

the barry buccaneer

a student publication

APR
2008
VOL
75.2

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Acclaimed Novelist Brad Meltzer Swings onto Campus

Joe Boyer
Staff Writer

A young man is seated in the back row of a law school classroom, his head down, his eyes on the page in front of him. The teacher, the students and even the classroom are just background now, because the proverbial lightning bolt has struck the young man in the head. The young man is Brad Meltzer, and he has just come up with the premise for his first published novel.

That was over a decade ago. He has since graduated from Columbia Law School, penned several best-selling novels and the comic books *Identity Crisis* and *Justice League of America*, and co-created the short-lived but critically acclaimed TV series *Jack and Bobby*. Meltzer was invited by the Barry University English Department's Professional Writing Program to speak at Landon Student Union on March 26. The free event



Photo: Jackie Merri Meyer

attracted students who wanted to gain insight about how to turn their ideas into novels, comic books or teleplays.

Meltzer regaled the Barry crowd with humorous and self-deprecating anecdotes about researching, writing and selling his books. He emphasized the importance of learning how to promote oneself. "We've become a world of P.T. Barnums — we are all selling our own circus." He added, "Art is not a meritocracy. It's subjective and completely deluded." Still, he reassured aspiring authors, "The best rule of writing is that there are no rules.... What works for you is what works best."

Meltzer's work as a novelist includes the best-selling titles *The Tenth Justice*, *The First Council*, *The Millionaires*, *Dead Even*, *The Book of Fate* and *The Zero Game*. Meltzer has a taste for writing American political thrillers set in and around

Washington, D.C. Government conspiracy collides with heroism as Meltzer weaves interesting characterization into heart-pounding, page-turning storytelling. For example, the premise to *The Zero Game* is simple and gripping: A group of Congressional aides like to play a game with each other; they wager bets on the legislative process, seeing who can predict the outcome of bills, votes and other legislation. From there, the plot takes all manner of jaw-dropping twists and nail-biting turns. Meltzer's signature narrative style includes shifting points of view. In one story, he'll use third-person, first-person, hero, villain — whatever it takes to get the job done.

Growing up, Meltzer loved reading comic books: Batman was his favorite superhero. "Batman was just a guy who had a cape and a utility belt and decided to go fight

Lilian Garcia-Roig Paints Nature's Wild Glory

Matt Berkshire
Sports Editor

Lilian Garcia-Roig is a Tallahassee-based plein air painter. Aside from painting, Garcia-Roig is the Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Art at Florida State University, and the recent recipient of the Joan Mitchell Award. This prestigious award is given annually to a female artist. The artist has also spent time working at the University of Texas and the University of California at Berkeley, and did graduate study work at the University of Pennsylvania.

The *Cumulative Nature* show is a plein air landscape series that was done in North Florida, and is being shown in Miami Shores at the Carol

Jazzar Gallery. Plein air is a term used to describe a painting that is done on sight in nature rather than in a studio. Plein air painting was popularized by impressionists like Claude Monet and expressionists like Vincent Van Gogh, but is not nearly as popular as it once was. One reason for this can be the difficult and cumbersome transportation of a canvas, paints, brushes and the other tools needed through the wilderness.

Like the plein air technique, landscape painting has largely fallen to the way side as modern art has become increasingly conceptual. This was one reason that I immediately liked the *Cumulative Nature* show. Art is at its best when an artist experiments outside of what is tradi-

tionally done. Remember that Caravaggio painted too realistically and Rembrandt painted too dark.

Garcia-Roig shows a mastery of technique by using several methods of paint application. A flurry of painterly brush-strokes lay beneath globules and splotches of oil paints, squeezed directly out of the tubes. Garcia-Roig isn't afraid to get dirty either, and a lot of work is done by virtue of fingers and hand technique. "I go through hundreds of pairs of gloves," said Garcia-Roig.

A large component of this show was the innovative way in which it was displayed. The artist painted 16 moderately large canvases for the show. These paintings take about four to

eight hours to paint, and are usually done over the course of a day or two. Carol Jazzar, the owner of the alternative Jazzar Art Gallery, had a wall built in the middle of the gallery space to accommodate this show. The walls were painted in a charcoal grey to make the works appear to pop off the canvas. For more on the Jazzar Art Gallery, go to my other article, *The Jazzar Art Museum an Alternative Gallery*.

Four canvases are hung on the left, right and central walls. The artist and curator also collaborated to hang two canvases directly in the corners. In museums, paintings are almost never hung in a corner, but in the small Jazzar gallery, the set-up gives

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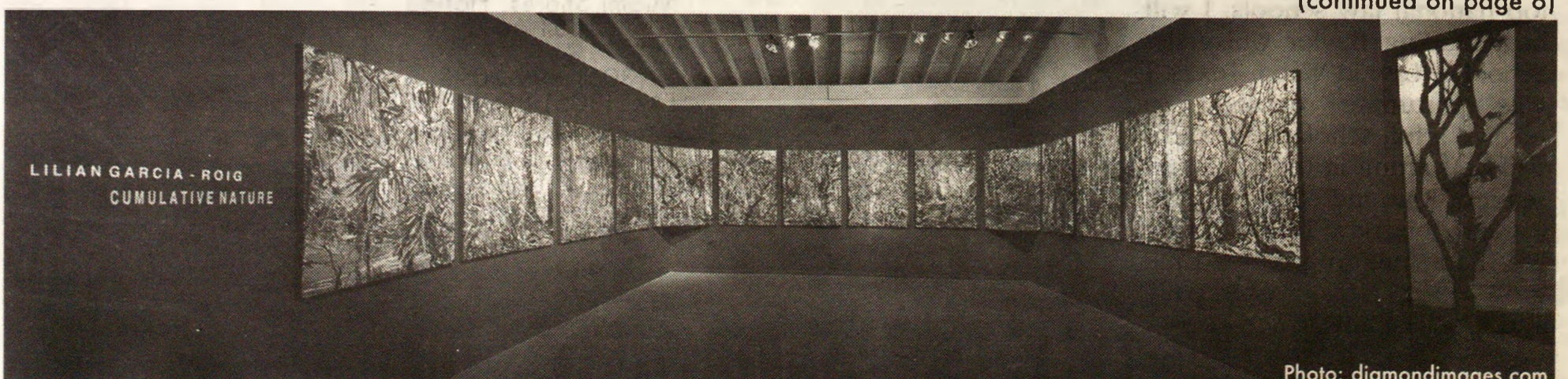


Photo: diamondimages.com

Letter from the Editor



Hello Barry University!

This will be my last editor's note, as I will be graduating in May. I'd like to officially welcome the next editor-in-chief, George Alpizar. I hope he sounds familiar to everyone: he wrote the editor's note for the last issue.

I first want to apologize to the writers and staff members of the *Buccaneer* as well as the whole Barry community for the delay between issues. Unfortunately, some of us had more responsibilities than we were able to handle, as well as unfortunate circumstances.

It is April in Miami, one of the nicest months here, and we have some suggestions for exploring Miami's culture. Matt Berkshire profiles the alternative gallery Carol Jazzar Contemporary Art, a short walk from campus in Miami Shores (on page 9). Linda Schneider writes the first in a series of articles spotlighting the area's vibrant community theater scene, with a guide to what's playing in black-box theaters around town (pages 7-8).

I want to thank the Barry community for a wonderful four years. I have been given many great opportunities over the past years, which have prepared me for my life after graduation. I am proud to say that I have been accepted to many top national law schools. I will be attending Baylor University School of Law in Waco, Texas. I was fortunate enough to receive a full scholarship, and I will be starting in their summer session. I am incredibly excited to start this new phase of my life. Barry has truly helped me grow as a person, spiritually and intellectually.

-Barbara Pelaez

the barry buccaneer



The Buccaneer welcomes all student, staff and faculty contributions. Letters to the editor, story ideas, news releases, photos and artwork can be submitted to the Barry *Buccaneer* office in the Landon Student Union, Suite 202-J, or through campus mail, or e-mail. All contributed material must include the signature and the mailbox or telephone number of the contributor.

The deadline for submissions is the 10th of every month.

The Barry Buccaneer reserves the right to edit letters and guest columns for style and length. Contributed material does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of the *Buccaneer* editorial staff or those of Barry University.

Students, staff and faculty can also submit free classified ads up to 25 words in length. For more information about display advertising, contact the advertising director for rates at (305) 899-3093 or buccaneer@mail.barry.edu.

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A Soldier's Perspective

Sarah Simpson
Staff Writer

As U.S. citizens, residents and students, we need to be mindful of what is going on overseas and our soldiers' perspectives on some of the things that troops go through as the war continues on in Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries where United States troops are deployed. Therefore, via e-mail, I interviewed Chaplain (Colonel) Wayne D. Kirk of the USAR, who is currently on active duty stateside, after serving with the 244th Aviation

Brigade early in 2003 in. He flew over Kuwait and Iraq in Chinook and Blackhawk helicopters. As his army title suggests, aside from serving overseas during this war, he also was appointed chaplain. The title recognizes his duty to talk with the soldiers who are going or returning from overseas, as well as those on active duty stateside. Chaplain Kirk shared his views about his past and present experiences as a U.S. soldier.

Dying and being wounded are just a few things that soldiers going overseas must fear. Not only do soldiers

have these worries on their minds, but they worry about how their families will cope while they are deployed. Even worse, how would they handle the injury or death of their father, mother, son or daughter? Colonel Kirk explained the "enormous pressure on families and marriages" happens when wars take place and soldiers are sent overseas. Wives and husbands may have to compensate for their partners who are overseas, which places burdens on them. But they're not the only ones transitioning; the children involved in this situation may become angry at their absent parent. Just think of what it must feel like for the soldiers and their families, who sacrifice so much for freedom: the birthdays, holidays and, just normal days missed.

Depending on a soldier's unit, a "typical" day can either be extremely busy or consist of not enough to do. Kirk says, "I worked seven days a week, 18 hours a day, for a year without leave or R and R." Can you imagine that? The "typical" workweek in the States involves only 40 hours a week in a five-day week. "We rose early, ate together, worked together, joked and griped together...much like a big family," Kirk notes. But included in soldiers' work, no matter how congested or monotonous, is the fighting that also

may take place. "You become incredibly close to your comrades. Closer than even your blood family. There is a bond that is formed that exists, I think, for life."

The soldiers find support in their families and friends, as well as the media coverage that reflects their reality, despite public opinions against the war, says Kirk. Though people have the right to be against the war, I think that everyone should show their support for our troops. There are many ways you can contribute to our troops to let them know you appreciate what they do. For instance, you can write letters, draw pictures and even send care packages. Kirk recalls that when his unit received care packages, "It made us feel that people loved us and approved of our sacrifice." A helpful hint when sending care packages is to make sure you know what things are not allowed in that country. For example, do not send a soldier in Iraq anything with pork or ingredients derived from it, since it offends Muslim religious traditions. Kirk advises visiting the websites of the Red Cross or USO, who coordinate volunteer efforts to support soldiers.

Regardless of your position on the war, be mindful of all the sacrifices that our troops and their families make for this country and for our freedom.



Photo courtesy of: Sarah Simpson

Before heading to Iraq, a young soldier is baptised by Chaplain Kirk (left).

Jeff Rivera Writes His Way out of Adversity

Linda Schneider
Staff Writer

Jeff Rivera was about 7 years old when he began writing little stories about the kids in his classroom. He remembers his classmates making fun of him, but his teacher and his older sister encouraged him to continue writing. He used writing as a form of self-therapy and as an escape from his lonely existence into the world of his characters. He muses, "I could create as many friends as I needed on the page". Now, as a 31-year-old novelist, he feels compelled to bring a message to the world about the common thread that links us all.

Rivera believes that writing is in one's genes, and has his own lineage to thank. His grandfather, Horatio T. Strother, a history professor at Wesleyan and Yale, was the author of *The Underground Railroad in Connecticut*. His mother wrote poetry and songs, passing along an enormous amount of encouragement to express himself creatively and to reach for his goals.



Photo courtesy of: steady70.com

Rivera's first published novel, *Forever My Lady*, was released in July by Grand Central Publishing (formerly Warner Books). He is looking forward to adding the title of publisher to his resume. He plans to publish a series of mini-books for young adults with an urban-Latino theme.

Rivera is a remarkable young man who has overcome the most unspeakable adversities one could imagine, including: homelessness, child abuse, poverty, a broken home, and racial discrimination. In spite of his rough start in life, Rivera has no vestiges of self-pity, resent-

ment, regret, or even remorse. His self-made success and positive attitude are an inspiration to anyone, regardless of one's career path.

When he was just 19 years old, Rivera attempted the insurmountable

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Acclaimed Novelist Brad Meltzer Swings onto Campus

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crime, and I loved that idea," Meltzer said in an interview prior to the speaking engagement. "Batman was just a guy who was stubborn, and I am definitely that."

Meltzer is certainly persevering, and that quality has proven successful. Meltzer received 24 rejection letters for his first novel; he noted that only 20 publishers existed at the time. "Some people write you twice to make sure you get the point."

In eighth grade, Meltzer and his family moved from Brooklyn, New York, to Miami Beach. His eighth-grade English teacher, Sheila Spicer, made a lasting impression on him. "She was the first person who said to me, 'You can write.'" He continued, "Whatever you do in your life, and

whatever you plan to do in the future, don't ever let anyone tell you no. That is just one person's opinion; go find the one who will say yes."

While in high school and college, Meltzer did not foresee his future as a novelist. He attended North Miami Beach Senior High School with *The Buccaneer's* own faculty advisor, Margery Gordon. Both worked on the school newspaper, although as the business manager, Meltzer said he did not write but two articles. Still, Gordon remembered "his high energy and good humor even under deadline pressures."

In college, Meltzer practiced his literary voice in a course on writing children's books. And never would he write any academic papers in standard exposition. He preferred to ask

his professors to let him write in dialogical form. "I would say, 'Listen, instead of comparing Freud and Erikson in an expository essay, can I take Freud and Erikson on a picnic and let them get into a fist fight, and do it like that!'" said Meltzer.

Meltzer graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in history. He took a job in Boston with *Games Magazine*, but the week he arrived in Boston and moved all his stuff in, the man who had hired Meltzer left the company. "And so I thought I wrecked my life," he recalled. "I thought everything was over, and I did what all of us would do in that situation — I said, 'I'm going to write a novel.'"

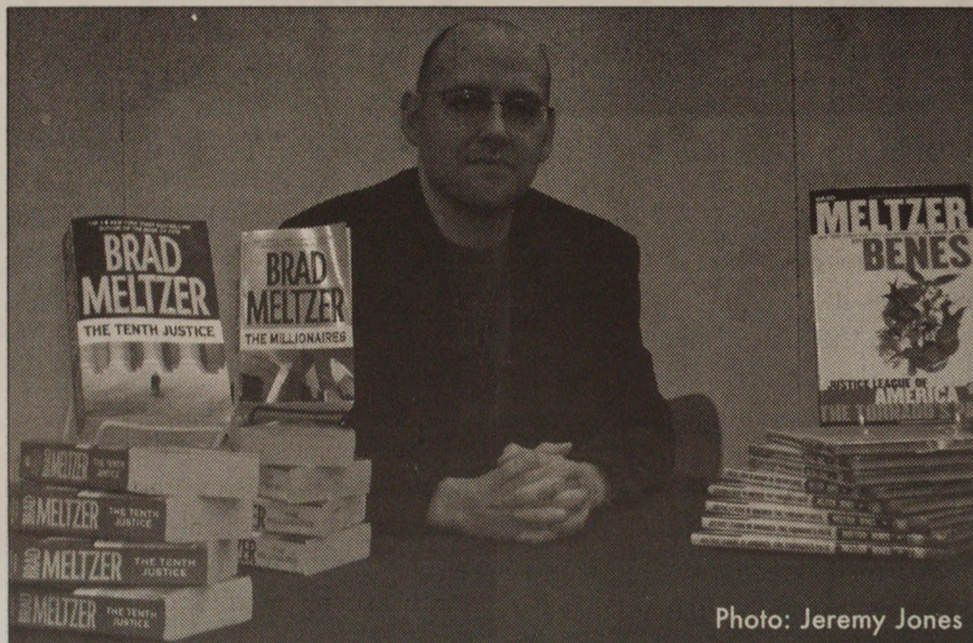
Meltzer never published his first novel, and it remains on his shelf to this day. "My first novel was about me going to college," he said. "It was my training wheel."

Even after 24 rejection letters, Meltzer couldn't take a hint. Being stubborn, he continued to write, and his perseverance paid off that fateful day in a Columbia Law School classroom when he got the idea for *The Tenth Justice*, his second novel and first to be published. *The Tenth Justice* is not about college. It is a Washington legal thriller complete with struggles for power, broken alliances, and the balance between loyalty and self-preservation.

After officially becoming a novelist, Meltzer remembered Spicer, his former teacher and the first person to view him as a writer. Much like his (not only childhood, but lifelong) hero, Batman, Meltzer swooped in and delivered a copy of *The Tenth Justice* to her in person, saying, "This one's for you."

Meltzer's comic book heroes include his favorite author, Alan Moore. One of his favorite books by Moore is *Watchmen*. At the end of the interview, upon telling Meltzer that I had in fact read about half of *Watchmen*, his advice to me was this: "What are you doing talking to me? Get out there and finish that book. It will make you smarter."

Thanks to the *Barry Buccaneer*, I had the opportunity of hearing Meltzer speak at the National Writers' Workshop in Fort Lauderdale this past fall, an enlightening experience for me as a writer. I was included in a troupe of newspaper staffers led by Gordon, who enjoyed reconnecting with her former classmate. "Brad Meltzer hasn't lost his enthusiasm, sense of humor and humility," said Gordon. "I am excited that Barry students were able to learn from his adventures in book publishing."



Jeff Rivera Writes His Way out of Adversity

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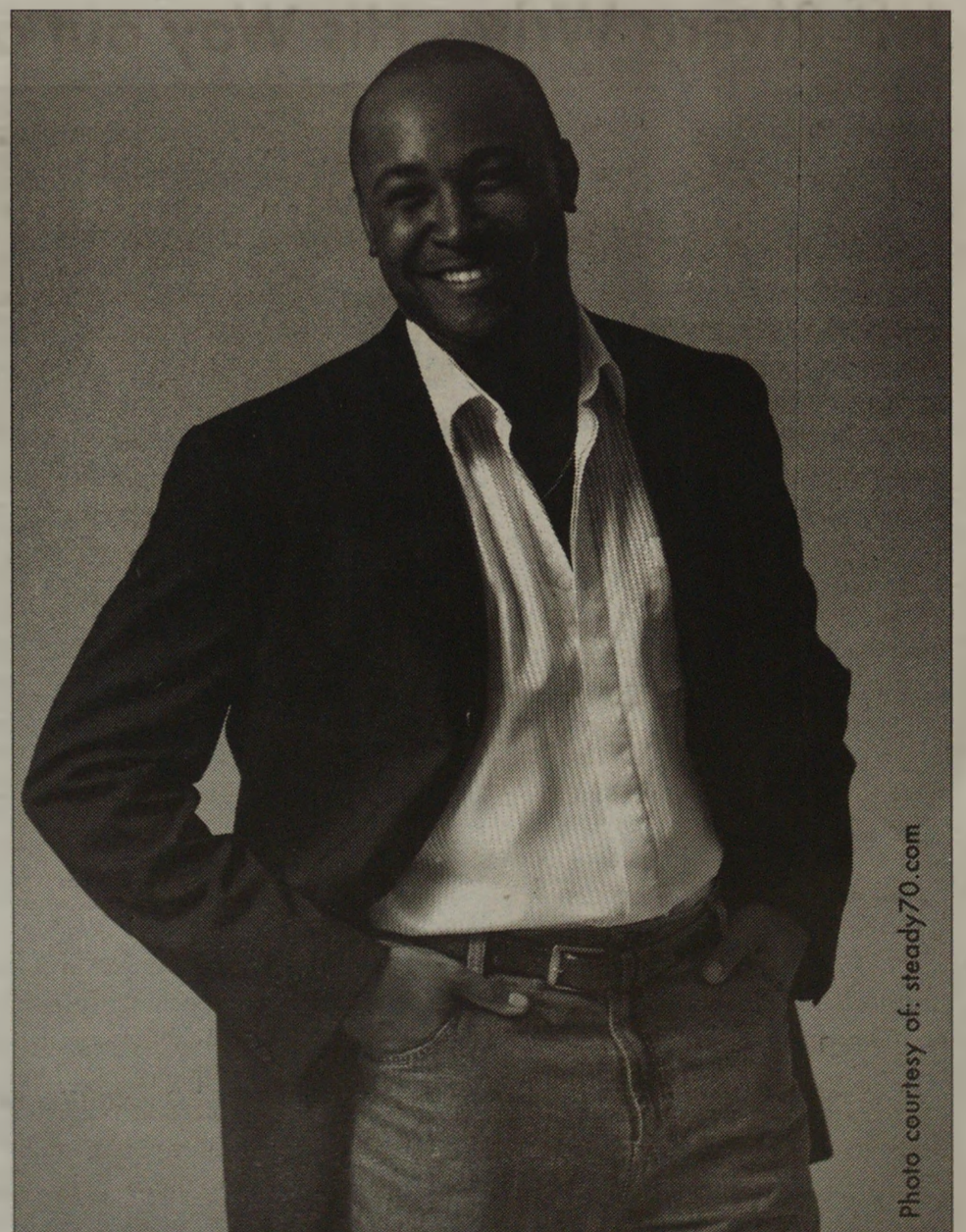
task of supporting his younger brother and mother. At the time, they lived in a two-door Buick with all of their belongings crammed into the backseat. They had a pet cockatiel named Andy, a turtle who slept at their feet, and a goldfish in a plastic cup on the dashboard. But giving up was not an option. "You can only fail if you give up," Rivera says.

Rivera credits his determination and faith for the transition he was able to make. In a prophetic moment, he says, "The only reason God doesn't step in until you hit bottom is because that's the point when you get out of the way."

A long road to the top and the dreaded day jobs necessary for survival gave Rivera the fuel and motivation to succeed. They also taught him a lot about life and provided him with a wealth of characters and drama to add to his future stories. He worked as a janitor, an airport employee, in call centers and conventions, and even did a stint as a singing doorman at a hotel. At this point, Rivera can-

not imagine a life without writing. The desire to make his brother proud drives him to overcome procrastination and keep writing.

In 2002, Rivera self-published an inspirational book for young people on how to be successful, *Oh Yes I Can*, compiling advice from more than 50 celebrities, among them Carrot Top, Brian McKnight, Kenny Rogers and Laila Ali. Watching the rise of Oprah, Denzel Washington, and Morgan Freeman all served to inspire hope in Rivera. He also recognizes his former talent agent, Kathy Wilson, and countless teachers who encouraged and guided him into a career as a professional writer. "I was blessed to receive a nice deal for a first-time writer," Rivera says. "One of the great things about publishing is that as your first book does well, the size of the advance on your next book increases!" Rivera estimates that he currently has about ten other novel ideas, so we can look forward to hearing more from him soon. For more information about Rivera and his books, visit www.forevermylady.com



Could Deforestation Counteract Global Warming?

Fernando Moura
Staff Writer

New theories about possible solutions to the global warming crisis have emerged. But how eco-friendly are these solutions? Institutions like the National Academy of Sciences have gone as far as to say that "a focus on air pollution has practical benefits that unite the interests of developed and developing countries." Power plants, cars, and deforestation are the primary causes of global warming, according to statistics from the National Wildlife Federation.

But this is not news to us. Pollution damages our climate, and cutting down trees does not help the cause. When a tree is cut, carbon dioxide is released into the air, which naturally moves its way up to our atmosphere, making for warmer days. We need trees because they release the oxygen into our air that is so precious to us, as well as provide a living environment for wildlife.

Contradictory to this common theory is the newfound idea proposed by scientific organizations. In a recent article published in *The Economist*, Dr. Govindasamy Bala, a research scientist for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, argues that cutting down trees in certain areas of the Northern Hemisphere could help combat global warming, despite the imminent carbon dioxide emission.

Though trees help to cool tropical rainforests, they have an adverse effect in snowy climates due to the albedo effect. This is the term used to describe the result when trees in these snowy regions warm their surroundings by absorbing sunlight and impeding the white snow from reflecting the sunlight back into space. Though trees are a necessary

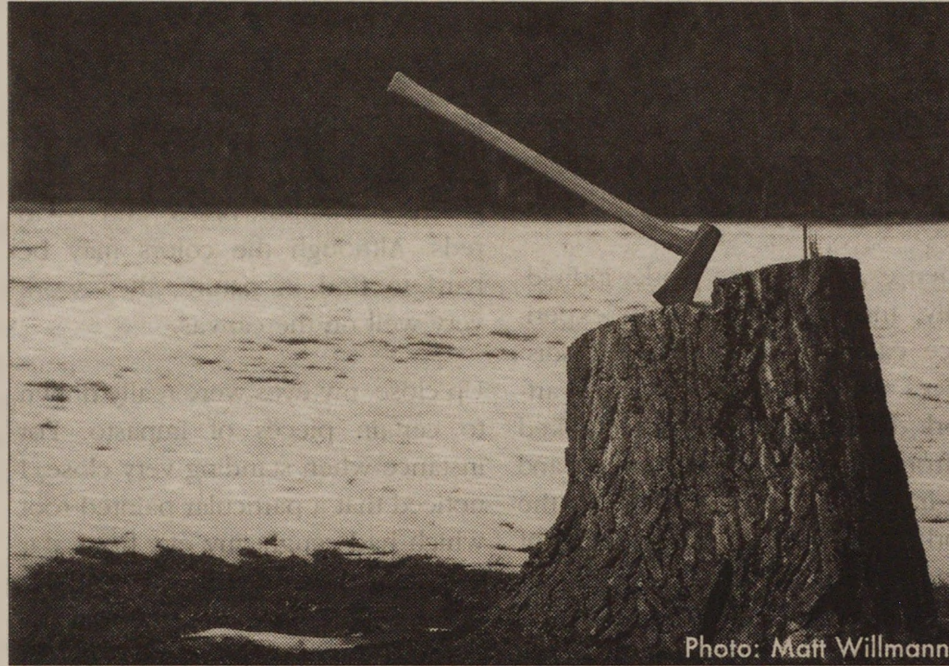


Photo: Matt Willmann

part of the habitat and source of oxygen, the diverse effects of trees have been considered.

Dr. Ken Caldeira, a scientist from the department of Global Ecology at the Carnegie Institution in California, agrees with this notion. In a recent article published by Carnegie, Caldeira stated, "The main climate effect of [sub-polar] forests is to

increase the absorption of sunlight, which can overwhelm the cooling effect of carbon storage."

Despite this reality, Bala and Caldeira do not resolutely say that cutting down trees in northern regions is the solution. "Trees are valuable in many other aspects," Bala said in a telephone interview. "Other policies must be taken into

the additional reflected sunlight would make for an estimated local cooling of 6 degrees Celsius. The tropical climate would heat up, but not to an extent of global impact.

Though it may be valid, the theory of deforestation is considered paradoxical and even taboo by many ecological institutions, whose primary concerns remain the preservation of natural resources and the alleviation of communal dependency upon them. Even Bala understands this, and is sympathetic with environmental policies. In an article published in the *Canadian Journal of Forestry* in 2003, concerns for northern climate change were expressed. Although it is true that trees in northern snowy regions absorb large amounts of sunlight and warm its surroundings, the article pointed out that residents of these communities don't view climate change in their area as a "salient risk issue that warrants action."

In a similar light, Ronald G. Prinn, a faculty member of the Climate Dynamics and Oceanography department at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said in a phone interview that he understood the plausibility of the findings, but questioned the means and the overall ethics. "When man creates grand schemes for climate change, nothing positive can come out of it. I don't think we understand our natural resources well enough to invent solutions to these problems."



Photo: Julia Lethbridge

Barry's Public Safety is stepping up its game to keep students safe. Two new trams, each with the capacity to transport 21 passengers, have replaced the original commuter bus. The trams are more environmentally friendly, as they run on electric power rather than gas, and will save the university thousands of dollars to be put toward security upgrades such as call boxes on campus. The trams shuttle between the Landon Student Union and the commuter parking lot at 115th Street and N.W. Second Avenue from 8 a.m. to midnight, and between the dorms and Landon from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.

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Lilian Garcia-Roig Paints Nature's Wild Glory

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the viewer the feeling of actually being inside a forest. This makes the viewer see the canvases as a single work rather than 14 different paintings. The gallery also has a minimalist effect, because other than the paintings, there is nothing else to steal the viewer's attention.

The equal distribution of the canvases also confronts the viewer. The directional forces pull equally in all directions and the viewer must make his or her own decision about how to navigate the gallery. This puts the viewer in a similar mindset as if the viewer was lost in the woods, which combines for a great effect.

This brings us to the actual paintings. It should be stated again that after viewing the works as a whole, it is really difficult to try and see them as separate paintings. As I have previously stated, Garcia-Roig is far from typical.

The gallery website states that "Garcia-Roig paints the non-view." A

typical landscape is a study of the grandeur of nature. The viewers' eyes are allowed to wander through a majestic vista. Garcia-Roig paints as though the view is possibly blocked by dense foliage.

The compositions from *Cumulative Nature* are completely crowded with native Florida botany. From a distance of a few yards, the compositions are completely representational. The viewer can make out palm trees and Palmetto Plants. There is tension as vines tangle and branches sprawl wildly, and shapes and vivid colors pull your eyes in every possible direction.

When examining the works individually, the viewer needs to experience each work from various distances. To fully appreciate the artwork, each work should be looked at from ten feet, five feet, a foot, and six inches. As you get closer to the work, you begin to notice different things. The paint starts jumping out, you notice small splotches of color you hadn't seen before, and the

work loses its representational qualities and becomes abstract.

My favorite thing about this artist is her wonderful impasto. Impasto is when the paint is applied so thickly to a canvas that it gains a three dimensional texture. Garcia-Roig uses generously applied splotches of differently colored oil paints. While in some cases the colors mesh, for the most part these colors stand strikingly. Garcia-Roig is also an expert colorist and her eye for tone is evident. The artist does not limit herself color wise, and the viewer can find warm oranges, bright greens, beautiful blues and vivid reds. Although the colors may be hard to find in nature, they work very well on the canvas.

Up close, my eyes were really drawn to certain pieces of impasto. For instance when standing very close, I noticed that a particular painted root which had caught my eye from afar was not a simple brush stroke, but a tube applied streak of paint. In some cases the paint spills onto the side of

the canvas, which references the intense manner that the paintings are created in. I got so close that in some canvases, I noticed dead bugs stuck in the paint; a reminder of the plain air origin of these works.

The closing show was a great time. The weather was around a crisp 70 degrees. The alternative venue made for a relaxing and intimate show. The artist was personal and spent a lot of time answering all sorts of questions about her work. Personally, I really enjoyed strolling the yard and experiencing the paintings.

These painting will really appeal to anyone who enjoys vibrant color and titillating texture. Fans of expressionism and impressionism will also appreciate the work as will fans of Fauvism. The nature lover will also immediately feel a connection, but I would recommend the work to anyone who enjoys good art.

For more information on the Carol Jazzar Gallery of Art or Lilian Garcia-Roig, you can log onto www.cjazzart.com.

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Public Safety Announcement

Barry University's Public Safety Department has partnered with Miami-Dade County to bring the Barry community wireless emergency notifications through Miami-Dade Alerts. The system allows Barry University to send out Barry-specific messages to students, faculty and staff who enroll in the service.

Official sign-up forms are at Public Safety locations in Landon 100 and Thompson 111. By signing up, students, faculty and staff will receive messages on the device of their choice in the event of an emergency. Messages are specific to Barry University, but also include emergency alerts from Miami-Dade County including police, fire rescue and severe weather issues.

For those who have additional questions on the service your best bet is to stop by the Crime Prevention Office at Thompson 111, or call Elizabeth Talatinian, the Crime Prevention Coordinator at X3337.

Please be advised, although this is a free service to enroll in, if your current cell phone plan charges for text messaging, all normal charges will still apply.

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Local Theaters Light Up Black Boxes

Linda Schneider
Staff Writer

In the first installment of a new series focusing on performing arts venues of South Florida, Schneider profiles three local theaters in a bid to encourage student interest in the arts.

Mad Cat Theatre Company



Paul Tei founded the Mad Cat Theatre in the fall of 2000 with the idea of producing original pieces, contemporary plays and the occasional "what the hell is that all about" kind of show. The artistic director and founder of the Mad Cat Theatre Company received his bachelor's degree in theater from Barry University.

Tei got his inspiration to start acting during his first semester, after seeing a production of Marsha Norman's *Night, Mother*, performed by the Barry theater department. He credits Patricia Minnaugh, then head of the theater department, with encourag-

ing him to become a disciplined actor. "Undergrad was very hands-on and no-holds-barred at Barry. I was able to learn a little bit about everything: acting, directing, lighting design and puppetry," said Tei.

He went on to DePaul University in Chicago, where he received his Masters of Fine Arts in directing. "At De Paul, my focus was more concentrated, but intense and unapologetic," said Tei. "They broke me down and built me back up in a way that taught me the value of self-worth and to never be afraid to fail, because sometimes, through failure, we learn our greatest lessons."

Tei directed his first show at the age of 21; now 39 years old, he has directed 70 productions to date. Tei also has produced more than 20 shows, including 12 world premieres in the past seven years at the Mad Cat.

"Our proudest achievement is creating new works and developing them as an ensemble. We continue to search for new plays to produce," said Tei. He hopes to push the audience into a theatrical experience that will stay with them long after the show ends. With only 49 seats in the Mad Cat, the audience is only a foot away from the action. "The atmosphere is very laid-back," Tei said. "We encourage people to have a good time and to feel part of what is happening on stage."

Tei also moonlights on the television show *Burn Notice* on the USA network. He has a recurring role as a money launderer named, ironically, Barry.

The Mad Cat Theatre is located in an office building near the Design District on Biscayne Boulevard. There is plenty of free parking and an open bar in the lobby, where Tei's mother can be found selling an assortment of Mad Cat T-shirts for \$5 each. Tei's mother takes an active role in her son's theater company, even cooking for the opening night galas.

"I think if you come to see one of our shows, you're going to have a great time. Why? Because we rock, we have fun, and we want you to have fun as well," Tei said.

Student tickets are \$10, so it adds up to a pretty cheap date, and you get to impress your friends with your intellectual prowess. For the first time since graduating from Barry, Tei will serve as director for the Naked Stage Theatre on campus. He will be working on the upcoming production of *4.48 Psychosis* by Sarah Kane, which opens on April 17 and runs through May 11.

Tamarac Theatre

The Tamarac Theatre began more than 20 years ago in various rented spaces. The brainchild of Dorothy Willis and Ann White, the theater has

become a pillar of culture for the community. General Manager Bill Schmookler said grants help to keep the theater alive, partially funding their five productions that run between October and July every year.

"We are a non-equity professional theater; this is our sixth year at this location. We offer a nine-week children's theater workshop for \$150. We try to keep our prices reasonable for everyone; student tickets to our performances are \$10," said Schmookler.

Beverly Feren, marketing director at the Tamarac Theatre, has a mission: bringing the arts to the community, including to the local colleges.

"The arts are considered 'soul food,' and those exposed to them at an early age have a lifelong pleasure to look forward to," Feren said. "Our theater has recently been renovated to provide an atmosphere of comfort, easy access and state-of-the-art mikes for those having a hearing problem. We offer Broadway shows, all types of concerts, including doo-wop, jazz, big band sound and Latino music." She also notes the recent launch of a lecture series with speakers from Florida Atlantic University, and plans to start a group that will read plays. "The theater is always looking for new ventures to please everyone's taste."

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There Will Be Blood Paints a Grim Picture of Early Oil Days

George Alpizar
Managing Editor

With a landscape shot of three eerily isolated mountains accompanied by creepy violin-filled music, the audience is transported to a lonely, barren land where the weak will not survive. *There Will Be Blood* is a strikingly original movie, and one of the most powerful to have come out in recent years. What makes this movie particularly exciting is the return of Daniel Day-Lewis as a lead character, and an interesting one at that.

Day-Lewis stars as Daniel Plainview, an oil enthusiast in America during the 1890s. First and foremost, Daniel is a businessman, an opportunist. The movie starts off with Day-Lewis working in a mineshaft by himself. Although he gets seriously injured, he still manages to complete the job rather quickly for someone who was just hurt. The next scene shows Daniel working with a small group of men and some equipment in another mineshaft. Little by little, Daniel is progressing as an oil businessman.

It is in this scene where another accident kills a man, leaving Daniel to become the guardian of the victim's baby. While a tad overwhelmed with the cries of the infant, Daniel soon

finds use for the boy; after all, he is an opportunist. Daniel uses the boy to present himself as a family man on travels around the country in order to get lucrative oil deals. At these town meetings, Daniel almost seems sincere and caring while informing the residents of his offer. Yet, the rest of the movie proves how uncaring he is toward others. As Daniel says, "I see the worst in people."

While working on an oil project, Daniel receives a visit from a young man, Paul Sunday (played by Paul Dano). Paul tells Daniel and his associate of a sure bet in California. Naturally, Daniel is skeptical. After threatening Paul with murder if he finds nothing, Daniel takes a chance and travels to California with his son in order to see if Paul was telling the truth about the vast amounts of oil in the ground. Sure enough, they find 'black gold' and begin negotiating with the owners of the land, Paul's family, to purchase the land in order to extract the oil.

It is here that the audience meets Daniel's antagonist. Eli (also played by Dano) is Paul's twin brother and lives with his mother, father and two sisters on the land that Daniel wants. As part of the bargain, Eli wants

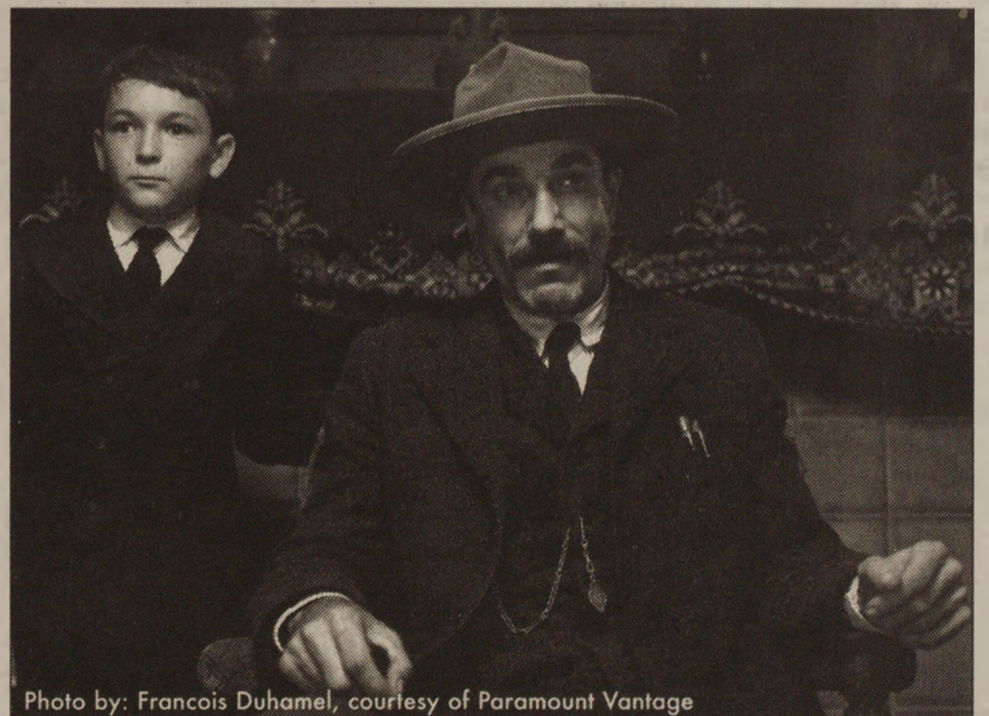


Photo by: Francois Duhamel, courtesy of Paramount Vantage

Daniel to donate money from the oil earnings to build a church for his congregation. Begrudgingly, Daniel agrees. Subtly, these two characters play a twisted game of cat and mouse in order to provoke each other.

There Will Be Blood works on so many levels. The audience witnesses the cruel and unforgiving world of the early oil industry. Accidents happen and deaths occur, yet little remorse is shown. Why shed a tear when you could be next to die in an accident?

As an actor, Day-Lewis is freely able to express a wide range of emotion, especially when it comes to his character's adopted son, H.W. (played by Dillon Freasier). Just like the son can bring Daniel love and joy, he can also bring pain and hardship. Yet Daniel is reluctant to show either. After all, showing emotion is a sign of weakness and that is one quality that Daniel cannot afford to have. Day-Lewis won on Oscar at the most recent Academy Awards for his amazing performance in this movie.

(continued on page 8)

There Will Be Blood Paints a Grim Picture of Early Oil Days

(Continued from page 7)

The mix of music and scenery adds depth to the film. In the beginning, Daniel gets into an accident, injuring his leg. Still, Daniel manages to pull himself out of the mineshaft and back onto the surface. As Daniel drags himself across the barren earth, the camera pans out to reveal how isolated he is; there appear to be no signs of life, besides plants, for miles. The camera reveals again those three mountains accompanied by that chilling orchestral music.

The movie focuses on this idea of a merciless world of greed and isolation. During the course of the film, Daniel performs some acts that truly show how money-driven and wicked he is. "I want no one else to succeed," Daniel proclaims. "I hate most people."

After an accident in a mineshaft (notice how many accidents I refer to in this review, only a small por-

tion of the gory mishaps that occur throughout the movie), two men emerge drenched in oil. There isn't a river or lake nearby for the men to clean up; their peers offer little help as they roll on the ground, seeking comfort in a deserted place.

Judging from the title, one can infer that there is a lot of blood shown onscreen. While a lot of blood is shed throughout the movie, the blood serves as a symbol for other things, such as self-indulgence, rage, greed. The audience doesn't really see too much blood; it is assumed because of all the mishaps the characters face. While I have not read *Oil!*, the book by Upton Sinclair upon which the movie is based, there is something menacing about the title *There Will Be Blood*. The movie goes deeper than simply showing gashing wounds or lacerated skin; it tries to show why blood is shed in the first place, and what can result when too much blood is shed.



Photo by: Melinda Sue Gordon, courtesy of Paramount Vantage

Local Theaters Light Up Black Boxes

(Continued from page 7)

In one of his recent lectures at the Tamarac Theatre, Thomas Elefant, a music director, conductor and educator, commented on "finding the bridge between contemporary and classical music." He said developing listening skills can "change how you listen to music and give you more of an awareness of rhythms and melodies." Elefant examines elements of music and includes classical, latin, gypsy and popular music in his lectures. By comparing elements of modern music with the classics, Elefant hopes his lectures will appeal to more college students. He believes that "all the answers are in the music."

Director Gilbert Harris Lenchus offers a universal challenge to the students at Barry University; "Come and learn theater, get an injection of culture, and share." Lenchus says people are being cheated by forgoing theaters and instead being seduced by the cinema.

"Theater is a form of sharing," Lenchus said. "The actors feel the breath of the audience come across the footlights. It is mental steroids for the actors; they live for the response of the audience. The audience is another actor."

Lenchus refers to a play as a two-hour fantasy in which the actors "steal the minds of the audience and make them forget their own problems."

His book, entitled *The #1 Bestselling Book on Creative Thinking*, will be out in May. Lenchus said, "It is completely off the wall, not for the mundane, but for people who want to get into the belly of the beast of abstract thought."

M Ensemble

The M Ensemble is Florida's oldest surviving black theater group. It was founded in 1971 at the University of Miami by the late T.G. Cooper. Their mission is to promote African-American culture and experiences throughout the performing arts. The company is known as a prolific producer of African-American plays, and also offers musicals, contemporaries and classics.

The M Ensemble co-founded the Southern Black Cultural Alliance, which is comprised of 30 African-American theaters. It represented the southern region of the United States at the World Festival for Black Arts in Lagos, Nigeria. The company pioneered the country's first drama workshop for blind and visually disabled children and its first drama program for youth in juvenile detention centers. M Ensemble also co-founded the Diaspora Arts coalition in Miami.

Today the company is listed as a major cultural arts institution by the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council. M Ensemble has raised awareness of the theater industry in South Florida's African-American community. It exposes Miami-Dade inner-city youth to the fundamentals of live stage performances and provides opportunities for them to learn about the business of arts and entertainment through theater workshops and presentations for Kwanzaa and Black Music Month. Student ticket prices to their performances are \$20.

Ten Best Black Box Theaters

Tamarac Theatre of Performing Arts

7143 Pine Island Road,
Tamarac 954-726-7898
An Evening with Gershwin and Friends 3/22 - 4/13/08

Mad Cat Theatre Company

3000 Biscayne Blvd., Miami
305-576-6377
Animals and Plants by Adam Rapp 4/6 - 4/28/08
at The Light Box

Mosaic Theatre

12200 W. Broward Blvd.,
Plantation 954-577-8243
Body of Water by Lee Blessing
5/8 - 6/1/08

The Women's Theatre Project

Sixth Star Studios 505 NW
1st Ave., Fort Lauderdale
954-462-2334
Three Fittings by Stephanie Walker 4/25 - 5/18/08

The Promethean Theatre

Nova Southeastern
University 3301 College
Ave., Davie 786-317-7580
Two Sisters and a Piano by Nilo Cruz 2/29 - 3/16/08

The Naked Stage

Barry University
11300 NE 2nd Ave., Miami
866-811-4111
4.48 Psychosis by Sarah Kane
4/17 - 5/11/08

Edge Theatre

3825 N. Miami Ave., Miami
786-355-0976
The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore by Tennessee Williams 3/14 - 4/13/08

The Jesus Quintero Studio

1415 NE 129th St., Miami
786-853-3915
Resuming productions spring 2008

The M Ensemble Company, Inc.

12320 West Dixie Hwy., North
Miami 305-895-0335
From the Mississippi Delta by Dr. Endesha Ida Mae Holland
4/17 - 5/11/08

Inside Out Theatre Company, Inc.

The Museum of Art
One East Las Olas Blvd., Ft.
Lauderdale 954-385-3060
Resuming productions fall 2008

Miami Shores Gallery Offers an Alternative Look at Art

Matthew Berkshire
Sports Editor

Miami has long been associated with high art, whether it is the fanfare of Art Basel Miami Beach, the Art Deco architecture of South Beach or Miami Beach's Bass Museum. Barry University is also connected to the art world. There is an art gallery in the library that features student and faculty artwork, and the Museum of Contemporary Art is right nearby on 125th Street. Yet Miami Shores' most unusual art venue is an alternative gallery located a short walk from campus.

Nestled deep within the neighboring streets is one of the Shores' best-kept secrets, Carol Jazzar Contemporary Art. Carol Jazzar is a native of Brittany, France, who came to the United States as a fashion designer. Jazzar went to New York City to

design clothing made from chain mail, and started a company called Chains Addiction. A few years ago, Jazzar bought a house in the Shores and decided to use her domicile as not only a place to live, but also as an art gallery.

Upon arriving at 158 N.W. 91st St., a visitor approaches what appears to be a normal house. This is one of the best concepts of the alternative gallery. While museums are great, they can be intimidating. Museums are designed to be wide-open, sprawling spaces, and this can be a little imposing in some cases. The art world is widely regarded as elitist, which can intimidate your average art enthusiast. Sometimes in a fancy gallery, a person looks at art with preconceived notions. In many cases, people view art thinking about what they are "supposed to" experi-

ence, rather than just experiencing the art directly in their own way.

Jazzar's gallery alleviates those problems. Being invited into a house establishes an environment of hospitality and intimacy. One may feel more like he or she is visiting a friend rather than making the sometimes-stressful visit to a museum. This is a creative way to experience art.

Jazzar has a multi-functional gallery that combines several different places where art is shown. The garage is the main gallery space. It is not a normal garage, but is equipped with museum-quality lighting and can be manipulated, like a typical gallery, to suit different exhibitions. For instance, Jazzar constructed a wall in the middle of the gallery for Lilian Garcia-Roig's recent show of landscape paintings, "Cumulative Nature" (reviewed on the cover of this issue).

Jazzar also has a large, lush backyard. Among the beautiful plants and trees, visitors may find it hard to remember that they are in the hustle and bustle of Miami. The yard is also comfortable and secluded, which makes it a great place for reflection. Jazzar also uses the yard to showcase natural earthwork installations.

For her own root garden, Jazzar has taken a large grouping of dead roots and replanted them above ground. The roots, which at first glance appear to be leafless plants, have been juxtaposed with young palm shoots. Aside from its beauty, the root garden makes an interesting commentary on life and death.

The living room, dining room and office are also utilized to showcase artwork. Here you will find beautifully sculpted bonsai trees made from cloth and fabric, high-resolution photographic prints, ink portraits, and a large composition made from strips of colored tape.

The interior of the house is especially interesting, because while it is an extension of the gallery, you are constantly reminded that you are also in someone's house. There are plates in the kitchen, and comfortable couches and chairs in the living room. The atmosphere enabled me to completely lose myself in the art. The alternative gallery space offers a more intimate and personal setting for experiencing art, and gives both the artist and audience a chance to have an encounter as unique as the art itself.

Jazzar has exhibited a range of up-and-coming artists, from Miami's own artists' collaboratives Gismo and Guerra de la Paz to photographer Colby Katz and painter Garcia-Roig. The gallery is currently featuring "Place in Space," a show of sculptural installation, drawing and animation by Miami artist Jen Stark, through April 12. "Marry me - Western Union," Miami artist David Rohn's performance and exhibit of new multimedia works, opens April 18 with a reception from 7 to 10 p.m., and runs through May 10.

Find out more about Carol Jazzar Contemporary Art at cjazzart.com. Aside from special receptions, the gallery is open Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. and by appointment.



Photo courtesy of: Carol Jazzar

What Are You Doing *Between Sundays*?

Sarah Simpson
Staff Writer

In author Karen Kingsbury's latest book, *Between Sundays*, she writes about two professional football players, a foster child and his foster mother, and how their lives are changed for the better.

Throughout the book, one football player, Derrick Anderson, emphasizes to his teammates that what matters is not just how the football team plays on the field on Sundays, but what they do during the week that makes all of the difference. With that in mind, he volunteers to go to the mission center and throw a pizza party for foster children and their foster parents. While there, Derrick meets Cory, whose mother told him before she died that his dad was Derrick's teammate, quarterback Aaron Hill. Cory hands Derrick a letter for Aaron telling him just that.

Kingsbury incorporates memories of the past with the present situations, and conveys a hope for truth in the future. As the story progresses, Aaron, needing some positive publicity, goes to the mission center with his teammate to volunteer. While there, he meets Cory's foster mom, Megan, and is immediately attracted to her. At this point in the story, Aaron has yet to read the letter. Through a series of events, Aaron, Cory and Megan go out for dinner. After Aaron makes turns around his life by becoming a Christian, he finally reads Cory's letter and learns of Cory being his son. Then, he asks Megan to marry him so they can all be a family. In the end, dreams are fulfilled and lives are restored.

Kingsbury's novel is able to speak beyond the pages. What each and every one of us does between our own Sundays matters as well. Here at Barry University, as students, our week is filled with classes and stud-

ies, as opposed to the football teams in the book, whose Sundays consist of games throughout the country. In our free time during the weekends, we can all have an impact on the community in which we live and try to change the world, but only if we are willing to help.

The book is trying to show that what really matters occurs between church services. While Christians may go to church once a week on Sundays, are they really living the life they are supposed to before and after church service? Christians should want to live it. That is what Derrick Anderson strives to do throughout the entire book. The things that we can do between our Sundays may be as small as just speaking a kind word or as big as volunteering with foster children, as Derrick and some of his teammates did. The recipients of volunteers' actions, such as Cory and the other foster children in this book, are

excited and appreciative. It made them feel as if someone cared about them. So, if you are willing and wanting to make a difference in your community and the world, make your touchdowns *Between Sundays*.

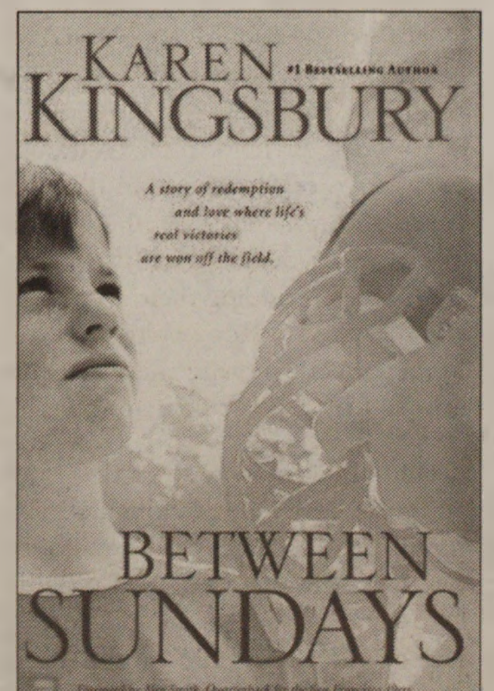


Photo courtesy of: Zondervan Publishers

Sawgrass Mills Mall: South Florida's Fifth Avenue

Kevin Leak
Staff Writer

With the opening of the Colonnade Outlets at Sawgrass Mills Mall, is this shopping haven becoming South Florida's new counterpart to Manhattan's Fifth Avenue?

Ferragamo, Valentino, Burberry, Hugo Boss, Barneys New York, Brooks Brothers and Neiman Marcus are just a few names that adorn the walkway of the Colonnade. The Colonnade is the newest and most luxurious addition to Sawgrass Mills Mall; it opened March 4, 2006, and since then has become a major attraction for tourists visiting Sawgrass Mills.

In fact, Sawgrass is the largest outlet mall in the world; it has about 300 specialty stores, factory outlets and name-brand discounters. According to bestwestern.com, Sawgrass Mills is Florida's second largest tourist attraction, behind Walt Disney World. And just like Disney, it is almost impossible to see it all in just one day.

The Colonnade has a bright future; some of the stores that will soon join the likes of Coach and Juicy Couture are Movado, Just Cavalli and BCBG, while others have yet to be announced. This arrival of high-end stores to Sawgrass within the Colonnade area has inspired comparisons to New York's grandest shopping thoroughfare.



Illustration: Tremper & Perez

Although Fifth Avenue has many more high-end stores than Sawgrass, including Chanel, Gucci, Prada, Fendi, don't be so quick to judge Sawgrass. This mall still has many big names, and offers designer fashion at discounted prices.

My own experience in the Colonnade was very nostalgic. Being a native New Yorker, I was transported back home instantly when I stepped into the Barneys New York Outlet. As I walked into Barneys, I was taken aback by the back red wall that was lined with shoes, bags, shoes and some more bags; I was in love. Once in, my attention was instantly grabbed by a sliver object that looked leathery and had a red tag with some writing on it. As I got closer, I was able to make out the bizarre object: a pair of silver Prada loafers for women. A little piece of me was hoping that they would have the shoe in my size, even if it was a woman's shoe.

As I wandered happily between the racks of True Religion jeans and piles of various designer graphic T-shirts, I began to think, could this get any better? In fact, it did. Friendly service, a great backdrop and beautiful clothes led me right back home; I ended up coming out of the store with a few items, feeling so transported that I was ready to signal a taxi. I soon found myself in Hugo Boss, Valentino and Last Call, the outlet for Neiman Marcus. Upon entering Last Call, I almost tripped over these black patent leather Lacoste sneakers cut almost like high-tops. But it was well worth it; I loved them and had to make them mine. Yet when I went to try them on, they were a 10.5, not a 12, and that's where that story ended.

Still, I did not stop there. Designers were everywhere: Prada, Christian Dior, Tods, and the list went on and

on. Sad about those Lacoste sneakers but optimistic again, I wandered out of Last Call only to find myself in the refined world of Coach. The smell of leather and bags perfumed the air and hypnotized me into taking a break. Smiles blossomed everywhere as friendly salespeople worked with a mix of erratic customers. All that I could see as I walked in was an insane fuss; so many people were in the store that I felt like I was in a packed New York train just hoping for my stop to come.

But it got better as I walked to the back and saw the many beautiful bags that adorned the walls. Various shades of pinks, blues, browns and blacks became my central focus. It was almost like I was in my own secret garden, and I had a choice of any flower — or in this case, any satchel — that I wanted. I was impressed by the brightly colored scarves and wallets lining the walkway, and it seemed like so were many of the customers, as they formed lines stretching far and wide.

At day's end, I found myself carrying so many bags that I needed to go home and relax. I felt like I was back in New York City minus the smog, the noisy traffic and the hustle and bustle. Sawgrass Mills is indeed South Florida's Fifth Avenue — only here all the designer wares are on sale.

Jam Band Breathes New Life into Rock 'n' Roll

Greig Santos-Buch
Staff Writer

Imagine a combination of Led Zeppelin, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Steely Dan, Phish, Jimmy Hendrix and The Allman Brothers with a twist of the Grateful Dead all thrown together to form one unique sound. The coalescence of sounds from artists and bands like these bring a new and unique flavor to the table called Moe. From the energetic funky baselines similar to Phish, to the organized face melting guitar solos similar to Hendrix and Skynyrd, Moe is able to bridge groovy beats with fast paced guitar but not break into the category of obnoxious hard rock. Although their range of sound within the rock genre is diverse enough, the band is also able to deliver smooth country sounds while adding their own modern rock flavor. Moe could most easily be placed into the musical genre known today as a "rock jam band."

A jam band could best be described as one who includes elongated harmonic and melodic improvisation over pre-arranged chord progressions and baselines. Moe's uniqueness to the rock genre can be attributed to what their musical range is

capable of expressing. With Al Schnier and Chuck Garvey on guitar, Rob Derhak on base, Vinnie Amico on drums and Jim Loughlin on back-up percussion, each musician uses a variety of instruments and foot pedals, which enables them to change from one sound to another very quickly. Stepping away from the traditional sounds of rock by simply using guitar, drums and base, Moe

includes more obscure instruments such as the xylophone, organ and various forms of bells within many of their songs, ultimately helping to top off their rare sound. Schnier also rotates between keyboard and guitar throughout multiple songs on all 17 of their live and studio albums.

Moe broadens the idea of a jam band even more with their crisp and

clean transitions not only between verses, choruses and bridges, but also with the way they cut into another song. Instead of stopping when a previous song is over, the band continues to transcend into another song without having every member of the band stop playing. This allows them to play through a whole album while performing live, but makes it sound like one song with many different sounds.

I was lucky enough this past New Year's Eve to witness Moe for the first time live at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Sure enough, they did just that, playing several songs off one of their better-known albums, *Wormwood* (February 2003), in succession. They also added to the flare of it being New Year's Eve in New York City by playing one of their well-known songs, *New York City*, and also covering *New Year's Day* by U2 as one of their encores.

If you're looking for a band that has been around long enough to know what direction they are going, but hasn't quite hit the mainstream scene on the scale they deserve, then check out Moe.



Photo: Miguel Gonzalez

Men's Tennis Team Set for a Championship Season

Matt Berkshire
Sports Editor

It's tennis season once again, and as usual, our men's tennis team seems to be on the hunt for that elusive national championship. While Head Coach George Samuel has consistently led one of the finest programs in all of division two, reaching the tournament 12 times in the past 14 years. There have been a slew of Sunshine State Championships and a plethora of All-Americans, with players like Thomas Hipp, Gerold Wiring, Sebastian Losavio and Patrick Rittenauer, to name a few. Samuel has also been recognized for his leadership and has been named the Sunshine State Conference Coach of the year a resounding seven times. But while the men's tennis team has steadily been a powerhouse, the Bucs continue to stand on a precipice, searching for that all-important thing, the final piece of the puzzle, that indefinable blend of skill, dedication, leadership, and killer instinct that make up championships.

This isn't to say that the Buccaneer tennis program is anything other than outstanding. If Coach Samuel were to step down today, he would forever be remembered as one of the best coaches in Division II history. Aside from its on-court record, the men's tennis program has an outstanding record in the classroom as well, with its members posting a 3.2 cumulative GPA. But while winning and consistency can make one good, it is championships that define greatness.

Walk Hard: The Ballad of a Walk-on

Matt Berkshire
Sports Editor

The life of the college athlete is one of hardship and sacrifice. While the path is hard, the rewards can be tremendous; scholarship, glory and life skills are just a few of the benefits that can be gleaned from the rigors of being on a team. Yet some athletes go to school without the scholarships and ply their trade without the cheering fans.

These sometimes-forgotten athletes are known as "walk-ons." A walk-on is an athlete who was not originally a scholarship player, but has made the team through trying out. Walking on to a team is one of the hardest and least glorified challenges in college sports.

A walk-on in many cases will train as hard or harder than members of the team, looking to gain any advantage possible. Soccer midfielder and freshman Ryan Dougherty remembers when he tried out: "I was going out to the field every day, dribbling, running, sprinting, and shooting. I was eating right and spending a lot of time in the weight room. When

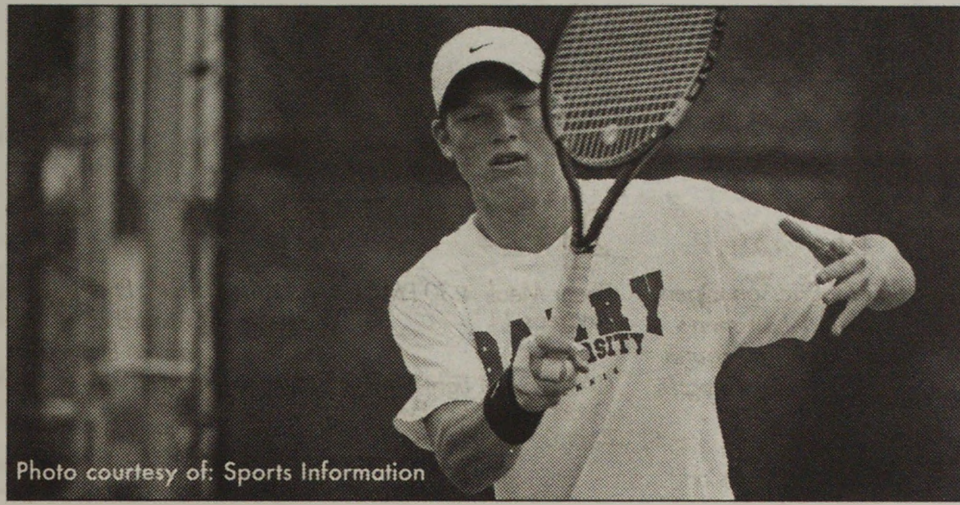


Photo courtesy of: Sports Information

Ales Svigelj practices his groundstrokes for the upcoming matches.

The 2008 team looks to be very strong and entered the season ranked seventh in the nation. The team also returned five players. The perpetual All-American Patrick Rittenauer is back for his senior season and last crack at a ring. The German international student could add to his individual trophy case also, with a good chance at winning All-American doubles and singles honors and possibly challenging for a No. 1 national singles ranking. Rittenauer has blinding groundstrokes and often wins points at a full sprint 5 and 6 feet behind the baseline.

Last year Andrew Sharnov was the only player to compete in every Buccaneer match. His fitness and strength have made him a valuable asset to the team. Look for him to make solid contributions to the squad this year as well.

Roman Werschel of Munich, Germany, enters this season ranked in the top 50 Division II players in the country and will be teaming with Rittenauer on the doubles side. Werschel possesses a

my friends were going to the beach, I was going to train. I didn't get the chance to be recruited, so I felt like working hard was my only way."

The work is also just as psychological as it is physical. Walk-ons must fully commit themselves to training as hard as possible. Other athletes know they have their teammates to back them up, while the walk-ons fly solo. A scholarship athlete knows that there is always the next game to redeem a bad performance. The walk-on lives for a tryout that may only last an hour. Ultimately the scholarship athlete has every reason for confidence: teammates, scholarship money, and respect from their classmates, while the walk-on only has a dream and a lot of sweat and sore muscles.

This past fall semester, 22 students attempted to walk on to the men's soccer team. The players came from many different places and experience levels. Kastriot Rexhepi, a freshman from Kosovo, said, "I have been playing soccer since I was small, and many of the other players have also been playing for a long time, and they were very good."

powerful serve and is able to win a lot of points with his potent forehand.

The Austrian native Manuel Lauter is also in the midst of his senior year. Lauter is a returning machine, and his opponents often lose by simply tiring themselves out or hitting ambitious shots out of court. Lauter has provided depth in the middle and lower parts of the Buccaneer lineup for three years, and should do the same in 2008.

David Barragan, a walk-on from North Carolina, posted a 6-2 record last year, including a perfect 5-0 from the sixth seed. Barragan likes the Bucs' chances at a title run: "I think we have a lot of depth, and strong players from top to bottom. If we can keep healthy and play our game I think we have a good chance of winning a national championship."

Along with the five returning players, six new guys have been added to the Buccaneer squad: three freshmen and three transfers. The players

So why would anyone want to expose themselves to so much hard work with such a small chance of success? The answer to that question is different for each person, but for most, the chance to be a real contributor on their school's team is enough. Head men's soccer coach Steve McCrath said, "Adding a walk-on from the school satisfies a need or desire for a student who hasn't been seen or made the proper connections when a possible recruiting opportunity could have happened, a chance to fulfill their desires. It also serves the team the chance to make sure we haven't 'missed out' on a possible player." Still, he noted, "Rare is it that someone 'walks on' from the school itself and really *has* the tools to make the team better."

Of all the students who tried out this past semester, one did get an invitation to have another tryout. Yeison Berdugo is a silky smooth speedster who combines lightning quickness with an almost artistic creativity. Berdugo can shoot with both his left and right foot, and possesses great vision, which allows him to set up

are all international, with two Germans, a Czech Republic native, a Slovenian, a Venezuelan, and a Grenada-born player.

The player to watch among the new guys might just be Slovenian Ales Svigelj, who transferred from the University of South Florida. Svigelj is a fighter, and has battled through some injuries this year, and has been solid at the 2nd slot this year. Svigelj possesses great groundstrokes, and has already spent time this season at the top singles flight.

At press time, the men's tennis team had a 11-3 record, and had not dropped a single match in any of their four victories. Barry also triumphed over archrivals Lynn University. As a side note, beating Lynn might be a trend this spring, as the baseball team has beaten Lynn 16-4 this year and the softball team just completed three straight victories over the Knights from Boca Raton.

This year's team has a lot of talent, elite players at the top, skilled doubles tandems, and impressive depth. While it looks like all the pieces may finally be fitting together, statistics cannot tell the whole story, and the winning culture that surrounds the tennis team is hard to put into words. In the end, though, it is the team that decides whether or not it will win a national championship. With players that are this talented, our team won't be outclassed by other elite programs; it could simply come down to which team wants it more.

teammates on a short pass or change the field with a picturesque cross.

While his sprinter's speed and tendency to improvise offensively means that Berdugo can hang with very talented players, it doesn't mean that he's a lock for the team. Although Berdugo had the physical tools to make the team, he was unable to play this semester, and is now attending St. Thomas University on a football scholarship. Trinidadian Jake O'Brien has stepped in and will fill a role in the midfield.

Talent alone does not earn a roster spot. A lot of things aside from athletic ability and technical skills go into whether or not a player makes the team. A player's style and personality has to mesh with that of the team and coaches. A potential teammate needs to have good grades and character.

For the most part, the story of the walk-on is unheralded. Even if someone does make the team, that student has a high chance of being cut, and must work as hard as possible to even get noticed.

calendar of EVENTS

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1]

Sony Ericsson Open, Session 14 - men's singles fourth round and women's singles quarterfinals

Business, Sports and Career Fair @ Andreas 111 - 112, 3:00 - 6:00 PM

2]

Seder Meal, 4:30 PM @ Andreas 111

CAB Movie Night- Red Doors @ Landon Events Room, 7:00 PM

3]

"Jazz Memories": Photos by Herman Leonard of jazz greats such as Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington @ Barbara Gillman Gallery, 3814 NE Miami Court

Tax Seminar @ Landon Events Room, 2:00 PM

4]

Baseball vs. Eckerd, 6:00 PM

Softball vs. Saint Leo, 7:00 PM

Movie Night with the Center for Dominican Studies, meet at chapel kitchen @ 7:15 PM

5]

Baseball vs. Eckerd, 12:00 PM

Softball vs. Saint Leo, 1:00 PM (doubleheader)

Booker T. Washington born, 1856

6]

Third Sunday of Easter Mass, 11:00 AM & 9:00 PM

North Pole discovered, 1898

7]

World Health Day

Yoga in the Park @ Tina Hills Pavilion Bayfront Park, 301 N. Biscayne Blvd. Bring your own mat, towel and water

8]

Softball vs. Palm Beach Atlantic, 5:00 PM (doubleheader)

Ponce de Leon born, 1460. Be happy he discovered Florida!

9]

Tennis vs. Armstrong Atlantic, 3:00 PM

Robert E. Lee surrenders to Ulysses S. Grant, 1865

10]

Sicilian Film Festival @ multiple locations. Call for more information: 305.710.7550

CAB Movie Night: Western Eyes @ Landon Events Room, 7:00 PM

11]

Relay for Life begins this evening @ chapel courtyard

12]

13]

Rush concert @ Bank Atlantic Center, \$60

Thomas Jefferson born, 1743

14]

White Star Line's Titanic strikes an iceberg just before midnight, sinks 2:20 AM on April 15

15]

Florida Marlins vs. Atlanta Braves @ Dolphin Stadium

Writing Lab Workshop: APA Style, 7:00 - 8:00 PM @ Garner 108

Artist-inventor Leonardo Da Vinci born, 1452

16]

CAB Game Night: Think Fast @ Rousell Dining Hall, 9:00 PM

17]

Daffy Duck's birthday, character created in 1937

18]

Festival of Nations @ the Chapel courtyard

Baseball vs. Florida Southern, 6:00 PM

Paul Revere made his famous ride, 1775

19]

Baseball vs. Florida Southern, 1:00 PM

CAB trip to South Beach, departs 11:00 AM, returns 7:00 PM. Sign up at Landon 206

American Revolutionary War begins, 1775

Passover begins

20]

Fifth Sunday of Easter Mass, 11:00 AM & 9:00 PM

Marie and Pierre Curie isolate radium, 1902

National Pineapple Upside-Down Cake Day

21]

22]

Hug a tree because it's Earth Day!

National Jelly Bean Day

23]

Writing Lab Workshop: Essay Structure and Grammar, 7:00 - 8:00 PM @ Garner 108

Shakespeare born, 1564

24]

Writing Lab Workshop: MLA Style, 7:00 - 8:00 PM @ Garner 108

Take Our Sons and Daughters to Work Day

25]

Classes end! Get ready for your finals...

Baseball vs. Nova Southeastern, 6:00 PM

Softball vs. Tampa, 7:00 PM

Arbor Day

26]

Baseball vs. Nova Southeastern, 1:00 PM

Softball vs. Tampa, 1:00 PM (doubleheader)

National Pretzel Day

27]

Sixth Sunday of Easter Mass, 11:00 AM and 9:00 PM (last student mass)

28]

Finals week begins. Good luck!

Fifth President James Monroe born, 1758

29]

Feast of Saint Catherine of Siena

Baseball vs. St. Thomas, 6:00 PM

Zipper patented by Gideon Sindback, 1913

30]

Santana @ Seminole Hard Rock, 8:00 PM

George Washington inaugurated as the first president in 1789

THE MONTH OF **APRIL**