STUDENT REACTION TO NEW CLASSROOM IS MIXED

“Errh, it’s certainly airy!” says Ph.D. candidate Bridgette O’Connor. “Which wall will they show the overheads on?” “Lots of elbow room.” says recent MAF graduate, Atty Tantivit. “It looks like the place exploded.” says Stacy Reeder from AMP. “Well, all these bare wires will certainly keep us on our toes” exclaimed Nancy Wallace, MAF student.

Dr. Ginsburg and Harrison are the co-leaders of the “Raise the Roof” committee who were quoted as saying “Higher education deserves higher ceilings” that lead the drive to raise the flooring in Dr. Millero’s lab on the floor directly above the new classroom in order to create a better view for the students below. “They won’t mind too much.” says Gay Ingram of MAC as she was sawing off the feet from the bottom of her desk in preparation for the renovation, “These people work for Frank Millero so they know how to adjust to all situations.”

“We know the end result of this renovation is somewhat disappointing as we figured to have furniture and complete walls when we were done but this is the oceanographic spirit of adventure applied to the classroom situation” says Ginny Newell who coordinated the project. When asked if he thought the concept of “the classroom without wall” was being carried too far, Dave Powell, Director of Operations, replied “I think I just heard the signal from the R/V Walton Smith. I’ll have to get back to you later.”
ROSENSTIEL SCHOOL ADOPTS STRICT WATER USAGE POLICY

The water level of Lake Okeechobee is presently at its lowest level in forty years. This severe drought has left Dave Powell, our Director of Operations, with no choice other than to take appropriate measures to ration and restrict water usage campus wide.

Effective April 3rd, the following rules will be strictly enforced by campus Security: If you must go to the restroom and your assigned office space ends with an odd number, you may flush on Monday and Thursdays from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. If your office space has an even number designation, you may flush Tuesdays and Friday, once again from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday is always a “free flush day” from 6 until 8 a.m. only. Those staff members in offices without numbers such as Atrium A and B are considered to be UFOs “Unassigned Flushing Opportunities” and will be notified later of procedures.

Dave estimates that if we all comply with these measures, “We could save over two and one half million gallons of water annually.” If dry conditions persist, NOAA scientists predict that by 2010, most toilets will be coin operated.

The RSMAS Business Office, working in conjunction with the RSMAS plumbers, has devised a plan that would require an account number or a PIN number, similar to that presently required for long distance calls, to be entered before any flush could be initiated. This would serve to prevent unauthorized flushing by campus visitors or other non-RSMAS personnel.

Roving Reporter Paul Irgang

CANDY SALES TO BOLSTER SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

The exciting new fundraising project set into motion by Rose Mann and Jennifer Richards is guaranteed to change the endowment fund bottom line. “It is time to place your orders for “Advance-mints. They come in chocolate or butter cream and they fit perfectly into all those empty Easter baskets out there!” To place an order for a one pound box call Francine Leon in the Advance-mints Office. With the purchase of 1,000 boxes or more, a RSMAS chair will be named for the generous donor.
THE SMITH COMMONS TO BE RENAMED

New Florida legislation dictates that in order to continue receiving State funding, all Florida institutions of higher learning must celebrate a lesser known person from American History for a period of one month each year. The Rosenstiel School has been assigned the celebration of the birth of Alferd J. Packer. The Smith Commons will be renamed Packer Place as part of American History month on April 1st. Packer has the distinction of being the first American convicted of cannibalism for eating 5 fellow miners he was hired to guide through the mines. “He was a rugged individualist and that’s why we want to remember him out at Rosenstiel” said Rep. Ivan Taclue of the group TACHY “Taking American Campuses History Yearly”. Next April 1st the Operations Building will be renamed after the Donner Party. Refreshments will be served at the both TACHY events. Vegetarians, bring your own.

STUDENTS SEEK COLLABORATION WITH AIR-SEA INTERACTION SALT-WATER TANK FACILITY TO INCREASE TRAVEL FUNDS

The question arose last Friday night at the bar among the MSGSO officers, “Why couldn’t we combine the student laundromat with the new wave tank to increase production. Just think of the profits!” exclaimed Carlos Alvarez, MGG student. Jennifer Hanafin commented, “We could launder the sails of every ship in Biscayne Bay and use the funds for student trips to conferences and for field assignments”. While not convinced this is the best way for students to make additional money, Dr. Mark Donelan who oversees the ASIST facility has promised to “...stay open minded”. Meanwhile MSGSO officers plan to meet with Maytag Chair Dr. Robert Cowen to see if he has any connections with the soap suppliers industry.
VIRGINIA KEY CAMPUS EYED AS SITE FOR NEW BALL PARK

It may now be revealed that until last Thursday, when the Miami River was officially chosen as the future site of the Florida Marlins Ballpark, our Rosenstiel School campus was still in the running and actually came within a whisker of being selected. Florida Marlins owner, John Henry, in confidential meetings with Dean Brown and Associate Dean Frank Millero, discussed the possibility of constructing a state-of-the-art facility on RSMAS property.

According to Club President Dave Dombrowsky, “Center field would have been in the area behind the Collier Building with home plate located just about where Ralph Robert’s desk is over at the Mail Room.”

Tom Capo and other Rosenstiel researchers involved with billfish studies thought that sharing our space with the Marlins would have “been the perfect marketing link to our new Center for Sustainable Fisheries”. Marine and atmospheric science research would have continued uninterrupted during the estimated two year building process. Upon completion of the project in the summer of 2003, each individual RSMAS division would have been assigned a “skybox lounge”. “Those luxury lounges could have been converted into laboratory space “in a matter of a few hours” according to Virginia Newell, Deputy Director of Operations.

Parties by Pat would have handled the food and beverage concessions. shouts of “Get your hot dogs and crab dip heeere!” would have filled the air during each home game. “Mad Dog” Doug Tyrell was concerned that the parking spaces would have been “tight” if the team ever made it to the World Series. Dr. Mark Donelan offered to create “a perfect wave” each time a home run was hit by any Marlins player. In a collaborative proposal submitted by Miami Seaquarium, during the 7th inning stretch, Lolita, the killer whale would have wowed the crowd by sliding from the Seaquarium directly on to home plate.

“We are naturally disappointed that this fell through but discussions of Disney World South are still viable.” stated Dean Brown.”

Sports Reporter Paul Irgang

SEA STUDY TO FOCUS ON HUMAN APPETITE

The Rosenstiel School, Royal Caribbean International, NOAA and the National Science Foundation, have formed a research partnership whereby selected RSMAS professors will be given an opportunity to participate in a study geared to once and for all, precisely quantify the degree to which the “air-sea interface” effects appetite. In layman’s terms, scientists want to know if salt water and sea breezes actually make you hungry.

Volunteer subjects will be given total access to all of the Explorer of the Seas amenities including the rock climbing wall, ice skating ring and running track. They will be allowed to eat as much as they wish. Total caloric intake will be carefully monitored. To enroll in the study, please contact Nadia Sbeih, Project Coordinator.

Humor correspondent Paul Irgang
RSMAS WORD SEARCH
SOUNDINGS
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LIBRARY EXHIBIT FEATURES ‘THE PERFECT SHRIMP’
Who doesn’t like the taste of a large succulent mouth watering shrimp? But did you know that there are more than eighty different varieties of shrimp? Sure, anyone who shops at Publix or Winn-dixie has heard of prawns and tiger shrimp, but have you ever seen a shrimp the size of an NFL football?

In conjunction with our series Sea Secrets, a special exhibit recently opened in the Library until April 14th showcases a 36 pound shrimp which was donated to the University by the friendly folks at Red Lobster to commemorate the first two weeks of April as “All you can eat jumbo gumbo season”. Our new Librarian, Robbie Rand was quoted as saying “It is safe to say that no other oceanographic institute would put so much energy into such a unique project!”

Dade County Schools will be bussing more than two thousand middle school students here to view the giant specimen. Security staff, Julio Alzuri and Rafael Gonzalez have been put on special alert to closely monitor guests in the event that someone attempts to smuggle in any tangy seafood dipping sauce without proper authorization.

Reporter on special assignment, Paul Irgang

This humor issue of SOUNDINGS is dedicated to the “April Fool” in each of us working together in this beautiful, unique, and funny place nick-named RSMAS. The next regular issue of Soundings will be published in May. If you have articles to submit, the deadline is May 15th. Address them to mrowand@rsmas.miami.ed or Editor, Soundings at the address below.