



Student Newspaper

Volume 65 Number 1

February 2003

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Students: Easy larget for Creditors

Bad credit pushes students to the verge of bankruptcy

By RENEE SOPKIE Staff Writer

Personal bankruptcy is quickly becoming a huge problem on college campuses all across the country. College students make up the fastest growing segment of the population filing for bankruptcy. In fact, the General Accounting Office (the investigative arm of Congress) has reported an increase of 51% in people under the age of 25 filing for bankruptcy. Popular College Credit

What are you more likely to find in a college student's wallet than a condom? That's right, a credit card. The average number of credit cards Credit Cards leads to Repo-Depot for undergraduates is three. By the Photo By: Kenita Williams time these students get to graduate school, the average student will have acquired one more card bringing the grand total to four. On average, students triple the number of credit cards they carry from the time they enter college to the time they graduate.

Students are not shy about using their credit either. Over 22 % of undergraduates who have credit cards



maintain balances between \$3,000 and \$7,000. The average student has \$2,327 dollars in credit card debt alone. However, this figure is a bit misleading. Most students take on greater debt as they progress through school. By graduation, the average student will owe \$3,262 dollars in credit card bills, add that to the averstudent graduates, and the answer is TROUBLE, \$20, 402 dollars worth of trouble. On average, students double the amount of money they owe to credit cards while at college.

Theoretically, we will see our children graduate before we pay back our credit card debt alone. If you have a credit card bill of \$5,000 and you make the minimum payment, it will age student loan of \$17,140 when a take you 26 years to pay it off.

Furthermore, you will end up paying an average of \$7,115.42 in interest (that means that new sweater that you got such a great deal on turned out to be almost 2 ½ times as much as you that it was - some bargain).

Credit Still Efficient Convenient for Students

Although they are a debt trap, credit cards still remain the most efficient, convenient, and often safest way for students to make purchases.

A 22 year old Barry University student (who we'll name Barry) is considering filing for bankruptcy.

He says he began using his credit card only for Internet purchases. He did so because this way he was protected from scams. He has made purchases over the Internet only to find out what he thought he was buying wasn't what he was getting.

"There are a lot of honest businesses on the Internet, but there are a lot of crooks too," he said. "You buy something from a crook with a check, and you can kiss your money good-

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Reaching Back Toward New Goals

By KENITA WILLIAMS Layout Editor

St. Catherine, Jamaica

The students at Kitson Town All Age School barely have paper and pencils, much less textbooks that are not falling apart. The school itself cannot afford to maintain its physical appearance. The walls and ceilings are filled with holes and stripping paint. The desks and chairs these children use every day are worn and missing legs. They cannot afford to keep buying uniforms, and are left with no other choice but to wear the old ones even after they have outgrown them. In a school where the capacity is 370 but the enrollment is 688 students, it is a problem for the administration to properly provide the materials needed to these overpopulated classes.

Furthermore, the school only has 26 teachers on staff. Even the administration is without the proper tools needed to run an office; they have no computers and all their records are hand written. Children at this school and many more like it miss out on the opportunity of a proper education. Miami Shores, Florida

The Jamaican Association at Barry University is hoping to help one of these schools. They are collaborating with Air Jamaica to sponsor a few members during spring break who will volunteer their services and help provide the school with a well needed paint job as well as other manageable work. They are also fundraising in order to buy books and stationery sup-



Jamaican Association will aid students' schooling at Kitson Town All Age Photo By: Leanne Philips

plies for students. So far they have collected \$400 for this project and are hoping to raise at least \$2400 more by the end of next term.

Leanne Philips, president of the Jamaican Association, has already

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Note from the Editor

By: FABIENNE JOSAPHAT Editor-in-Chief

I was a tree hugger.

Not many people know this about me, but I remember when I lived back home in Haiti, and France had started testing nuclear bombs in the Pacific ocean. Very soon, a penpal and I wrote letters to President Chirac, asking him to stop this "madness." We were afraid of the repercussions this would have on the environment. I don't know if he ever got those....

I was also very concerned with the chronic tree chopping that went on at home on our lush mountains, all the way through the Amazon forest. I was a recycler, a tree hugger, a pollution-phobe, an ozoner, a freak of nature! And I was passionate about it, too. My friends and I got into arguments about vegetarianism, and I would die if they showed a lack of concern for the air we breathed, for our health, for humanity.

Of course, these days are gone. Im still an environmentalist, but I've lost my passion, my flame. I don't recycle per habit, but I still sign petitions to protect the Amazon forest. I'm concerned about the death of activism, but I'm even more concerned that our youth has lost it all. I'm worried that we don't give a damn about trees, animals, and mostly, about ourselves. Where are the sport fanatics, the hippies, the radicals, the politicians?

Where is our spirit?

It always struck me that other colleges shared more interests, featured more speakers, played rougher sports, cheered for their friends, and organized more rallies than we do here at Barry.

All you have to do is visit Florida International University, for example. Every time I go there, there's always a football game on the field, and more importantly, the bleachers are always full of supporters, students, faculty and parents. Sometimes, even outsiders. The University of Miami always has a concert and manages to sell out tickets or at least pack the room. The students are mainly what keep these events together. Their participation and involvement generate more forums, readings, games, and rallies.

I have been attending Barry for four years now, and the only time I saw students get together for a cause was for the rally against discrimination. Is there anyone left on this planet, any student, who feels they can change things? Really, people, if not us, who will change things for us? We should begin revolutionizing the world now. And we should start by being involved. I'm sure we all sit back and go, "Gee, I wish there was more stuff happening on this campus." Who's to make it happen if not us? Are we at all moved by what's happening in the world today? Are we concerned about technology, science, war, politics, religion, or society? Do we watch the news? There are so many things that could inspire us. Why are we more concerned with spending more time at the beach than waking up the next day and realize another world war has started because politicians above us made decisions for us?

Are we being taken seriously? Could it be that our apathy has turned us into zombies? Is this why the only ones to speak up around us are old, and uncultured males named Pat Buchanan or Jerry Falwell.

We have the power to change things, and we have to start now. Not later, now. You got something you want to say? Say it. Something you want to change? Change it. Instead of sitting back and criticizing everything, do something about it. The world cannot be handed to individuals on a silver platter. It takes action to get results. Is something pissing you off? Voice it.

One reason I chose to write

for the paper is because I thought I could make a change, and I still do. I believe it. I love this paper, and I love to see it grow more and more, because of great editors, and because of people who want to see things change. We are here to be a voice to all of you frustrated or elated people out there. Why don't you take advantage of this medium and say what you want to say? Is there something out there you want us to talk about? Is there something we wrote about that you think was out of line, or simply put, something crappy? Do we suck? Do we rock? Why not let us know? It'll never change if we don't know what our weak points are, if you don't tell us.

This year is ending, and rather quickly. A new one is in view, and we at the Buccaneer will always be there to change things, to shake them up. We're revolutionaries, activists, pacifists, politicians, democrats and republicans, seeking to transform the world. We want to investigate, report, help, entertain and vent. We will not stop for anything!

So we bring you information, hoping to strike a cord somewhere. Spring Break, for one, will be different this year (see the Jamaican Association and Alternative Spring Break articles). Renee Sopkie's piece on bad credit among college students is designed specifically to raise awareness about this reality surrounding us and leading us to trouble, with-



out our knowledge.

Nicole Darbois' commentary on marijuana is.... Well, pretty straightforward. And we like that. We like journalist David Kidwell, and his passion for his job that sent him to jail and provoked much hate mail. We like that he spoke at Barry and shared his knowledge with the students.

We make so much progress now, that we create new ways to be resourceful by getting involved in the music industry, as reported by our online editor Owen lozzio.

We have come a long way, and boy do we have a long way to go, still. The Buccaneer encourages you to speak up, to get involved, to change the world to the best of our ability. Why should we live our lives as passive creatures? Why can't we dare to change things? We have the power. As Kevin Klein's character in the movie The Emperor's Club puts it, "Great ambition, without contribution, is without significance." That strikes a chord with me. I hope it does for everyone else.

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Hungry for Asylum

By: KENITA WILLIAMS & JAMIE BETTINGER

Miami, FL-- Haitians are once again showing their desperation for survival by risking their lives in an attempt to obtain the American Dream. Last October, over 200 Haitian refugees fled from the lush shores of Haiti on a makeshift boat and traveled over 500 miles to Key Biscayne, Florida. Pure hopelessness drove these people to risk the lives of their children by throwing them overthe bay, attempting to attain freedom; Photo Provided By: Father Victor Laroche freedom from political instability, freedom from poverty and freedom from an inevitable desolate life.

After risking their lives for a slice of the "American pie" they now face the reality of being sent back knowing their dangerous voyage was made in vain. Three months of preparation and four days on a restless sea, have been a waste for the hopeful hundreds that are now being housed at the Krome Detention Center in Miami-Dade; along with 80 other Haitians who arrived under similar circumstances last December. The United States Department of Immigration and Naturalization Services is now holding Haitian refugees indefinitely while their asylum cases are pending, a process that has been known to take years. This policy was implemented by the Bush Administration in December 2001, requiring only Haitians be jailed until their cases are decided. The INS feels that this proce-



board into the shark ridden waters of Water doubles as a natural resource and playful excursion for children in Haiti.

dure will discourage a mass influx of Haitian refugees. This procedure is in contrast to that which is followed for Cuban refugees who are welcomed in. more or less, with open arms as soon as they reach U.S. waters.

"Haiti was not always in turmoil," said Father Victor Emmanuel Laroche O.P., coordinator of volunteer services at Barry University, "In the early 70's to the early 80's, many factories provided jobs. Haiti was the number one maker of baseballs, in the world."

In Father Victor's office, an "Alternative Spring Break" board filled with pictures of Haiti rests on a table. One is of a little girl with unwashed hair and a torn dress, resembling a child from a "Save the Children" commercial. Another picture features a group of children with skinny legs and boney knees, torn and dirty clothing, their vulnerability exposed in their faces, standing in

front of a decrepit school where we would never dream of sending our children. There are also pictures of wood houses that seemed to be thrown together with spare parts.

"I came here in 1991, to study at Barry," he said. "I never planned to stay this long, but I go back twice a

He points to the board: "We build schools. The factories used to employ 50 to 60,000 people whose salaries could support up to five family members. Trouble started in the late 80s with the departure of Jean Claude Duvalier and an end to dictatorship. Many internal disputes were not settled and factories were relocated to the Dominican Republic, South America and Miami." With the disappearance of factories and jobs, inflation sky rocketed and the dollar to Gourde exchange rate went from five units per one dollar to nearly 30 units per one dollar.

The 200 Haitian refugees fled their over-populated country, a land roughly the size of the state of Maryland but harbors 7.7 million. Haiti is two-thirds mountainous, foreing the majority of the population into urban areas, therefore making living conditions unhealthy.

"Farming is difficult in Haiti during the summer months due to the heavy rains that wash the top soil away," Father Victor explained. "This also has severe environmental effects on Haiti's farm industry." Haiti's economy relied heavily on coffee and mango exportation which plummeted due to erosion. Haiti's lack of natural resources forces it to import \$1.2 billion in resources. This type of environment drives its citizens into a frantic search for refuge.

The Haitian population is 80% illiterate. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and has

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Spring Breakers Choose to Serve

By: FABIENNE JOSAPHAT Editor-in-Chief

This year, the alternative Spring Break will take place in the Dominican Republic, said Father Victor Laroche, Coordinator of Volunteer Services. A number of students, faculty and staff had raised concerns about the continuous focus on

"Haiti and the Dominican Republic share the same island," explained Father Laroche. "There have been some students and staff members asking why it was in the same location all the time. I thought it was a legitimate concern, so 1 addressed it with my supervisor..."

Every year, students interested in accompany Father Laroche to trips during Spring Break where they can take part in community service and in return learn from other communities.

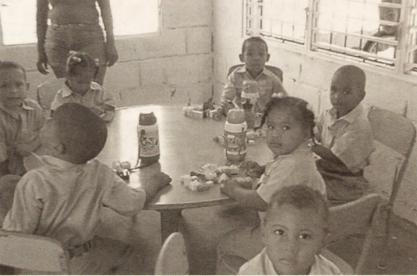
"We have approximately 12 students already interested," said Father Laroche.

There are criteria for students wishing to join the alternative Spring Break team, based on participation at meeting, fundraising, and a written letter based on scriptures that will serve as reflection during the trip.

The trip will last a week, from March1 to March 7. Since the Dominican Republic and Haiti are close to each other, the trip won't be longer than usual according to Father

> Victor. The students will help with a kindergarten and preschool program, and lend a hand in adding finishing touches to the Fe y Alegria Espiritu Santo Center, a nearly-completed building that will cater to the children.

Painting and landscaping are to be expected as part of the



Children in the Dominican Republic looking forward to Barry students visit Photo Provided By: Father Victor Laraoche

students'schedule.

founded 48 years ago, and is a joint project of 11 religious congregations, including the Adrian Dominican sisters of Barry University. Operating in the Dominican Republic for 12 years now, it is located South of the Dominican Republic in Bani, Matanzas.

"Once again, the students will participate in classroom interaction," said Father Laroche. "They will bring material to the children as well, like they did last year."

Barry students are currently brainstorming about fundraising ideas. They will be leaving "Coins from Heaven" jars in offices on campus in order to collect money for their travels, and are discussing the possibilities of yard sales and auctions.

For Father Laroche, the alterna-

tive Spring Break is an opportunity for The Fe y Alegria movement was students to do something different rather than going to Cancun or Indianapolis. It is not "a partying" atmosphere.

> "It 's a group experience of going into a marginalized community, and helping directly," he said. "It's about finding out what we can learn from those people and what they can learn from us."

> In the future, Father Laroche hopes to see the alternative Spring Break focus on the same location for two years at the most, and also expand throughout the United States. Barry students also have the opportunity during Spring Break to be part of the Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge, in collaboration with the Habitat Campus chapter.

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Photo provided by: Father Victor Laroche

buccaneer Fe Herald Reporter Redefines Journalism

By FABIENNE JOSAPHAT Editor-in-chief

Barry University celebrated the second annual Career Night with speaker David Kidwell, Investigative Reporter for the Miami Herald. Kidwell wrote the famous article on employees at the Department of Children and Families who were allowed to work in spite of previous criminal records. Consequently, two DCF workers "were fired, four resigned," and 20 more are facing possible removals.

"My goal is to expose errant behavior," said Kidwell in an interview accorded to the Buccaneer. "Especially by those who hold positions of public trust."

Kidwell takes his job to heart. The view of journalists has taken a turn for the worse, with publications like the National Enquirer or shows like Access Hollywood. Kidwell still knows what being a journalist is

about: reporting the truth and establishing a trusting relationship with sources. He is willing to do the necessary to do his job, without jeopardizing his integrity.

Kidwell shocked the audience with his statement, "Journalists rarely print the truth." He explained himself by informing the students and faculty present that because of deadlines and pressure, there is hardly time to find the absolute truth. Journalists, according to Kidwell, go by what they re given by the police or transcripts.

"That's why I enjoy being an investigative reporter," he said. "Someone given the luxury, the confidence, and the time to get a little closer to the truth."

Because he believes in integrity and has passion for journalism, Kidwell served 15 days of a 70-day sentence in Palm Beach County Jail for refusing to give up notes that would eventually compromise his sources.

A recent investigation on errant

shootings by Miami police officers since 1990 and the department's failed oversight lead to a three-part article and "much hate mail," especially from policemen who felt their careers was misunderstood and their actions questioned.

One spiteful email came from a Trooper X, and requested Kidwell sees the story from the police's per-

"Why don't you get out of the cubicle you have, grow some b****, and ride with us one night so you can see what it is all about?"

These opinions do not stop Kidwell from doing his job. He loves it. If he weren't reporting, he says:

"I'd be doing something I was not intended to do. I was lucky in my youth to fall into a career for which I am both proud and content."

Career Night is funded by the English Department. Professor Andrea Greenbaum is the coordinator, and says she chose Kidwell as a speaker because she's "familiar with his work." His article about the Israeli mob sparked her interest for a book she's currently editing, and they have been in touch ever since. Greenbaum is pleased with the outcome of Career

"I think most folks were impressed with his integrity as a journalist," she said. "What I think made him a good speaker was his ability to place his work into a larger societal context, seeing journalism not merely as a profession, but as an instrument for democracy and free speech."

Kidwell says he hopes to change lives in a way with his articles, "but the result is more indirect."

"Newspapers are the last line of defense against bureaucratic waste, fraud and abuse," he said. "Sometimes we fail. Sometimes we don't do an adequate job, but I would hope our readers would recognize how hard we

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Reaching Back

Cont'd from 1

been to this site to assess the school's most needed projects. She is also trying to find a construction company willing to offer their services by fixing structural problems, such as the holes in the walls and ceilings.

Marlon Murray, vice-president of J.A. says: "We are trying to focus on getting uniforms, shoes, books for students that can't afford them. It would also be nice to get them at least two computers. But perhaps the most important is being able to donate food or money towards school lunches, so that students can have daily meals."

This project started September of 2002 and will be continued every

year with a different school as the benefactor

Dr. Heather Andrade, advisor for the association, is pleased with the club's progress and future goals. "The fact that the Jamaican Association is paying homage to their heritage through adopting this basic school, is to be fully commended," she said. "I hope that they will continue to take on projects of this scope and magnitude that do in fact make a tangible difference in the lives of those still living within their nation."

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News Anchor to Receive David Brinkley Award

By: FABIENNE JOSAPHAT Editor-in-Chief

On February 11, Barry University will present the David Brinkley Award to Noticiero Univision anchorman Jorge Ramos.

For the last 15 years, Ramos has catered the news to households in Latin America as well as Hispanic viewing populations, according to Francisco Duque, Coordinator of Media Relations at Barry University.

"He is watched every night in 13 different Latin American countries," said Duque. "He has published several books, and interviewed almost every political Jorge Ramos, new recipient of David Brinkley Award

leader and important person in Photo Provided By: University Relations

the last years." The Miami Herald aknowledges that he is "...bigger than Peter Jennings, Dan Rather and Tom Brokaw - at least in Miami, Los Angeles and Houston, where his newscast consistently beats out all other networks for the top ratings."

Originally from Mexico, Ramos moved to the U.S. at age 20. He has won seven Emmy Awards, as well as the 2001 Maria Moors Cabot Award for Excellence in Reporting on Latin America.

Every year, a selection committee brainstorms and exchange ideas on who to nominate for the David Brinkley Award. Past recepients include Helen Thomas, Tim Russert and Ted Koppel.

The event will be held during a breakfast ceremony in Andreas 111 at 8:30 a.m.

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War Debate Turns Sour

By LAUREN RIVERA Staff Writer

A philosophy debate held on October 30 in the Kostka room focused on whether or not military intervention in Iraq is humanitarian. Views about sacrificing American lives and interfering with foreign sovereignty varied,

Elizabeth Suergiu argued in favor of military intervention. She reported that Saddam Hussein "has cut out the throats of men, women and children, by denying them their humanistic values, in order to assure his nation maintained only one voice." Suergiu used the philosophy of Thomas Hobbes, which provides that the Leviathan is the great commonwealth which protects and defends the human values of the state; American military intervention will serve as a Leviathan. Ryan Vaughn argued with Suergiu, vividly describing life in Iraq: Sadaam's two sons have been known to "brutally rape women," and professional soccer players are tortured and jailed for losing a game.

Pricilla Rodriguez and Joseph Prato, arguing against military intervention used Friedrich Nietzsche's belief that the "drive of every human being is domination and control," to suggest that President Bush's motives are controlled by interests in power over Middle eastern regions.

Suergiu argued that there may be a rationalization, but false. Saddam's regime is the "classic case of a man willing to sacrifice everything to stay in power." She adds that American militancy is not based on self-defense, or on fear of the state of weakness; it is based on the "active pursuit of good," which is restoring peace to a nation with only one voice.

Rodriguez asserted that feeding the hungry and clothing the naked suffices and better describes humanitarian efforts to intervene, but that there is nothing humanitarian about war. One professor in the audience posed the question, in reaction to the attack against President Bush's drive for control asking, "What then, motivates foreign policy?" Suergiu argued that foreign policy in the context of this war is about the freedom of self-determination. Suergiu returned to Rodriguez's comment and stated that military intervention would try to set up a democratic and free society so that the hungry and the naked could eventually feed and clothe themselves.

One professor, unable to attend, sent in a letter which was read by a student. He wrote, "None of you should need to go off to die for oil, nor for any sort of power show." He did not accept war as a work of peace, providing that love, not crime, is the way of Jesus Christ. He quoted Isaiah 58:10: "If you put an end to oppression, to every gesture of contempt, and to every evil word, if you give food to the hungry and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon."

Some insisted on tougher sanctions- sanctions such as those which Suergiu had declared ineffective, providing that weapons, and nuclear developments were discovered, after American threats and summons where answered otherwise.

Some students felt that attacks similar to those of September 11 should be feared. They did not want to "sit back and wait," as said by Vaughn..

The most popular comment dealt with previous American interventions in third world countries and other oppressed nations, such as Haiti and Vietnam, arguing that war would cause more harm than good. Rodriguez and Prato asked why the United States had not attempted to intervene in Cuba, or in other South American countries such as Venezuela or Columbia, where people are also suffering amidst civil war, and economic conflict involving communism.

It is clear that both sides of this debate struggled to provide a solution for peace, though ambiguous and somewhat unpromising--as Suergiu said, she proposed her ideas with "no future sight."

Military intervention is understandably debatable, but during the session not everything was such. One student attacked Vaughn's dramatic representations of Iraq.

"Have you ever been to Iraq?" Vaughn had not.

"So, you are telling us about what you've seen on TV?"

The American perspective of War on Iraq is not unified, nor is it clear. However, as the absent professor stated, "assembly of students in a free democratic society is necessary to maintain our freedom."

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Students' Input Welcome for Library Remodeling

By LAUREN RIVERA Staff Writer

It smells different, doesn't it? Barry University has finally decided to replace the carpet in the Monsignor William Barry Memorial Library.

"I am so excited," says Estrella Iglesias, Head Librarian "I've been trying to get them to do this for a while."

She is more excited to disclose that the spirit of renovation is not limited to the carpet. There will also be a structural renovation catered toward the benefit of Barry's students.

"For the time being this will be a large study room," Iglesias explains. "Then depending on what the students will like more, we will either turn it into a computer lab, or keep it as a study room."

Iglesias says she " would like to expand the area were the computers already exist."

"But with the art gallery in its place, we must use another area to add more computers," she said.

More computers in the library would accommodate the increasing number of students, hence the need for a new student union (see last edition of Buccaneer.)

The new study room is replacing

the offices toward the left of the first floor. This area is across from the handicap bathroom, along the white hallway dedicated to prints of classical paintings. The small rooms that exist there will be combined into a large space to be used by the students. The definition of that use is still in question.

Iglesias welcomes feedback from students. How is the library used? Would it help to have an accessible room with printers, when running from a class in O'Laughlin Hall to the turn in a paper in a basement classroom in the library? With an hour before a second final of the day, would some appreciate a quiet study room - without the sounds of keyboards or an accumulation of Baseball players chatting - on the first floor of the library? On the way in, do the sketches and photographs provided by the art department catch the eye? Are students attracted to them?

"The small rooms we have upstairs are all reserved for specific departments, but this room will be open to all students," says Iglesias.

What would be the best way to improve the library? Estrella Iglesias wants answers. And only from you, the students.

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Hungry for Asylum

Cont'd from 3

been devastated by years of political instability and economic depression. In 2001 the average working person in Haiti made 480 U.S. dollars. Father Victor believes lack of education is directly related to poverty. The typical Haitian household is without running water or electricity. Most families can t afford books or proper clothing to send their children to school. A child's time is better off spent harvesting crops or working for the family, rather than being educated. The burden of caring for the family is most often shared by all members, young and old.

"To get a visa to leave Haiti you need \$4,000 American dollars in the bank, deed to house/land, a car and a job in Haiti," said Caleb Antoine, a local Haitian immigrant. "You also have to prove that you have family abroad, plus, you have to know someone in a powerful position,"

Local Haitians have made it clear that discrimination is a factor in the immigration policy. Many feel that if they were of Cuban descent they would automatically be granted asylum.

"I think it's racist that Cubans can stay but they (Haitians) can't," stated Jean Cadet, also a Haitian immigrant. "If they have to go home everyone else should go home, too, "



Harsh conditions in Haiti drive locals to seek asylum Photo Provided By: Father Victor Laroche

Due to the economic instability, many Haitians do not have the resources to participate in governmental decisions. Illiteracy also hinders their knowledge of politics as well as their rights as citizens.

"Haiti will never be able to rise above economic turmoil while there are so many internal disputes within the government," Father Victor mentioned.

The U.S. Coastguard have intercepted over 68,000 Haitian migrants in the last decade, excluding the ones who make it to shore undetected or have drowned in the process.

To obtain a visa to the United States, immigrants must follow many steps in the application process. Although applying online is an option at the United States Immigration Services website, the number of Haitians that actually have access to a computer is minimal. To qualify for a visa one must prove that one either has a family member living in the U.S., has a job or has been filed for by a job or school or has investments in the U.S. Other possibilities to get visas include a lottery system, or immigrants can apply as asylees or refugees

"If you compare the reasons, all of them (the Islands), all of them are having political problems," Esther Josaphat said. "But I don't think they look at our problems seriously. If the refugees spoke Spanish they would have been granted asylum."

"Haitian immigrants who have settled here have made many positive contributions to our society and enriched the cultural diversity of South Florida," said Bishop G. Wenski. "Like the ancestors of all Americans, they have come to this land in search of freedom and to enjoy the civil liberties so many of us often take for granted."

The Haitian population of Barry University is proof that they have made tremendous contributions towards our community. Father Victor has enhanced the lives of so many students on campus and has been an asset to the University. The Haitian students studying here are proof that they are determined to not only receive a good education, but to establish a stable and successful future for themselves, one that would be compromised had they remained in Haiti.

williamsk@mail.barry.edu

FEBFEST 2003

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Come for the great live music Food drinks and entertainment

Carlos on Fashion

By: CARLOS CAMACHO Columnist

Fashion Headquarters

We interrupt current programming for a Buccaneer Fashion Alert. FATIGUES ARE OUT. They have been out for at least three semesters and two summers now. What are you people thinking? I am just as patriotic as the next guy, but come on. If you'd like to continue your patriotism in more creative ways, how about putting some American designers to good use: Marc Jacobs, Calvin Klein, Donna Karan, and so on. When was the last time Saddam Hussein won anything at the VH1 Fashion Awards? We can win the fashion war before it even begins.

Fashion Lookout

Let me offer a new, creative way to see your peers. Make one of them your fashion lookout-of course, keep them in the dark about this little piece of juicy information. Get several of them. I have five at last count. The Carlos' International Dictionary definition of the phrase "fashion lookout" is any person that has no idea that you actually should look in a mirror before leaving the house. The procedure is very simple. If one of these fashion lookouts wears a pair of pants or a shirt that you're thinking about buying-don't. If you one of these fashion lookouts wears a pair of pants or a shirt that you have in your closet-give it away. It's surprising how in two minutes one of the fashion lookouts can ruin a perfectly fine outfit. Be careful. Be diligent.

Eyebrows

Michael Caine in Miss Congeniality put it best: "Eyebrowsthere should be two." Ladies, I know it's hard to maintain a high level of personal care when you're constantly worried about the next exam, but this only takes a few minutes. Whether you pluck, wax, or shave just doesn't matter. Do it. It will make a big difference. Who knows? People might actually want to look at you now and all it took was five minutes.

Guys, the mono-brow look is not very becoming of a modern young man ready to go out into the world of whatever it is you're doing. I know it's not too manly to worry about these things, but get over it. Some of you shave your faces and, be honest, it's not for hygienic reasons. Guys shave because they want to look better. Guys shape out a goatee because they want to look better. Why not pluck a few hairs between those forehead monsters along with your regular shaving? Take some advice from the higher maintenance ladies at Barry and do something about it. One piece of advice (that's my job): don't shave, pluck, or wax to near perfection. That would be just too much. Tell whoever does it, and it should not be you, to make it look as natural as possible. Don't let any of your friends make fun of your newly



found higher maintenance. Men have been getting massages, facials, manicures, pedicures, and bikini waxes for ages. It's not just a women's dominion anymore.

Return to High Fashion

Slowly, but surely, the world is now returning to the age of glamour as it should be. Some of my favorite movies, The Thomas Crown Affair for example, all have a common scene in which the characters attend a black tie affair and dance the night away sharing a night of awful jokes reinvented as humorous ones with the stroke of too many martini cocktails.

I keep wondering what happened to the era of people dressing up in their Sunday best simply to a dinner. It may have disappeared because that age also shared an existence with racism, and segregation. Black tie affairs of that era excluded anyone who was not of white skin except for the servants. The union between the world of high fashion and normal society could prove very fruitful in both returning to the idea of being beautiful and of eliminative negativity amongst the diverse members of the community. The world of high fashion should be at the forefront of eliminating the negative association applied to race, gender, and sexual orientation. There are very few sectors of the world market that actively seek and encourage the input of those usually cast out of "normal" society. The spectrum of designers, models, and buyers could not be more diverse. High fashion is open to everyone: white and black, girl and boy, straight and gay. It's even open to the poor. Many designers now have outlet stores that have reasonably priced items and can improve your wardrobe

If you have any ideas, questions, comments, concerns, anything your little heart desires, please email me. I'd love to respond to any of them on my next column. However, you should be prepared for the cruelty and brutality of my honesty. I will provide nothing but honesty.

camachoc@mail.barry.edu



Bad Credit

Cont'd from 1

bye. But with a credit card, you have some protection. Most on-line business don't take anything but credit cards. So what are you supposed to do?"

Soon he began to use his credit cards for everything.

"I'd be out with the guys and I'd run out of cash, and some girl I wanted to impress would walk in. So, I'd pull out the card and buy her and her friends a round of drinks. . . Then there was the stuff I just didn't budget for. You know like a computer, computer supplies, laundry, illness, and stuff like that. When they came up, I thought, oh I'll just charge it. I started off with one card, by my sophomore year I had four or five. I kept getting new ones because they offered a low introductory rate. I told my self I would pay off the ones with the higher rates with the one with the low rate. But I never did. I just spent more."

Before he knew it, he had managed to rack up just over \$20,000 in credit card debt alone.

"I never thought much about it. All my friends had student loans that were a lot higher than mine, so I thought I could afford to be a little more carefree with my credit card. But now I can't even make the minimum monthly payments."

The Easiest College Credit

It is extremely easy for college students to qualify for a credit card. You don't even need a job.

"The fist credit card 1 got, 1 signed up for it as a joke," says Barry "They were giving a free cooler filled

with a bunch of stuff. It was junk, but it was free, so I thought what the hell. I filled out the form, admitted I had no job, and presto, I was approved!"

The banks figure good old mom and dad can be counted on to bail their kids out when they run up oversized balances and fall behind on payments. Banks used to require parental approval before issuing a card to students who have no source of independent income, but not anymore (they put an end to that in the early 90 s).

Why Us?

Many students are not aware that late payments or defaults on credit cards can negatively impact on future job opportunities. The majority of entering students lack financial savvy. According to the JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, the average high school senior scored a 50.3 % (a failing grade) on their financial literacy test this year. In other words, college students are inexperienced with consumer credit. They tend to apply for too many credit cards. Even if they never use these cards, simply having the open line of credit can negatively impact credit

While JumpStart says that this lack of financial savvy is not a new problem, today's harsh economic climate has increased the need for tight budgeting. We are watching our college funding decreases as states tighten budgets and parents lose jobs.

In addition, credit cards provide incentives for schools to promote their cards. Many credit card companies pay colleges and universities rebates based on how much each cardholder spends with an affinity card (for some large universities, rebates can be in the millions). Therefore, the very schools we go to help recruit students by allowing credit card companies to set up tables in student unions and entice them with free gifts. They place credit card applications in the bags we are given with every purchase made at the bookstore. They provide mailing lists so that credit card companies can solicit us through the mail. They sponsor affinity cards featuring the school's logo or mascot through the alumni association or athletic department.

Bankruptcy

It sounds so tempting to just say that you spent too much money and walk away from your debt. Think again. If you file for bankruptcy, it stays on your credit report for ten years. Forget about the American dream of your own home with the white picket fence, the 2.5 kids, and the dog. No bank will give you a mortgage! Also, bankruptcy is a matter of public record, and it can have a negative impact upon your chance of landing that dream job (would you want an accountant who couldn't balance their own check book in college?)

If you are drowning in debt, and cannot pay the minimum balances, you do have options. Credit counseling or debt repayment plans are available. A credit counselor helps devise a schedule to pay debts; however, there is a signed commitment (in other words you are obligated to stick to the plan). On the plus side, seeking credit counseling does not show up on

Study by Nellie Mae

* 92 % of all undergraduate students.

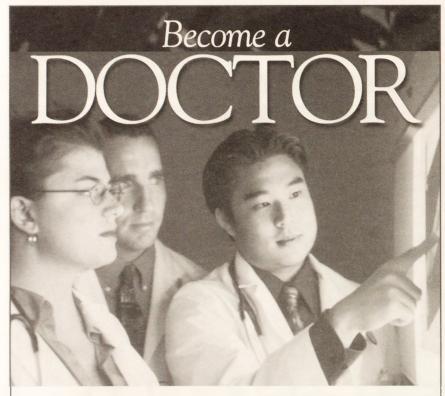
* 95 % of all graduate students have at least one credit card

* 47 % of grduate students have four or more credit cards.

your credit report (provided you stick to the repayment plan).

Debt repayment plans can affect credit ratings. Creditors may report that your account is in a debt repayment plan, and that concessions have been made to help reduce your debt to a workable amount. This can stay on your credit report for up to seven years, but if it means you don't have to file for bankruptcy, it may be worth it. It looks better if you pay your debt off (even if it takes long) than if you walk away from it. Therefore, you have a better chance of getting credit while still having the mark on your report. Also, debt repayment is not a matter of public record. Therefore, you do not have to worry about it affecting job prospects.

rolejnik@mail.barry.edu



...even if your bachelor's degree isn't in the sciences or your GPA needs a boost!

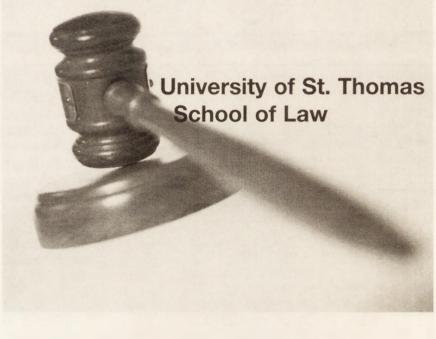
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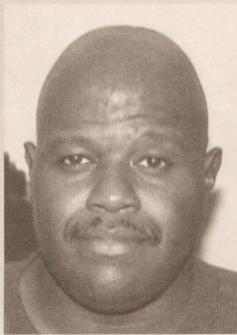


NIC 11102

Putting a Face on the Issue

By: Professor Rayfield Walker

Hamid was always last



Hamid, whom I met at the U.N. building in a demonstration during Gulf War One, hung out in East Village bars and cafes arguing jazz and politics, went to rallies against sexism, and donated money to help Filipino liberation. He supported Irish independence from the UK., gave time and money to help East Timorese, and got shoved against a squad car once by a cop who suddenly lost his cool when confronted by demonstrators protesting Russia's war against Chechens.

"Who are the "Chechens" anyway?" the cop demanded, frustrated with we brave, loud few: our band of multiracial intellectuals in black turtlenecks who 'd suddenly scuttled into the street to interdict traffic in front of a ritzy Manhattan jewelry store rumored to be owned by Russian mafia

Yet, the very same Latin, Black, and white liberal intellectuals who called on Hamid when they needed bodies for their rallies would groan and roll their eyes whenever he recounted the sufferings of his own Palestine. There's no solution! they sputtered. The ancient hatreds between you and Jews will never be solved. First to risk his own skin for others, Hamid was always last in line for sympathy from our friends. Here's why.

Many Americans, even colored Americans, know little of what's happening in the Middle East because we Americans hate to think analytically about things. Takes too much effort. We like our food, news, history, foreign policy, and the names of our supreme court justices (bet you can 't name them!) to be pre-digested for us and served in tiny bytes, like the one about ancient ethnic hatreds! That way we can dismiss the human suffering and injustice we support, as inevitable, or natural, or as simple fate.

The 9-11 attacks were the result of our ignorance of and indifference to suffering and injustice in the rest of the world; particularly among Arabs displaced not just by the Israeli occupation but by 54 years of U.S. support of reactionary leaders (such as King Faruk, the Sauds, and Sadaam Hussein). Twenty million people have been displaced by

U.S. backed and/or manipulated wars in the Middle East in recent years, says the U.S. Committee for Refugees, while billions of U.S. dollars have poured into the region not to support refugees, to purify water, or for food or medicine, but in military aid used to slaughter and displace more Arab people. Much of that aid was used not just for guns, helicopters and tanks, but also for military education (training in interrogation and torture), and for direct financing of policing operations carried out by the governments of Saudi Arbabia, Turkey, Egypt, and Israel, against their own citizens.

Why do they hate us? was the sniffling media refrain in the rubble of the twin-towers disaster: as far as we knew, globalization was spreading peace and plenty in this best of all possible worlds and everything was just fine—bull markets, nice, plump SUV's cheap gasoline and Disneyland.

As Hamid would say, if anyone were to listen to him, it's not just that America exports torture, dictatorships and death, although that has a lot to do with Arab folks being peeved at Uncle Sam. It's also that U.S. hegemony, free market privatization, unregulated globalization of monetary policies, food technology, and finance have led to an exponential widening of the gap between rich and poor on this planet (which is unprecedented in the planet's history by the way, including the

period of the Roman empire. Remember the Romans, our role models?).

Maybe tinted SUV windows hide the fact from us, but the world 's poor can see that of the six billion or so people on Earth, about half (2.6 billion) live on an income of one dollar a day or less. Most third world nations must accept being the dumping ground of our garbage, our nuclear and chemical wastes, and our sweatshops, not to mention our horrid K-Mart polyester sport shirts. We sell the world the idea of democracy while selling them the reality of cancer, poverty, and authoritarian rulers whom we support because those rulers shoot them in the head when they try to complain about the garbage and the polyester. This ensures their silence and powerlessness as they slave away to make Michael Jordan's eponymous sneakers and the little rubber stoppers for our 70 pound SUV doors.

Wait, you say. Most of the 9-11 attackers were Saudis, our filthy rich accomplices in Mideast murder and mayhem. Don't their SUV's have solid gold doors? The royal family and their henchmen are rolling with the 70-carat posse, true, but did you know that 30,000 Iraqi refugees poured into filthy, crowded Saudi refugee camps after GWI? Or that 128,000 Palestinian refugees now reside inside Saudi Arabia? Idealistic young Saudis, like the 9-11 Saudis for instance, are not as isolated from the evidence of American carnage as the average ivy league American is. Hamid used to point out that none of the billions in aid to the Saudi royal family is spent on feeding, housing, or giving medical attention to those refugees.

Myth #1: The world's Jews are responsible for the U.S./Israeli occupations of Gaza, Golan, Beirut, and the West Bank; or, the other side of the myth—the Jewish people must be saved from further holocaust by protecting Israel through expansion of its borders.

food technology, and finance have led to an exponential widening of the gap between rich and poor on this planet (which is unprecedented in the planet's history by the way, including the Mythbuster: Well, it should be obvious that Israeli policy no more speaks for Jewish people than South African policy peaks for Negroes. Not only do many American Jews object

to Israel's violation of international law by transgressing the 67 borders, but many Israelis inside Israel itself oppose Israeli brutality sponsored and financed by America.

Myth #2: Arabs hate Jews, which is why the occupation, with its missiles, torture, kidnapping, and assassinations carried out by the Israeli Defense Forces, continues and escalates.

Mythbuster: Palestinians have no army, no navy, no SUV 's, no attack helicopters, no American made John Deer and Caterpillar bulldozers and tractors to knock down entire Israeli neighborhoods, and no nuclear weapons, all of which Israel does have, supplied by-America. What Palestinians do have is a bitterly fatalistic generation of youths raised inside a huge concentration camp, who are willing to blow themselves up in one last desperate attempt to strike out at oppressors who can and do unleash the full horror of mechanized warfare upon Palestinian territories with impunity.

Americans always seem last to know such things.

Hamid repeated the question to me one night inside *Sylvia's* up in Harlem as we ate an order of fried catfish together. A few curious Black folks walked past our table, looking at my white-skinned, dark-eyed friend who loved soul food and wore his *keffiyeh* with such *panache*. He spoke the question slowly, carefully, like examining the bleached little skull of a fossil: "Do Arabs hate Jews?"

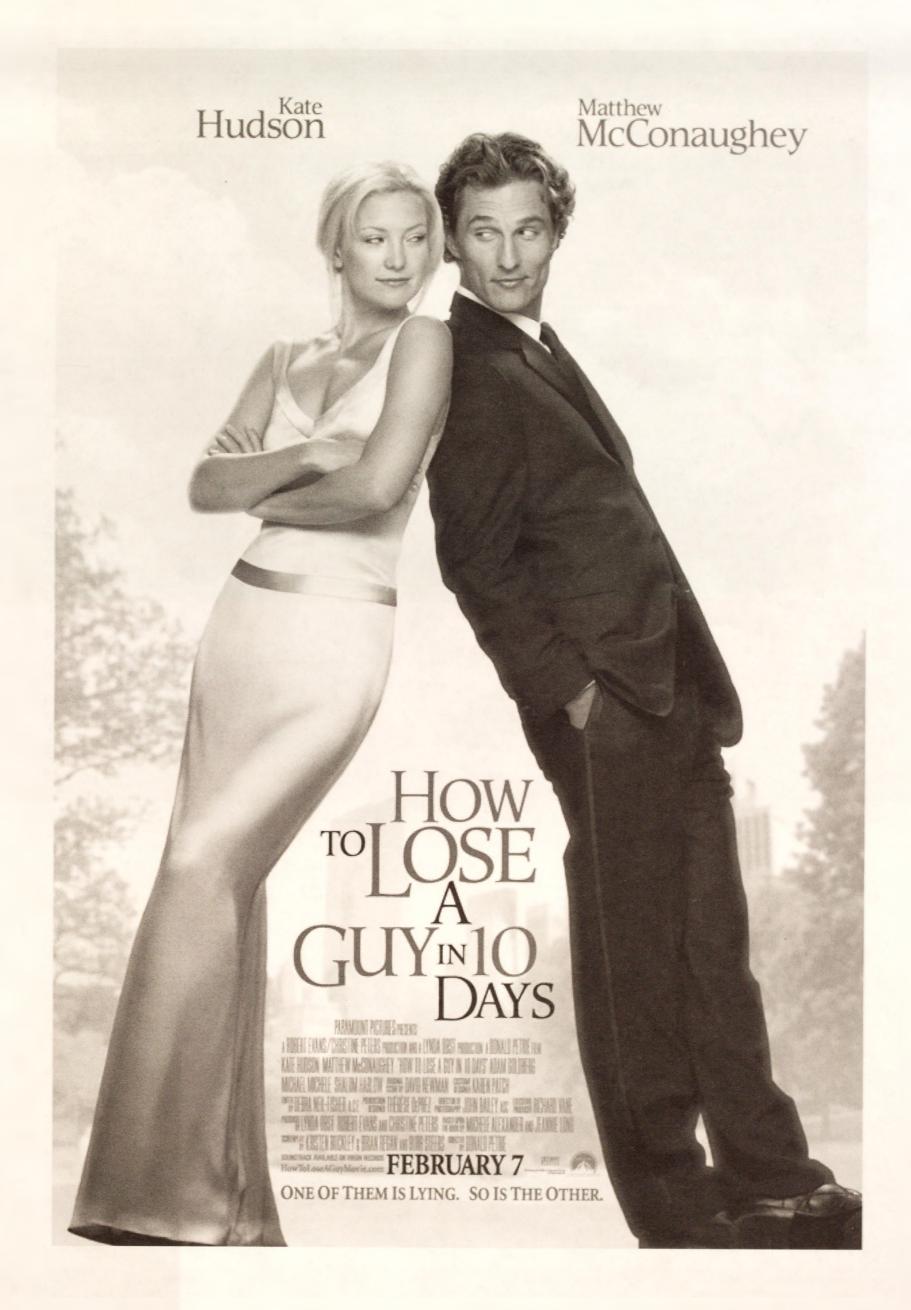
"Look at it this way," he said.
"Do slaves hate the boot their master uses to step on their necks? Some do, I suppose. But a smart slave realizes it's not the master's boot that's the problem, and if you ask me, our master is in your White House, not among the bloody boots in Tel Aviv. We ourselves have been last to say this clearly enough for the world to understand our suffering; but not to worry. Remember what your own bible says: the last shall be first."

It seemed to me quite appropriate an observation for him to make in a place like Harlem, in *un café-negre* like *Sylvia's*.

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL AID FRENZY

February is "THE" month. Free Financial Aid is waiting for you. Now is the time to start preparing for Fall 2003. You should have received your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or renewal application in the mail by now. Remember it is important to apply now!!! You might miss out on funding that would otherwise be available to you. Barry will offer a Financial Aid Awareness Week, February 3-5,2003, which will be located in Thompson Hall, and will offer assistance to students completing their application or just to ask questions. Filing your application prior to March 15 will ensure that you will have an award letter before the spring semester ends.

The counselors in the Financial Aid office at Kelley House are available to help you with the application process. There are two graduate and five undergraduate counselors available Monday through Friday to answer your questions. Appointments are not necessary. Walk-ins are welcomed. Now's the time, don't wait!!!



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Republican politician President George Bush, Jr. is obsessed with waging war against Babylonian Iraq and its leader Saddam Hussein. Mr. Bush claims that military action is required because of Iraq's "weapons of mass destruction." Iraq is not a threat to Barry University or the United States so what is the big deal? Note that in 1983 the Reagan-Bush Sr. administration sold to Iraq biological and chemical components which were used to make the "weapons of mass destruction" as characterized by the White House screen writers also call speech writers. These lethal elements were sold to Iraq through the assistance of Donald Rumsfeld, present Secretary of Defense and a disciple of Richard Nixon reports Newsweek.

While Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney will be sending our brothers and sisters, sons and daughters to the desperate deserts of Iraq, they will not be sending their daughters to war. The two Bush twin girls and the two Cheney girls, one of whom is a professed lesbian, will not be seeing action in Persian Gulf War II except on television. Their fathers also avoided combat during the Vietnam War era. In fact, Mr. Cheney who was Secretary of Defense in the administration of President Bush, Sr. avoided military service when eligible during the Vietnam War.

Prayer will prevent another politically motivated war. The most powerful prayer is the Rosary. Pray the Rosary daily to preserve and stop contrived wars.

-Joseph Edward Vallely, M.A. Washington Green, Connecticut To Renee Sopkie:

(In response to last issue's Columbus Day article.)

Your closing paragraph was rather impressive. However, in my opinion it lacked a lot more prestigious honorees. The likes of Toussaint L'Ouverture and Alexandre Petion who declared that all black men was born free and thus shall live free. Of course this bold statement followed the victorious Haitian revolution which these same Americans that you talked about in your article refused to recognize. With such a bold statement, the Haitians had no choice but to put in practice what they preached. The Haitians began to interject any vessel or ship that would arrive on their shores as free men. These black men came from all over the Americas. Some were from Jamaica, Cuba, and from North and South America. You see, Columbus affected all of these men!!! I cannot stay long. However, I would love for the Barry paper to write an article on the injustices which the Haitians continue to face. This would also help Barry University fulfill its mission being that Barry is a diverse common-

-Tybule Saint-Louis Barry University Student

Anonymous Comments

don't like the Buccaneer because it presents one-sided views, two sides should always be represented. I would like to more information about Israeli culture, the Middle East situation from an Israeli point of view.

There is a lack of frequency and relevance...It does seem better this semester. However even the article about the demonstrations really did not do a good job of telling the story.

I enjoy reading the sports section and commentaries, but it is too small for the number of issues that come out each semester. You should look to do stories about the different schools in Barry. Also look at new clubs that are forming around campus.

I like the religious opinions, it seems to be the one place in the school where people stand up for traditional values. It would be good if you included current news issues.

I like that the Buccaneer encourages student participation. I don't like the onesided views. Two sides should always be represented. Information about Israeli culture, the Mid-East situation from an Israeli point of view.

The Buccaneer usually has good stories about the school and the local community. However there are not enough issues printed. You should do a bi-weekly paper. I would like to see more editorials in the future.

Fafsa...As Easy As 1,2,3...

By: ALLISON BEAVER Associate Director of Financial Aiid

The 2003-2004 FAFSA (Free filling out the form easier: Application for Federal Student Aid) it, the Office of Financial Aid at Barry parent's tax returns. University cannot even begin to consider you for financial aid. It determines your degree of financial need, as well as collects critical data used in determining your financial aid award.

As of January 1, 2003, you can apply on-line for your 2003-2004 FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov, and apply for a pin number www.pin.ed.gov. Students and parents must obtain a separate PIN to electronically sign the FAFSA. The U.S. Department of Education will automatically send PIN mailers to students who filed a 2003-2004 FAFSA. Students who did not file a FAFSA last year can apply for a PIN on line at the address above.

Whether you chose to file on line or fill out the paper FAFSA, here are some important tips that should make

The 2003-2004 FAFSA collects is the most important document in information from your tax returns, your entire financial aid tile. Without and if you are dependent student, your

> How do you know if you need your parent's information on the 2003-2004 FAFSA? Answer the seven questions on Step three. If vou answer no to all seven questions, than your parents data must be included on the 2003-2004 FAFSA, and one of them must sign it with you. If you answer "yes" to any question, than you do not need your parent's information, and you can skip Step Four and move on to Step five.

> Two important questions to pay special attention to: Question number 65 and 66. How many people are in your household, and how many are attending college in 2003-2004, excluding your parents. Read the instructions on page 7 to fully understand how to answer these two ques

what college is going to receive the Financial Aid Office at Kelley House, electronic results of the 2003-2004 or call us with your question at 305-FAFSA. Barry University's Title IV 899-3673 or 1-800-695-2279, or Federal School Code must be listed in email us your FAFSA question at question 87. That code is 001466.

Step Seven is where you sign and date and if necessary, one of your parents sign and date.

That's it! Now, double check everything, make a photocopy, and mail it in the self-addressed envelope provided. If filing on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov, complete the form. follow the directions for transmitting the form and print out a copy of the form for your records. If you did not apply for a PIN number to electronically sign the form, please make sure to print out, sign and mail the signature to the address provided.

Of course, you may still have questions about the 2003-2004 FAFSA, or you might have unusual or special circumstances that require special consideration. Please feel free

Step Six is where you identify to contact your counselor in the <u>finaid(a mail.barry.edu</u>.

> Important! You and your parents don't have to have actually filed your tax returns with the IRS to complete the FAFSA. You just need to have filled out your tax returns in order to be able to pull critical data from them, like your Adjusted Gross Income and Taxes Paid. So, don't let the fact that you or your parents haven't filed your taxes slow you down. You can even estimate your taxes if you need to, but make sure that it's a good estimation.

> Whatever you do, don't wait! The 2003-2004 FAFSA must be completed right away!

Legalize It

Commentary By: NICOLE DARBOIS

I have a bone to pick.

I have a bone to pick with the United States government.

I am a little confused with the notion that over 700,000 people were arrested last year for possession of marijuana. These people were thrown into our already overcrowded American prisons, for committing a non-violent offense.

They were not beating their children for wetting the bed or shooting someone because they had been run off the road. They were not raping women in back alleys or molesting little children after already spending a few years in prison for committing the same crime. They were simply partaking in a substance that has been in existence since the beginning of early Babylonian culture.

Isn't it about time that Americans begin asking questions about our government and the policies it administers? Why is it that over one billion dollars is spent annually on training police officers to discontinue marijuana smoking instead of serving our country's underprivileged? Why is it that over one billion dollars is spent on propaganda to prevent people from smoking marijuana, instead of mobilizing a better security task force?

I am sure you can remember the commercials that aired during the 2002 Super Bowl: "Where do terrorists get the money to fund their activities? If you buy drugs, some of it might come from you."

How could you forget?

Instead of our government airing propagandistic commercials targeting recreational marijuana smokers as well as medical marijuana smokers, it should have focused on the real source of the problem. Where do Americans get their oil from? The

main resource of America's oil is Saudi Arabia, one of the many Middle Eastern countries that have been funding. "Where do terrorists get the money to fund their activities? If you drive an SUV, some of it might come from you," should have been the question raised.

Propaganda targets the naive Americans who are so apathetic towards politics and would rather adhere to every source of information that our government spits at us. Propaganda targets the individuals who accept whatever they see and read as the truth, such as "marijuana smokers fund terrorists."

We need to ask why marijuana is illegal. We need to look back at America's past and figure out why such a natural and ancient herb has been banned from any recreational and medicinal usage.

Our country was founded on cannabis. Jamestown, Virginia, one of the first colonies in America, created the first marijuana legislation in 1619, commanding all farmers to grow Indian hemp seed. Massachusetts and Connecticut soon followed with stricter forms of marijuana laws, such as serving time in jail if a farmer did not grow hemp during times of shortage. During the American Revolution, wives and mothers of Patriots systematized "spinning bees" to clothe Patriot troops, spinning thread from the fibers of the hemp plant.

And how ironic is this? The first two drafts of the Declaration of Independence were written on Dutch hemp paper, and copied from the second draft onto animal parchment. The foundation of our country, the basis of which all American citizens rely on for their freedoms, originally was written on the now illegal hemp. I wonder if George Bush knows this?

Marijuana became illegal one-hun-

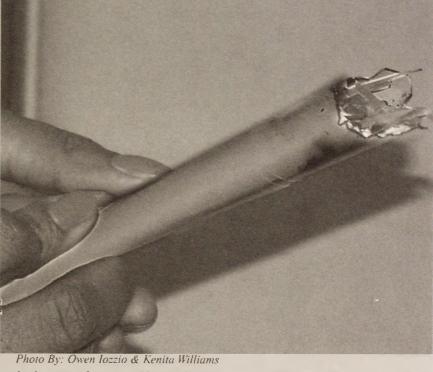


Photo By: Owen lozzio & Kenita Williams dred years after over 500 marijuana parlors opened for recreational consumption across America. Let me create a little time line for you: Dupont had become the government's number one supplier of munitions, and later formed Rayon, the first synthetic fiber, from alleviated guncotton in 1920. Treasury Secretary Andrew Mellon, the head of the Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh, appointed his future nephew-in-law, Harry Anslinger, to head of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics in 1931. Sounds a little fishy to you?

By attacking the very fabric of white American stability, Anslinger, along with a certain William Randolph Hearst, waged a propagandistic war against all minorities, referring to African-Americans as "marijuana-crazed negroes" who rape white women and play "voodoo-satanic" jazz music. Hearst, still seething with revenge after the Spanish American War in which the marijuana-smoking army of Pancho Villa seized over 800,000 acres of essential timberland, begins an unethical journalistic approach of generating fictitious sto-

ries with headlines that read "Marijuana Makes Fiends of Boys in 30 Days; Hasheesh Goads Users to Blood-Lust." It only took Anslinger a few years to defeat the "killer weed" and outlaw marijuana.

Marijuana is consumed by over 700,000 people a year. Some consume marijuana for recreational purposes, and some for medicinal purposes such as eradicating glaucoma, producing appetite for cancer patients going through chemotherapy, and create awareness along with soothing pain for terminally ill patients.

I would be lying to you if I said that marijuana was not a drug, because it most certainly is, as is alcohol and numerous quantities of prescription pain "medicine." Isn't it about time that we begin to question the validity of illegalizing marijuana, and begin to look at the positive factors that the legalization of marijuana would have for our country? Take a second and think about it, because I ask you, wouldn't it be a little mad not to?

darboisn@mail.barry.edu

Dr. Lloyd D. Elgart Memorial Scholarship \$1000

This award is given annually to full time undergraduate sophomore and junior students enrolled in the School of Business or English Department.

Deadline is February 14, 2003

For more information please contact:

Dr. Lillian Schanfield at 305-899-3419 or email lschanfield@mail.barry.edu





Deadline February 10, 2003 Contact: Dr. Lillian Schanfield

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Entertainment

Students Convert Dorm Room to

By: OWEN IOZZIO Online Editor

On Friday afternoon, Damian Brown sits at his newly revamped HP Pavilion before heading out to dinner with his girlfriend. He presses the power button on his Sharp stereo receiver and it comes to life with a burst of clicks and flashing LED indi-The 20-year-old Pre-law major navigates through the "Start Menu" and selects the program he needs to run.

Brown isn't working on a research paper, article summary, or chapter outline for any of his classes not right now, anyway. He opens up his latest document and waits for it to load. The screen fills with sophisticated windows and colorful buttons. the volume up to 18, and directs the mouse to the play button.

The room is suddenly filled with the thuds and pops of an intricate drum pattern, and the catchy rhythms of synthesized bass, piano, and symphonic melodies. Brown listens to the music, gesturing aggressively with his arms and head.

This is no ordinary music track; it's his own. You see, he created the entire piece from scratch.

Brown is one of several students at Barry who produce their own brand of hip-hop music, from the ground up. Dorm rooms become fully functional recording studios, as these accomplished musicians collaborate and showcase their talents to construct the finished product: a totally original, professional-grade piece of hip-hop culture. Every aspect of the production process is done "in-house," and while they take their college careers seriously, many of these artists hope to make music their life's pursuit.

By 10 a.m., the previous Monday morning, Brown is done with classes for the day.

"I like getting out and still having the whole day ahead of me," he says.

He gets back to the room and sits down at the computer. He's about to start on a brand new beat, which will ultimately end up as a whole song. Start > Programs > FruityLoops > FruityLoops 3.4.

This software title takes the place of what used to be the standard studio setup: a soundproof room, filled with tens of thousands of dollars worth of equipment: multi-track recorders. mixers, compressors, effects generators; not to mention guitars, drums, and other instruments. What used to take months of work and earnings can now be downloaded off the Internet in less than 10 minutes.

The window is set up like a grid. Time is measured along the top, running horizontally from left to right. Up and down the left side of the window are the different types of drums: bass, kick, snare, etc. He selects the bass drum track. The program is set to continuously loop the song, so if he



He reaches over to his stereo, turns PC's allow students to create their own music Photo By: Shawn Clark

were to click the play button now, he would only hear that one drum hit. Boom boom boom boom boom.

He assigns another bass drum hit to the same track, cutting the time between each thud in half. He then adds another bass drum, slightly higher pitched, to a different track, so that it's layered on top of every other thud from the original bass drum. This places more emphasis on every other beat...BOOM...boom...BOOM...boo m...BOOM...oom. A snare drum starts up, hitting at the same time as the de-emphasized bass hit. Then an electronic sounding cymbal chimes in, sounding off twice as often as the

In 15 minutes, there is a catchy, complicated, and complete drum pattern blasting out of the two Sharp speakers above the desk. The song is ready for the next step. Brown saves his work: "notha6.flp." He'll think of a title later.

"In the fifth grade I begged my mom for a drum set, so I could play in the band. One day she came home with a sax, so I just played that ever

Brown joined the school band so involved in it. Bored with their music, he would often change up notes and add his own improv, much to the dismay of the band instructor.

Aside from band music, R&B had Brown's musical attentions early

"That's what our parents listened to, and they wouldn't let us have anything related to rap."

Despite the limited exposure, he was drawn into rap by his cousin "J," who was already writing lyrics. After hearing enough of the music that was out there, Brown began to create his

On Tuesday, there's time between class and work to put in the instrumental rhythms for the melody. Brown selects "Piano Roll." A window similar to the drums' screen pops up. Only there are the keys of a piano

running vertically down the left side, instead of the drum types. Simply click next to the key, which produces the desired note, under the time at which you want the note to sound. After experimenting with keys and patterns, Brown has a satisfying melody. He can then build on this by creating actual chords (done by assigning more than one note to a single point on the timeline), or by adding any number of background rhythms that will be heard along with the first melody he just made. This new tune can be played along with the already finished drum pattern, so Brown can gear the latest version of his work instantly.

If he chooses, he can replace the sound of a piano with a limitless number of other digitized instruments, as well as insert his own sampled or recorded sounds. Occasionally, he may draw upon the rock influence of his roommate and use a "hard sounding" riff on electric guitar.

The musician saves his afternoon's work.

Wednesday will be a busy day in the studio.

At this point, a few of Brown's colleagues come by to record their e wouldn't be the only one not respective verses for the song. A sign posted outside of the door reads, "Don't knock unless you're supposed to be here." Since the room isn't soundproofed, any outside or inside noise will mar the recording. The phone is also unplugged.

> Each of the members, including the maestro himself, makes a few passes at performing their lyrics over the completed music, before getting a keeper. Since everything is recorded digitally, a bad take can be erased and reset instantly

> Once good recordings of each verse are made, the group comes together to do the chorus They position themselves around the microphone stand and shout the chorus line in unison. The final chorus track ends up at only around 15 seconds. Since it repeats a few times in the song after each verse, it only has to be recorded

once and can be inserted at the proper

Music Studio

With all the voice recording done, Brown can arrange the verses and choruses in the proper sequence. This is done in nTrack, yet another audio editing program, accessible to everyone. This program is different from FruityLoops. Its purpose is to arrange, edit, and tweak preexisting audio files, as well as record new ones, rather than to compose original

Thursday, everything comes together. It's time to export the work Brown did in FruityLoops as a raw audio file and bring that into nTrack alongside the vocal tracks. Before the elements can be mixed together for the final product, they need to be cleaned up. While the FruityLoops music was generated digitally with the best possible sound quality, the voice recordings require some work.

With the help of some noisereduction features nTrack offers, such as compressors and filters, Brown is able to cut out much of the background "fuzz."

Once all components of the song are ready, they are placed in sync, and can be previewed as a finished song.

"It would be my dream to perform or have my own label, but I would be happy also just to produce."

Lofty aspirations to be sure, but Brown realizes that this particular career path is not easy to break into. "It takes more than talent these days to get your foot in the door."

Brown takes his education seriously. But it doesn't have the same bearing on his musical hopes as it once did.

"Initially I chose pre-law to ensure my getting all the right background information, and hopefully financial backing, to get into music, but that's much less true today since the price has dropped so much."

Brown's production studio today is a testament to that. With the vast accessibility of the technology today. independent musicians everywhere face seemingly limitless opportunity.

Friday, after listening to the whole song several times, the musician decides that the song is ready to go. From here, only the simple process of consolidating the components of the song into either an MP3 file for easy distribution over the Internet, or a raw Windows audio file to be put onto a compact disc, stops it from completion. A few clicks and moments of CPU crunch time later, Brown is looking at a finished song. He still doesn't have a title for it, but that's OK.

He saves his week's work. "newsong.mp3."

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Where da Party at?

By: MELISSA ADAMES Staff Writer

Miami offers the promise of many experiences. The great range of cultural diversity and the warm climate might be major factors accounting for the success of the city's tourism, as well as the large number of students from the northern states attend school in the area.

Despite the occasional chilly weather, the nightlife in Miami is always hot. While most clubs in your hometown close around two o clock, Miami lets you party until five in the morning.

Also, whether you choose to head to Fort Lauderdale or South Beach, the bar and club districts allow you to wander from one hot spot to another within walking distance. The hardest decision for tourists and newcomers is which place caters to their needs and fits within their budget. This is especially true for students, since we can

almost always find ourselves tight on cash. So what's the best way to locate a great spot?

Popular websites such as Sobespots.com offer an e-mail sign-up service that gives members e-invitations to popular places such as Opium Garden, Level, Crobar, or Club Spin. Such a website allows you to invite an unlimited amount of friends to enjoy an Open Bar which usually closes around midnight.

Opium Garden is one of the trendiest clubs listed. Located at 136 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, the club's success is due largely to its mix of a diverse crowd which dances till five a.m., surrounded by an Asian-inspired décor and celebrities who enjoy this atmosphere just as much as the tourists and college students. There aren't many places aside from Opium Garden where you can find sushi, tables with hydraulics to add interest to your meal, and even a wind

tunnel inside the club.

Also, the outdoor VIP section offers a chance to cool off and sip a drink away from all the chaos inside the club. If you are searching for a larger club with an eclectic mix of house, techno, or hip-hop rooms, and remains open well after the sun has risen, club Space is one of the top choices.

Space is tucked inside an old warehouse district and was once used to handle shipment. Located at 142 NE 11 Street, Downtown Miami, it offers various rooms and also boasts that it has "the only 24-hour liquor license in Miami." Its website, ClubSpace.com, takes web surfers on an extensive virtual tour, ranging from the Blue lounge to the Middle-Eastern inspired basement level. Like Opium, Space offers an outdoor area cool down and relax before rejoining the dance floor until dawn. By the time you manage to leave this club, it might

already be time for breakfast.

For those in the mood for a more relaxed or less expensive atmosphere. there's an alternative to South Beach. Fort Lauderdale's bar crawl might be a good bet. The downtown area harbors well-known Las Olas Riverfront. Cover charges are usually five dollars at the most. While one might spend up to 20 dollars to park and be admitted inside a night club in South Beach, five dollars is surely more affordable. At Howl at the Moon, for example, people prefer the serenade of piano players whose help them unwind with a couple of good jokes. Clubs such as Zubar or Porter horse are within reach if one simply needs to dance the night away.

Miami comes alive at night as well as during the day. There are many sites, clubs and restaurants to explore. One just needs to find the right spot.

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Oral Pleasures

By: FABIENNE JOSAPHAT Editor-in-Chief

Poet Craig Arnold once wrote a limerick saying: "The best pleasures in life are truly oral."

I know for a fact he wasn't referring to food. But after visiting Nuvo Kafe a new restaurant at 13152 West Dixie Highway, I was instantly reminded of his statement. This restaurant, although recently opened. serves exotic cuisine with an emphasis on Haitian dishes to a diverse clientele. I walked in on Saturday night and instantly promise myself to come back on Sunday. I also wished I wasn't single. And that's understandable. Elegant chandeliers provide dimmed lighting, enabling food lovers to gather around candles on wooden tables. The mellow jazzy and Caribbean music may be sometimes loud, but think about it: the louder the music, the more you want to cuddle. The dark walls are adorned with oversized, unframed yet charming paint-

New Hangout for College Students on a Budget

ings. The bar facing the entrance resembles a tropical cabana, and appeals to clients.

But it's the food and the chef's by then, every on is sniffing and hold.

skills that make this restaurant what it is. At Nuvo Kafé, you can eat for about \$15 and all like a pauper. I'm a Food Network fanatic, and I love to follow Chef Anthony Bourdain on wild eating adventures in exotic countries. He's always looking for "extremes of emotions," a "buzz," and seeks to make viewers understand the "power of food." I got a buzz!

The Nuvo Platter is a popular appetizer, a combination of fresh and delicate salad with mofungu, conch fritters and coco fried shrimp.

My first meal at Nuvo Kafe was the griot. I always rate a Haitian restaurant by the quality of its griot. This dish consists of fried pork and fried plantain (rice is optional) and is, or should be, accompanied with

pikliz, a spicy combination of shredded cabbage and carrots. I'm not sure what this chef's secret is, but his pikliz sends fire and acid throughout the mouth and down the throat. The rice and beans and squeezed lemonade help soothe the

scorching, but

every one is sniffing and holding back tears. The second day, I came back with my friend Michelle for a coco fried shrimp appetizer, and a Bistro Shrimp Creole. Michelle,

vegetarian, ordered a Fresh
Mozzarella Salad and rice and beans.
I was dancing in my seat and probably attracting curious glares. The coco friend shrimp's flavor is both sweet and refreshing, and the salad proves easy to eat, as opposed to jaw-tiring as a regular Cesar Salad and croutons. Michelle's salad was also great. Tomatoes can be an uninteresting vegetable, but the mozzarella provided the perfect cheesy flavor as a cover up.

The Bistro Shrimp Creole is a dish of six jumbo shrimps, mildly spiced, sautéed and served in gentle red sauce, with fried plantain and rice. Rarely do I fill up my stomach with good stuff at a restaurant, but the pleasure came from the atmosphere, the laughter, the conversation, the



Chef Ivan skillfully creating culinary masterpieces Photo Provided By: Nuvo Kafe

music, the food and a regular visit from the master himself, the hand of God, Executive Chef Ivan Dorvil.

"To me, life is 50% food.... 50% sex," he said. "Neither of which should be less than perfect."

This tall, impressive man greets every customer and shows concern about their liking and satisfaction with the meal. This genius was featured in Ocean Drive Magazine, the Miami Herald and the New Times in which he was praised for his cooking skills

The chef informed me that live bands provide entertainment as well. I accepted the news with delight. What more could I want? Good food, good service, good company, exotic deserts....

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Photo Provided By: Nuvo Kafe

Nothing But Net

By COLENE GERSTNER Sports Editor

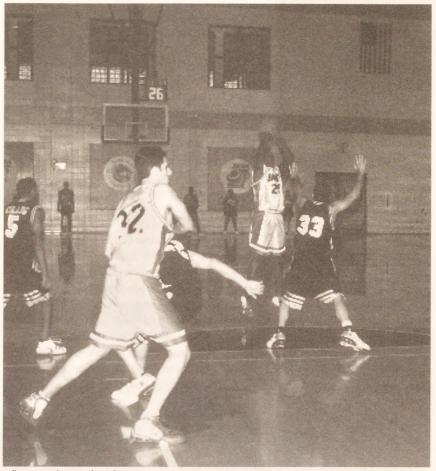
Barry's Men's Basketball team is off to a stellar 12-4 start this season even after a recent doubleovertime loss to Eckerd on January 15. After heading into the half tied at 28 the lead changed ten times in the second half. It was Yorell Calderon who stepped up with a game-tying three pointer to send the Bucs into overtime. Heading into double overtime, the Bucs ran out of gas and lost the lead. With the Triton's leading 77-76, they headed to the foul line. They sank both of them.

Coming off of a hard loss against Eckerd, they faced more Sunshine State Conference action against St. Leo. In their last match up, Barry took an "L" but it was time to avenge that loss. The Bucs looked to their scoring leader forward, Luis Vazquez-Bello. Velazquez-Bello is shooting a .513 field goal percentage and is

second in rebounding both offensively and defensively with 5.7. He posted 10 points along with Yorell Calderon's 10 to help Barry come away with a revenge win 48-43. The win puts Barry 2-2 in conference games.

Barry traveled to Lakeland, Fla. on January 22, to battle in even more SSC action against the tough Florida Southern. Coach Cesar Odio needs big games out of his leaders-Mills, Calderon, Perez, and Vazquez-Bello. Forward, Bryan Mills has been steadily putting up points and Nick Perez averaging 10 rebounds a game. With all remaining games SSC ones, Barry will have to let their play do all the talking. Next home action for the Bucs at press time was scheduled for Saturday, January 25 against Rollins.

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Barry sinks another deuce Photo By: Shawn Clark

Women's Hoops Heating Up

By GUY HARRISON Staff Writer

After a tough month and a half that saw the Barry women's basketball team get off to a 5-7 start, the team has been on a tear since the calen-

dar changed to 2003. The Bucs have won four of their last five which has helped them reach a 3-1 Sunshine State Conference record

#10 Polona Oberc goes up for a rebound Photo By: Shawn Clark

is good for fourth place out of nine teams. After an initial period of collective growing pains, the team seems to have 9-8 overall which bought into fiery first-year coach Nicci Hays' program.

> has been the emergence of senior F/G Candace Blackbird. On January 15 and 18, Blackbird proved that deuces are in fact wild with a pair of 22-point performances. As of January 20, she leads the team in scoring with 13.7 points per game, which is good for eighth in the SSC. Her 3.29 assists per game ranks her ninth in the conference. Her recent performances have earned her Athlete of the Week honors for the week of

One reason for the late surge

January 20. A South Sioux Nebraska native. Blackbird has found her niche with the team after transferring from the University Nebraska due to injury.

Other noteworthy performances this season belong to Sanja Zivanovic, Amra Alagic, and Yeshica Nesbit.

Zivanovic is 12th in the conference in scoring posting 12.4 points per game. She's also 4th in the conference with 4.53 assists per game. Yugoslavia native's 3-point shooting prowess (38 made, which ranks her 2nd in the SSC) reminds some people of Peja Stojakovic of the NBA's Sacramento Kings.

Alagic has also lit up the stat sheets with her scoring (ranking 16th) and 3-pointers made (ranking 9th.) Nesbit has dazzled on the defensive side of the court ranking third in the conference with 41 steals, 2.56 per

The Bucs'schedule from this point forward is choc-full of pivotal conference games, including home games against teams with better records:

Rollins (Jan. 25th) Tampa (Feb. 1st) Florida Southern (Feb. 19th.)

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CENTER

Baseball 2003: A Mental Game

By COLENE GERSTNER Sports Editor

This year the Buccaneers are looking forward to a fresh start. Coming off of a 23-26 record last year, improvement is necessary. With the loss of key senior players like Apotheker who got picked up in the 33rd round of the Major League Baseball's Draft by the Florida Marlins, Coach Ranero will have some big cleats to fill.

The Buccaneers are in a tough conference, facing Tampa and Florida Southern, both having strong traditions of winning. Yet, a 6-15 SCC record just will not cut it to advance into the post season this year.

But that was last season, and a lot can change in a season. Ask any baseball fan.

"This year we're more of a mental team, said Eric Kelly, freshman and catcher. "We play smarter by using more speed than power, more like a NL team, by bunting, stealing, and hit-n-run."

Coach Ranero will also be looking to his younger players to play just as Kelly said: "smarter".

This is Ranero's second year as the Buc's head coach, so improving will take

"Coach Ranero brought discipline and leadership that the team was lacking," Kelly said. "He taught us to do things the right way."

Doing things the right way physically is only half the battle. The Mental game is a huge part, and the team's

part, and the *This year's Baseball line-up promises stronger, smarter game.*team's *Photo By: Shawn Clark*

unspoken leaders, according to Kelly, are Ray Younghans and Chris Casale, who bring their mental game everyday to practice.

"Ray is the quiet leader," said Kelly. "He leads by example both on and off the field, whereas Casale is the strong, straight forward, and honest leader."

With practices six days a week for three hours an evening up until game day, the Buccaneers have just over two weeks to prepare. Their first conference match up comes their first week of play against St. Leo February 1St at home.

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Mouthpiece

By COLENE GERSTNER Sports Editor

If you're a die hard sports fan, then maybe you might have had a chance to check out The Boomer Esiason Show.

If you haven t yet, Boomer's show is a new induction this season on the MSG Network every Friday night at 11 p.m. It's your "A" typical sports talk show in regards to format and guests, as one would suspect at first glance. So why in the world did Boomer invite Andy Rooney from the show 60 Minutes? Did Boomer run out of retired players to interview?

Whatever the rationale for inviting Mr. Rooney is, we may never know. But what I can say is that Boomer probably did not expect Andy Rooney's comments on female sideline reporters in the NFL. In case you missed the drama involving his comments, I'll fill you in.

"The only thing that bugs me about television coverage of NFL games is those damn women they have on the sidelines, they don't know what the hell they are talking about," he said.

He continued, "I m not a sexist person, but a woman has no business trying to make some comment on a football game."

Boomer ended the interview.

Of course, there was quite a lot of talk generated from Mr. Rooney's comments. Martha Burk, leading the

campaign to have women admitted to Augusta National Golf Club, was quick to analyze Rooney's comments. In the Journal News of White Plains, N.Y., she commented: "Most folks who get in a position like Mr. Rooney, even if they feel that way privately, know it's not OK to say it publicly," she said.

I too felt the same way that Ms. Burk did, at first. However, Mr. Rooney is entitled to his opinion; we are in America. I believe it really was a well orchestrated publicity attempt to get people talking before his book release. But that s just my opinion.

I know from first hand experience that being a female sports writer in a generally male dominated field is challenging. This has never bothered or deterred me. This has actually inspired and pushed me to be the best I possibly can be. Yes, I may have to answer silly trivia questions to prove my knowledge, like "Where did Tennessee Titans play before?" (Just for the record it is Houston, they were the Oilers, but now it's the Houston Texans). Yet I cannot deny my feelings of elation when I know an answer to a sports question and a male friend does not. It's just competition.

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Starters / Salads

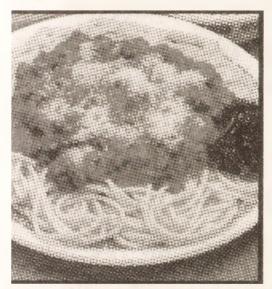
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Antipasto Salad	5 9
Chef Salad	6.9
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Tuna Salad Platter	5 9

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12 Pieces	7 45
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