving.

Another issue raised by concerned students was the recent hike in tuition to \$5,000.00 per semester. I would like to address this in conjunction with conditions at Barry. Some students complain that the dorms and services given at Barry are not adequate. (Sr. Jeanne assured us that something will be done about it.) I understand that, like every other institution, Barry's operating costs increase every year. I hope this extra money will go toward things like upgrading the library with more volumes, a better choice of meals in the cafeteria, computers won't freak out in the middle of the writing of a term paper and less exorbitant prices in the bookstore.

On the issue of lack of access to communication with Barry officials, there definitely needs to be more communication between administration and the student body. This is the only way we together can solve problems on campus. One finger can't catch a fly. We have to work together. I know that it is not everyday that an official can be available for communication with a student, but time needs to be made for this. We need each other. Without students there is no Barry and without proper guidance from administration, Barry has a very bleak future.

I came to Barry University because of its small campus, good teaching, and the individual attention given to students. To be honest, I wouldn't want to go anywhere else. There are problems that need to be taken care of on which both students and administration have to work together.

A college education is much too expensive to ignore what is happening on campus. Our parents work too hard for the money to go to waste. The future of Barry and its students is at stake if problems are ignored. Something must be done. I would encourage fellow students to continue to make their grievances known in order to bring about changes. Don't sit on them like a hen on her eggs. Administration should also be willing to listen to what students have to say and not try to brush it off. If we want to make this place work we must work together.

The winds of change must be allowed to blow at Barry, or else these winds of change will blow Barry away.

by Terry-Ann Lynch

Letters to the Editor

continued

The Decline of American Education (continued)

that have been given notification by terminating in one year contracts, stand up for the students, encouraging them to study hard and fight for what is rightfully theirs. Yet, on the other hand, "non-quality" educators who have been given poor performance evaluations by the student body, in which the Academic Affairs V.P., Dr. J. Patrick Lee said carries a lot of weight in their decision process, are still teaching. In fact, they are still reading from the text, calling it the lecture part of class and by doing so, insulting the intelligence of knowledge absorbing students. They are kidding themselves and giving students the short end of the stick, by thinking they can teach. A professor with a doctorate degree is by no means necessarily a better teacher than a person with a master's degree. If that Doctor can not impart knowledge to the student then let that student learn from the teacher with the master's degree. But then again Barry University is up for re-accreditation and it looks better when a greater percentage of the faculty are doctors. It comes as no surprise that students are outraged. They are watching their education and their money go down the drain, making "Good education hard to find!"

Sincerely,
Kent Russell Stewart

Somebody Really Does Read Those Things!

Dear Editor:

I came to Barry University because it is a Catholic University with a fine reputation. For the most part, I have not been disappointed. But now I have a bone to pick...with you.

In the *Barry Buccaneer* you have a personal ads page. I have no objections to this, but I do think you are accountable for what you print there. Every other paper that published personals uses disclaimers, such as, "We reserve the right to refuse to publish ads deemed vulgar, obscene, or in any way offensive." In my opinion, this is something you need to start doing.

In one of your recent papers, on the personal ads page, there was an ad from a "Gas swilling, in-bred redneck...(into) queer-bashing." I cannot BELIEVE such a thing would be printed in ANY newspaper—let alone that of a Catholic University!

Printing such an ad gives an endorsement to violence and hatred of a minority. As long as people continue to treat such attitudes as "funny" and "harmless"—and to give them recognition such as you have done—violence in this country will continue to increase.

You need to rethink your policy immediately. This campus—those of us who don't endorse or condone violence and prejudice in any form—deserve an apology. Even if this turns out to be someone's idea of a tasteless April Fool's joke, it was inexcusable.

Sincerely,
Valerie L. Pierce, B.S.W.

Tuition Hikes, Cut Backs, and the \$7 Million Question

Dear Editor,

A young friend of mine is a student on scholarship at Barry University. When she

was offered a partial scholarship to the University, I encouraged her acceptance. Having done graduate work at your school, I was pleased with my instruction. Now I am not happy with Sr. Jeanne. A 24% increase in tuition in three years is ridiculous. After a \$7,000,000.00 gift could have helped your library and assisted needy students, they used it all on buildings. Buildings are important but to have spent the entire sum on them is wrong. The scholarships should keep pace with the tuition raises.

Most college professors really don't work that hard, not compared to high school teachers. So perhaps, I'm biased. Now is the time to bite the bullet, Sr. Jeanne should tell the staff to up their work load 10% and help the students—they're our future. After all, with cutbacks in state funding, there will be many teachers without jobs.

Sincerely,
Betty Cobb

Just What (or Who) is This Letter About, Anyway?

To the Editor:

Last week, amid all the student protesting and show of solidarity for the Barry community, a very different attitude was being circulated through the classrooms. An anonymous student/group of students took it upon him/herself/themselves to create a letter of hate mongering and dissent. This letter purported to solicit contributions from students (as an outright con), based on an unfortunate situation which had transpired in the Student Government Association. The sarcasm or cynicism which the letter writer(s) apparently attempted to put forth was lost in the juvenile style of the letter itself.

The facts of the matter underlying the need for someone to write such a letter were supposedly confidential. The process to address the issue was followed by the concerned parties, including the appeal through to Sr. Jeanne. There is no need to divulge further details, other than to say that Sr. Jeanne made a decision in her capacity as President of Barry University.

As was demonstrated at the April 3 meeting between Sr. Jeanne and the student body, differences of opinion are encouraged and respected. Agreement may not be reached, but we can agree to disagree. It seems, however, in this particular case, the cheap shot writers cannot accept a decision other than what their little minds can conceive.

Perhaps these petty students might review the Barry mission statement and ponder what a "caring university" entails. For the record, the inferred criminal activity allegedly foisted upon the Barry student body by the Student Government Association and the Delta Sigma Pi fraternity was completely baseless. If any students wish to discuss the issue publicized in that misbegotten letter, I invite them to contact me at the Andreas School of Business.

Dr. Elliot M. Ser
Faculty Advisor
Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity,
Mu Sigma Chapter

Don't forget, you can send letters during the summer for publication next fall!



A presenter delivering his paper during the second Student Colloquium at Barry University.

Papers Delivered at Student Colloquium

As you struggle to crank out those papers for your professors, you may not realize that they might have award-winning qualities. Well, they may, and the Student Colloquium Program, sponsored by the Department of English and Foreign Languages, is a way for students' papers to be recognized.

The program follows a a year-long format. First, the English professors select the best papers that follow the theme set by the department in the early fall. The second step has the students revise and polish their papers. Finally, the students prepare for the day they will formally present their papers. On that day all students and faculty are invited to hear the presentations.

This year's colloquium followed the theme of "The Quest." It took place on the morning of Wednesday, April 22 in the Kostka Room of Thompson Hall.

As the students present their papers, it was easy to see the hard work and pride

that went into each presentation. Each student made their analysis of the quest in literature come to life, and all deserved the praise of Dr. Ina Steinberg, Chair, Department of English and Foreign Languages. Dr. Steinberg said, "I am proud of each one of you."

After the colloquium, Dr. Steinberg commented that "the students worked hard revising their work and practiced talking on a microphone just to present their papers." She continued by saying that "it was a great follow-up to hear the students say 'Well I'm going to prepare for my next term paper.'"

Participation is important to any event, and Dr. Steinberg expressed her encouragement for the future writers at Barry. "I hope that all students participate and get into writing because it is important. If you cannot put an idea in writing, it's just a waste—it is just a floating memory, floating around in space."

by Teresa Lauderdale

SUM Calls for Change

continued

determining various aspects of the university, from the dormitory conditions to the evaluation of teachers. Although several topics were covered, such as tuition, SGA, and program cutbacks, the central issue of the meeting dealt with the professors. Brad Scott, a senior, asserted "...the original point in going [to the first meeting] was our concern for why the professors are going—whether it's for professional or personal reasons, that's what we need to find out."

Among the future actions established between SUM's organization and the second meeting with the President and Vice President:

1. Student participation in faculty search committees.
2. Student participation in Rank and Promotion, Retention and Dismissal, and faculty evaluations.
3. Some of the renovation monies needed next year will be used to correct as many problems in the dormitories as possible.
4. Continued work to advance better communication among all segments of the university.
5. Tuition increases will be discussed with students before they actually take place.
6. As in the past, if a program is taken away, students presently enrolled will be allowed to finish the program.

Among other actions that have evolved from SUM include two newsletters: the first defined SUM and

its goals to the students the second was a letter for the students to send home. The latter asked parents to call the main number at Barry to ask questions about what is occurring. It also included an article as written in *The Miami Herald* on April 4 concerning the student rally of April 3.

One final detail should be noted. This special organization of united individuals joined as a whole and made progress on behalf of the school in a short period of two weeks. In reference to the unity, Sr. Jeanne stated with a smile, "In the eleven years I've been at Barry, I've never seen anything like this." Although the end of the school year has arrived, SUM has no plans to dissolve. In the future, SUM hopes to incorporate itself into the Student Government Association. SGA will include into its agenda SUM's goals of better communication and possibility for change.

As defined in the Barry University Faculty Handbook, one of this university's goals is "to encourage its students to assume community leadership in religious, social, economic, and political affairs as a means of effecting needed social change." In the small amount of time that SUM was active this year, it proved to everyone involved that unity is necessary and that it is possible to make changes. SUM has set the precedent for the undeniable ability of students to profit from united efforts.

by Kenly Fenlo



All of the student presenters who delivered papers at the second Student Colloquium.

Hispanic Students Participate in Student Colloquium

April 22 marked the first time hispanic students of literature participated in the Student Colloquium at Barry University. The event took place in the Kostka room of Thompson Hall. The hispanic students who presented that day were Yvonne Estupiñan, Milagros Lema, Gisela Libreros, Karen Pita-Loor, Julie Prosa, and Maryanne Vasquez.

For the hispanic panel, it was a great challenge because they not only wrote their papers in Spanish but also had to translate them into English. As Dr. Leeder pointed out, quoting Spanish philosopher José Ortega y Gasset from his book *The Revolt of the Masses*, "the select minorities are the persons who demand more of themselves that

the rest...contrary to the other individuals who do not impose on them any effort."

This colloquium gave an opportunity for students to express their viewpoints in relation to a general theme encompassing different authors and genres in world literature. The event also encouraged the students to deepen their knowledge and to express their ideas in writing.

All the hispanic presenters, whose papers dealt with "The Quest as a Theme in Spanish Literature," felt that the event provided an inner satisfaction to all participants who gave their best in order to make the event a valuable academic experience.

by Milagros Lema

Spring Semi-Formal Held on the High Seas

Rich and famous? Well, not quite... at least not yet for some. On Saturday April 4, ninety-five students filed up the gangplank and boarded the SeaEscape for Barry's first floating semi-formal.

Shipboard adventures used to be only for the rich and famous, or at least for those who appreciated an elegant week at sea with a good book and a glass of champagne. This no longer holds true. Now, cruising is for everyone, even cost-conscious college students. It's become a beer and wine excursion which rivals Las Vegas for entertainment, New York for dancing, and Paris for food.

The student government Association (SGA) was the sponsor of Barry's "Spring Splash" evening cruise. Mime Quinones, vice president of SGA and coordinator of the event, said there were many reasons for choosing to cruise this year. "We felt that students wanted a change and the cruise was a lot less expensive than having it at a hotel," Quinones said.

In previous years, students had to deal with the expense of purchasing tickets, renting a tuxedo or buying a dress, and pitching in with friends to "arrive

in style" by renting a limousine. This year, most of those did not exist. Tickets were sold for \$35.00 per person and included transportation to and from the port, a cocktail hour, and a sit-down dinner. Quite a bargain compared to the spring social event of the previous years. "Since we called it a semi-formal, it was also nice because nobody had to rent a tux or buy an expensive formal dress," Quinones said.

In addition to drinking and dining at sea, students also enjoyed dancing hip to hip in the disco, trying their luck in the casino, and touring the ships decks until it returned to port at 2:00 in the morning. The evening boasted rave reviews from the partygoers. "We received a lot of comments from the students that have been positive. The cruise was an something which everyone will remember. We'd like to be able to do it again next year," Quinones said.

For one night Students experienced the elegance and glamor that was once only fit for the rich and famous. So until next spring... here's to champagne wishes and caviar dreams.

by Susan Boone

XTC Produces Ecstasy With *Nonsuch*

It's easy to use superlatives when talking about XTC. *Rolling Stone* ranked their 1986 album *Skylarking* in the top 50 of the 100 rock 'n' roll albums of all time, and fans anticipate each new arrival on the record store shelves with religious fervor. For their fans the latest XTC release, *Nonsuch*, has been worth the wait. For those who have never heard of them it is an excellent introduction into the world of XTC.

The Band

XTC is a trio featuring Dave Gregory, Colin Moulding, and Andy Partridge. So balanced are the band's roles that each is likely to be found playing guitar, bass, or synthesizer on any track.

The songwriting credits go to Andy Partridge and Colin Moulding, perhaps the best song scribes since Lennon and McCartney. As a rule, each song on every XTC album stands well on its own. Each is a complete work blending lyrical poesy, harmonic beauty, and structural integrity unparalleled by other modern songsters.

But there are two problems with XTC. The first helps to explain their songwriting excellence. The second is a problem of perception.

The first problem is XTC does not tour. This singular fact presents fans with one of the great tragedies in modern music. Andy Partridge has stagefright. In fact, the last concert XTC presented was highlighted by his passing out on stage during the first song. So, while fans of other bands await the customary post-release tour (note the excitement generated over the upcoming Cure tour), XTC fans can only hope the band will play at the alternative radio station nearest them.

The result is that XTC is more

committed to studio work than other bands. They carefully craft each song on every album, and XTC fans get spoiled by the product.

The second problem is that XTC has a definite outlook on the world. Their point of view is teeming with irony, sarcasm, and wry humor. XTC is never tongue-in-cheek, they are deadly serious, but they understand that irony and humor are effective tools for bearing their messages. For XTC fans this is not a problem but an addiction. Once you have had a look into their world you want more. Like Louis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, XTC presents reality on a tilt or through a curved mirror. It's all there, the beauty and the ugliness, it's just a different view.

For those who have never heard XTC it can be difficult to get acclimated. It may take a few listens to an album to appreciate the richness of their music and the power of the lyrics. Their work is, however, well worth the effort and well worth a second (or third, or fourth) listen.

Nonsuch

Nonsuch does not have the unity of 1986's *Skylarking*, a phenomenal concept album. Nor does it have the commercially-oriented pop songs on 1989's *Oranges and Lemons*. Rather, the latest XTC release features 17 songs of vibrant lyrical quality and subdued music. While the music is rich, harmonic, and dynamic, it lacks the brassy qualities of "Mayor of Simpleton" and "King for a Day" from *Oranges and Lemons*. The effect is that you pay careful attention to the lyrics. In this sense the songs more closely approach the qualities of "Dear God" from *Skylarking*.

Typical of the irony inherent to XTC is the blend of music and words. Songs that

address such topics as a modern Christ figure and homelessness are dressed up in cheerful tunes that (seem to) belie the messages of the songs. The album's first track, "The Ballad of Peter Pumpkinhead" is a lively number that tells the story of a good man who seeks to make the world a better place, only to find that others don't like his message ("but he made too many enemies/Peter Pumpkinhead was too good/Had him nailed to a chunk of wood/He died grinning on live TV...").

The second track, "My Bird Performs," features flugelhorn and trumpets as a backdrop for a straightforward love song...as straightforward as XTC can be. This leads you into a song teeming in irony, "Dear Madam Barnum." In this rousing track the speaker uses the circus as a metaphor while dealing with an unfaithful lover ("If I'm not the sole fool/Who pulls his trousers down/Then dear Madam Barnum/I resign as clown").

"The Smartest Monkeys" addresses homelessness by pointing out that despite man's advances we haven't taken care of everything in our society. Using cold sarcasm ("Well man created the cardboard box to sleep in it/And man converted the newspaper to a blanket/Well you have to admit that he's come a long way/Since swinging about in the trees"), XTC reminds that we are far from being a perfect species.

The middle of the album presents a jumble of influences, including the Beach Boys on "The Disappointed" and Chicago on "Omnibus." Then the album turns to a sound rooted in early XTC with "Then She Appeared." This love song mixes sitar samples, calliope organ, and bright harmonies to make one of the best tracks on *Nonsuch*.

After "Wardance," an anti-war song addressing England's fervor for the Gulf War, "Wrapped in Grey" brings the album to a climax. This song's lyrics blend all of the natural beauty expressed in "Summer's Cauldron" and "Grass" from *Skylarking* with the optimism of "Chalkhills and Children" from *Oranges and Lemons*. Rich harmonies mix with the Elton John/Bernie Taupin-esque musical theme to create a song you'll keep hitting the "repeat" button for.

Of the remaining tracks, "The Ugly Underneath" and "Books are Burning," (like "The Smartest Monkeys") address the unpleasant elements of life. Both tracks bring bright, tuneful music to lyrics that deal with falsehood in politics and censorship (respectively).

When the final track of *Nonsuch* stops there is an urge to wait for more. Perhaps this is the knee-jerk reaction of an XTC fan who doesn't want to wait another two years for a new album. More likely, however, is that *Nonsuch* is an album that keeps you waiting for more. It does not fulfill all of a listener's desires, and it does not contain a top-40 song.

What *Nonsuch* does do, however, is present XTC as XTC. It is rich with irony in both lyrics and music. It presents a world-view particular to XTC, and it does so with songwriting that must be heard to be appreciated. Relative to other XTC albums, *Nonsuch* is a throwback to earlier works such as *The Big Express*, and *English Settlement*. These albums were strong throughout and had a few songs that were not-quite-top-40 material. For XTC, that is a good thing, and *Nonsuch* is a good album.

by Raymond Whitney

Men's Basketball Triumphs in the Sunshine State Conference Tournament

Almost everyone knows the story of David versus Goliath, but has anyone heard of Barry versus the Sunshine State Conference (SSC)? Yes, believe it or not, there is a giant killer here at Barry called the men's basketball team. The Buccaneers almost pulled off the impossible when they took on the conference's best during the SSC tournament in Winter Park, FL.

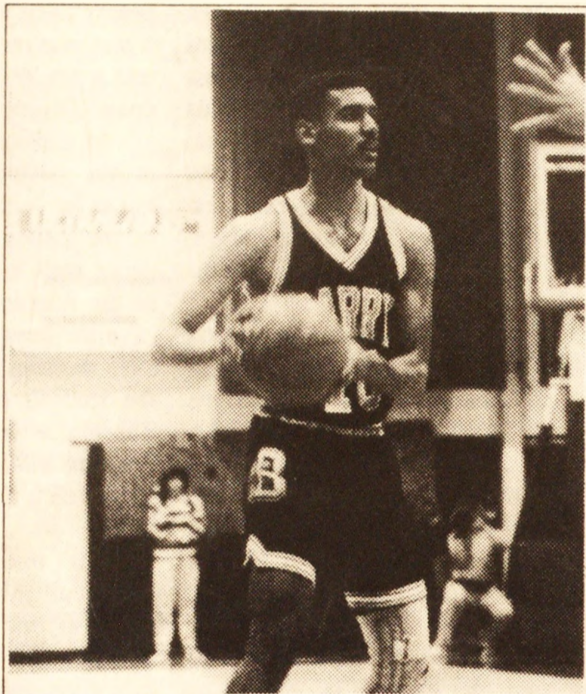
The Bucs entered the tournament seeded sixth and weren't expected to survive the first round. But Barry quickly silenced the critics by rolling past Florida Southern 65-62 in the opening round. The win marked the team's first victory over the Moccasins in school history. Floridan Southern, which has never lost in the first round, has won the tournament for the past six years.

The victory provided the Bucs with enough of a spark to outlast No. 2 seeded Eckerd 71-67 in the semi-finals. Barry went on a 10-0 run in the final three minutes of the game to seal the victory and assure themselves a spot in the championship game. The Bucs held Eckerd, the nation's top scoring team, to just 40% from the field while Barry connected on 58% of its shots. "It's the defense that wins games for you this late in the season, and our guys did a tremendous job keeping their shooters in check," said an ecstatic Coach Mims after the game.

Coach Mims' squad would need to keep up the defensive pressure if they were going to bring home the title. The

Buccaneers had to face the No. 1 seeded and highly favored Rollins Tars in the final game. Barry went into the game with nothing to lose and everything to gain, for the winner would earn an automatic bid to the NCAA Division II Tournament. "It's hard to believe that we are one game away from going to the show," said sophomore forward Rod Armesto.

But David would not topple Goliath this time, as Rollins rallied in the last five minutes to defeat the Buccaneers and put

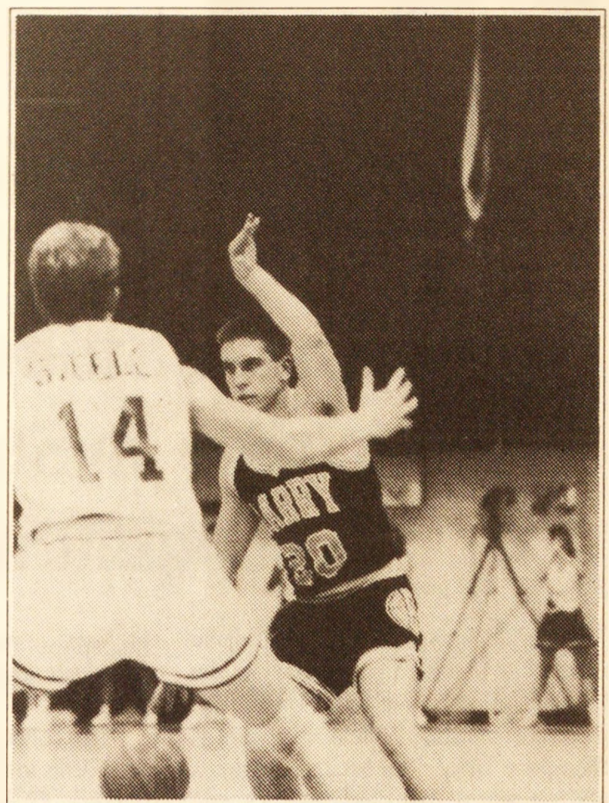


Nelson Fonseca sets the offense against Rollins College during the SCC conference tournament.

an end to their season. The Bucs led throughout most of the game, but were unable to put the Tars away. Tournament MVP David Wolf led the Tars' comeback by nailing a 3-pointer with 4:54 remaining to give Rollins a 59-57 lead that they never relinquished.

Though the game ended in defeat, the Bucs had no reason to hang their heads. The Barry men had just finished their best season ever, recording 15 wins and earning some much needed respect in the SSC. "Hopefully our performance in the tournament will send a message to the rest of the conference that Barry University is for real. Teams can no longer take us for granted or we'll beat them," said Coach Mims. Respect was not the only thing that the team earned this season, as several players were honored for their individual accomplishments.

Junior forward Anthel Hicks headed the Barry honor roll by being named to the All-Sunshine State Conference 2nd Team. Hicks led the SSC in scoring averaging 21.0 points per game and was fourth in the conference in steals with 1.9 per contest. Hicks was also named to the All-SSC tournament team after leading the Bucs to the championship game. Joining Hicks on the All-Tournament team was sophomore forward Bobby Latham. Latham was named to the 3rd Team All-SSC after leading the conference in rebounding (8.6 rebounds per game) and blocked shots (1.3 blocks per game). Latham was also fourth in the conference in field goal percentage, hitting on a school record 62.4% of his shots.



Brent Williams looks for an opening during Barry's loss to the Rollins Tars.

Others receiving All-Conference honors were senior guard Michael Anderson and freshman guard Nelson Fonseca. Anderson received honorable mention after finishing third in the conference in assists averaging 5.0 per game, while Fonseca was named an honorable mention All-Freshman performer.

Though David did not defeat Goliath this year, Goliath better beware because the Barry Buccaneers are coming back. With three starters returning and a group of talented recruits coming in, the Bucs should have enough firepower to stomp any giant who gets in their way next year.

James Taylor

Dean of Sports and Leisure Sciences Wins Alumni Award

Dr. Jean Cerra, Dean of the School of Sports and Leisure Sciences and Athletic Director at Barry University, was recently honored at the Alumni Awards banquet at the University of Missouri at Columbia. Cerra was presented with the "Outstanding Young Professional Educator Award."

This is Dr. Cerra's first year at Barry. She spent the past six years in the business world. She was president of R.I.C.E. Business Enterprises, Inc., a company that franchises yogurt stores.

Dr. Cerra's citation reads: "In recognition of your professional contributions to excellence in education, the Alumni Association of the College of Education, University of Missouri—Columbia, is honored to present you this Citation of Merit for Outstanding Achievement and Meritorious Service to Education."

PERSONALZ

Against all odds... we've finished. We have never worked so hard to do so little. 8 pages of pure, unmitigated hell that involved a liar, a lawyer, an advisor, a dean, a vice president, and the big cheeze herself. How do we feel? Under-appreciated, misunderstood, and confused. At times, we can feel nothing—there's nothing left...and people still demand more for less. We just don't get it.
bwaack.

P.S.
Hrothgar?
Yeah.
What do you want more than anything else in the world?
Chevas, on the rocks. What about you?
Pan-Galactic Gargle Blaster—neat.
Yeah.

The evidence is all around
Our brains are bigger
This we've found—XTC
Somebody fudged that data, Huh?

I hereby bequeath the management of the University Rag to Hrothgar the Viking—good luck, old man, you're going to need it!
-ED

Joe, Larry, Lil, Ginny, and all the gang—
So long, goodbye, Thanx 4 the phun. The old homestead has seen some crazy changes. Glad 2 B going now.
-English 2

Ray—
There are bigger, brighter, more wonderful things...there are also ickey, yucky, scary ones without you. I'll make it. I'll love you always.

Warning: These personal ads contain a high content of sarcasm, wit and cynicism. Some humor may fly way over peoples heads. Taking these too seriously may be hazardous to your health.

Kenly,
thanks for typing.
Ed and Lay

Pooper—
Really amazing lasagna and ziti. Thanks for contributing to my weight-gain program. My butt really needed it.
-ED

Vet Chick—
Sorry about the tragedy. I love you, and so did he. There's a lot of life yet to live...
That Guy

Looney Tunes—
All the world may be a stage, but there is much more to the world than is on your stage. A true family gives and takes, and it knows how to say thanks. A true friend will tell you when you've got snot hanging on your nose. So long, fare well, good luck. No regrets, just an alternate view.
-Foghorn Leghorn

N,
We both have lots of thinking to do, and even more to talk about. Hope to B-there soon--M

Loony Tune P.S.
If the costume fits, wear it.

Paul,
Sorry. I was wrong. That was totally uncool of me. That's All.

Paula—
Two wonderful years are not at an end. We have much more to do together before I'm ready to cash it in. See you in Arabia and Antarctica—we'll do it together, because we can.
-Ray

Nah Nah Nah, Nah Nah Nah, Hey Hey Hey, Goodbye